



Georgia Post Roads

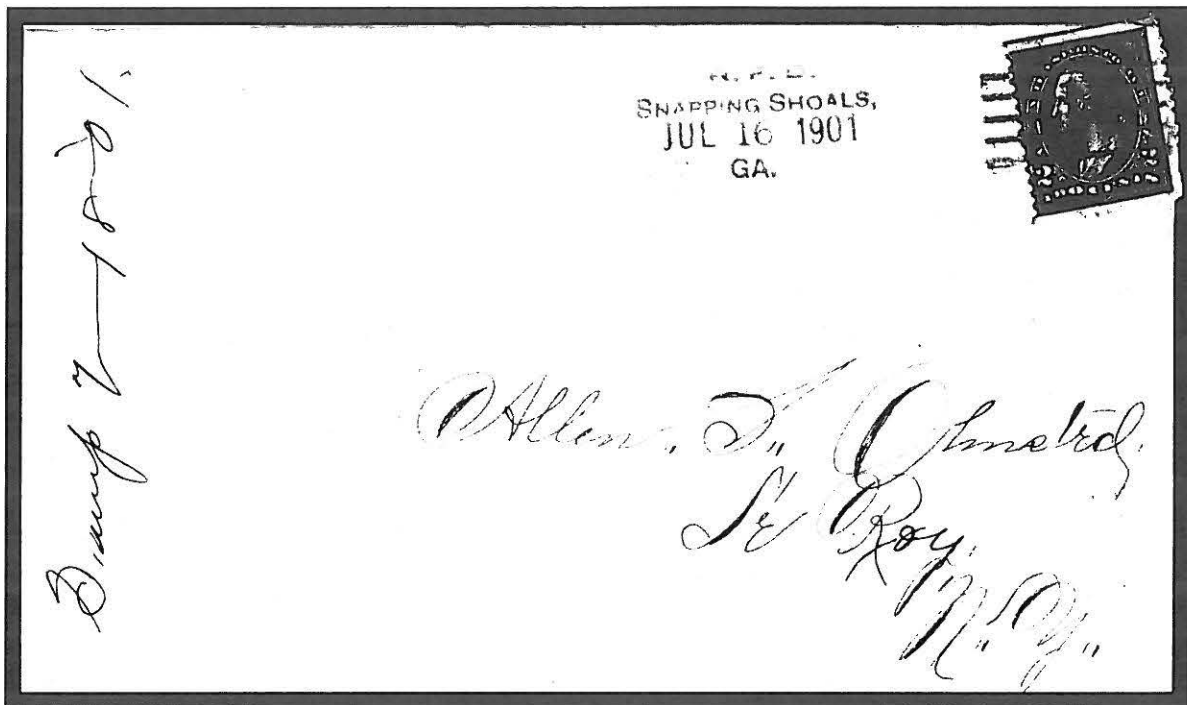
Volume 16, Number 1

January 2006

Whole Number 69

Snapping Shoals R.F.D. – An Extraordinary Cover

Gary Doster



Rare Snapping Shoals R. F. D. postmark on cover dated 16 July 1901.

As an Rural Free Delivery (RFD) name, Snapping Shoals is definitely the most colorful for any route established in Georgia through 30 June 1903. Past this date the Post Office Department no longer supplied Rural Carriers with postmarking devices. (The second most colorful name would be Trion Factory.) Kenneth Krakow, in his book *Georgia Place-Names*, says Snapping Shoals was "named for an old Indian fishery where the fish could be pitched out or "snapped" as they passed over the shallow shoals" on South River. The Snapping Shoals Post Office itself was established in 1850 in Newton County.

Snapping Shoals RFD was probably established 1 July 1901. The *Report of the Postmaster-General (Report)* for 1901-02

gives a list of all RFD routes as of 30 June 1901, and Snapping Shoals is not included. The same *Report* (p. 304) indicates that 416 new routes were established nationwide on 1 July 1901. Since this cover is postmarked just fifteen days later, it is reasonable to suppose that Snapping Shoals was one of these 416. At any rate, it must have been established during the first half of July 1901. A brand new postmarking device would account for the outstandingly clear impression of the marking on this cover.

A few months later, Newton County was selected to be the first county in Georgia to receive County Service. County Service was a new approach to RFD where the object was to plan for and provide (continued on page 7)

President's Message

As I write this I am in the process of selling my home in Washington and preparing to move back to the Huntsville, Alabama area. Needless to say things are a little hectic.

On my last trip to Huntsville I rented a post office box in Madison and that will be my new mailing address. It appears on page 3 under "Officers of the Georgia Postal History Society."

The Georgia Postal History Society was one of several state postal history societies that agreed to provide a one page exhibit for the International Show in Washington in June. The idea is to illustrate the various aspects of different states' postal history with the intent of both educating the visitor and generating interest in state postal history.

Now comes the part where you can help. We need 30 covers to make up the exhibit. The covers should illustrate some aspect of Georgia postal history. I encourage each of you to look through your collection and find a cover you can contribute to this cause. If you have a cover (or maybe two) that you think will be of interest please send them to me **at my new address**. Please bear in mind that the covers should be of nominal value as there is no guarantee our exhibit will be returned.

At the moment I have volunteered to prepare the exhibit. However, I will certainly defer the honor to anyone who has an interest in this.

I have one more request to make. As mentioned in the last issue of *GPR* 2006 is the year for our triennial election of officers. Gary Doster is heading the nominating committee. Gary needs your help in putting together a slate of officers for the election. Now is the time to step forward and take an active role in the future of the Georgia Postal History Society. If interested contact Gary. His address and email are at the bottom right of the opposite page.

As mentioned at the beginning of this message I am in the process of moving. It also means that I have retired from an active job. This means I will be able to devote more time to projects that have been ongoing for sometime.

The first is a list of the Confederate post offices and postmasters as taken from the Confederate Post Office records. The records are not complete but they do provide the most complete list extant for the first year or two of the war. This work is actually more than just a list of the Confederate post offices. It also includes the Federal post offices that were extant during the decade of the 1860s.

The second big project is to finish what I am calling a census and handbook of the Confederate postmasters' provisionals of Georgia. This work is unlike any other on Confederate provisionals in the depth of detail. In addition to the information on the individual provisionals the book will also be a census of the Georgia provisionals. It is hard to imagine there are over 800 Georgia provisionals in the census.

Frank

Secretary's Report

There have been no changes in our membership this quarter, which prompts me to remind all members to set a goal for the new year to recruit a new member for next year. Help your society grow!!

We currently have 37 members on our membership list.

Remember to send address changes to me at mcoreilly@att.net.

We end the quarter with a bank balance of \$1,551.35.

Our best wishes to all for a safe and Merry Christmas.

Mike

Post Road Notes

This month we have a very interesting feature article by Gary Doster. The subject is the Snapping Shoals R. F. D. postmark, but it covers much more than the postmark of a single R. F. D. office. A significant amount of research went into this article and it sheds light on a small but very interesting facet of Georgia postal history.

Another contributor this month is Jerry Palazollo who provided the illustration of the Forsyth Female College corner card cover. I consider this an important project as it provides the opportunity to record the corner cards of little known Georgia colleges. If you have a college corner card cover that has not been listed in *GPR* please contact the editor.

This month's "Cracker Covers" highlights usages of the 1857 12c stamp from Georgia towns. The recent Siegel sale of the "J & J" Collection of 12c 1851-57 issues contained two Georgia covers bearing the 12c 1857 stamps. One was on a cover from Augusta and the second from Savannah. "Cracker Covers" illustrates a second usage from Augusta while the Savannah usage is from the "J & J" sale. There are certainly other examples and most are probably from Savannah and Augusta.

As we enter the year 2006 keep in mind this is my final year as your editor. I have been the editor of *GPR* since its inception in 1991 except for a few years when Nancy Clark stepped in to relieve me. I need a replacement and someone needs to step up and agree to take on the job. The *GPR* is what holds the GPHS together and we cannot let it fail for lack of an editor.

If anyone is interested or can be persuaded to take on the duties please contact me. With computers it is not as difficult as you may think.

Frank

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It's Time for Nominations

Gary Doster is the Chairman of our Nominating Committee to prepare a slate of officers for the 2007-2009 term. If you are interesting in running for office contact Gary at 1230 Bob Godfrey Road, Athens, GA 30605-5316 or email him at doster1@bellsouth.net

Dating Postmarks

Frank Crown



Black ATLANTA / Ga. postmark dated 30 Dec on cover with handstamped "FREE" marking to Howell Cobb as Secretary of the Treasury in Washington, DC.

The cover illustrated above is by no means attractive. However, to a postal historian it can be very important because it reveals new information about the usage of the postmark.

The postmark is a poor strike of an early Atlanta postmark described as ATLANTA / Ga. with a diameter of 32 mm. The only real information on this postmark is found in the *Georgia Stampless Cover Catalog and Handbook (GSCC)* and the *American Stampless Cover Catalog (ASCC)*. The *GSCC* records the period of use as 1848 to 1852 while the *ASCC* records the period of use as 1849 to 1851.

By 1855 Atlanta had two new postmarks. One had an integral "PAID" marking and was probably used mainly on circulars. The second was a 31mm postmark with the state abbreviation GA. ("A" raised). A year-dated postmark followed these as early as 1858. The

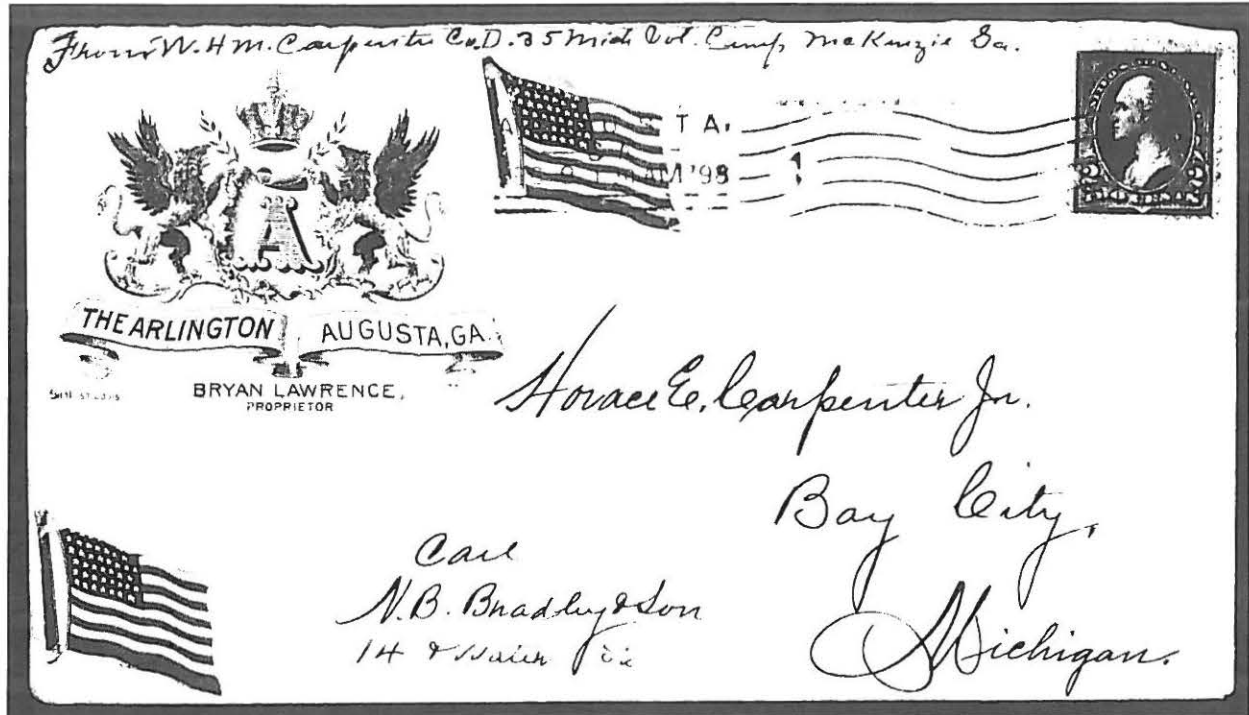
point is that as early as 1855 the postmark on the cover illustrated above was no longer the primary postmark of Atlanta.

Atlanta covers bearing postage stamps from the antebellum period provide very limited help in dating postmarks for two reasons. They are somewhat scarce and more significantly most are envelopes with their enclosures removed. Consequently these covers are almost impossible to date and are of very limited use in determining the period of use of postmarks.

The cover above substantially changes the period of use of the "Ga." postmark. We know that Howell Cobb served as Secretary of the Treasury from 6 March 1857 to 9 December 1860. Even though there is no enclosure or docketing on the cover the address serves to bracket the usage in the period December 1857 to December 1859.

Homemade Spanish American War Patriotic Cover

Frank Crown



Homemade patriotic cover prepared from Augusta hotel corner card to which was added full color flag stickers. The cover is postmarked 30 Dec 1898.

The cover illustrated above is unusual for several reasons. First it is a hotel corner cover from the Arlington Hotel in Augusta. Second it is a homemade Spanish American War patriotic cover. The ornate hotel corner card is interesting by itself. However the sender added some flag stickers that also turned the cover into a Spanish American War patriotic cover.

Normally one would be suspect of any stickers added to a cover that increase its value. In this case the writer did a favor for philatelists. One of the two flag stickers was added at the upper center of the cover. Little did the writer realize at the time that the cover would be postmarked by a Barry Postal Supply Company machine cancel. The length of this particular machine cancel was such that the sticker was postmarked along with the

stamp. This chance of fate authenticated the use of the flag sticker on 30 Dec 1898.

The endorsement across the top of the cover indicates the writer, W. H. M. Carpenter, was in Company D of the 35th Michigan Volunteers and was stationed at Camp McKenzie in Augusta. Apparently this soldier spent a night at the Arlington Hotel and picked up one or more envelopes for his letter writing. One of these envelopes became the homemade patriotic cover illustrated above.

Camp McKenzie was selected as an encampment in late September 1898. Troops arrived in October and November. Although the war was essentially over by this time the camp was not shut down until after the peace treaty with Spain was ratified on 6 February 1899.

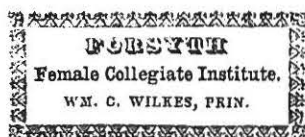
Forsyth Female Collegiate Institute Monroe County

In 1849 the citizens of Forsyth and Monroe County persuaded the Georgia legislature to charter a school for girls in their county. The school opened under the name of Forsyth Collegiate Institute in 1850. In 1857 the Baptists purchased control of the college and the name was changed to the Forsyth Female University.

By 1860 there were about 125 female students, ten teachers and about 30 graduates. In 1864 the school became a hospital for Confederate troops and by the war's end the college was practically in ruins but the school recovered and prospered. In 1867 the name was changed to Monroe Female College.

The college survived a catastrophe fire in 1879 and in 1898 the name was shortened to Monroe College. In 1907 the name was changed again. This time to Bessie Tift College in honor of the alumnus wife of Mr. H. H. Tift, a very generous benefactor of the college. The name was shortened to Tift College in 1956 and in 1986 it was merged with Mercer University.

References: Monroe Historical Society, *Monroe County, Georgia: A History*, 1979, pp.86-87; George White, *Historical Collections of Georgia*, 1855, p. 561; Lucian Lamar Knight, *Georgia's Landmarks, Memorials and Legends*, 1913, p. 791-93.



FOR-01

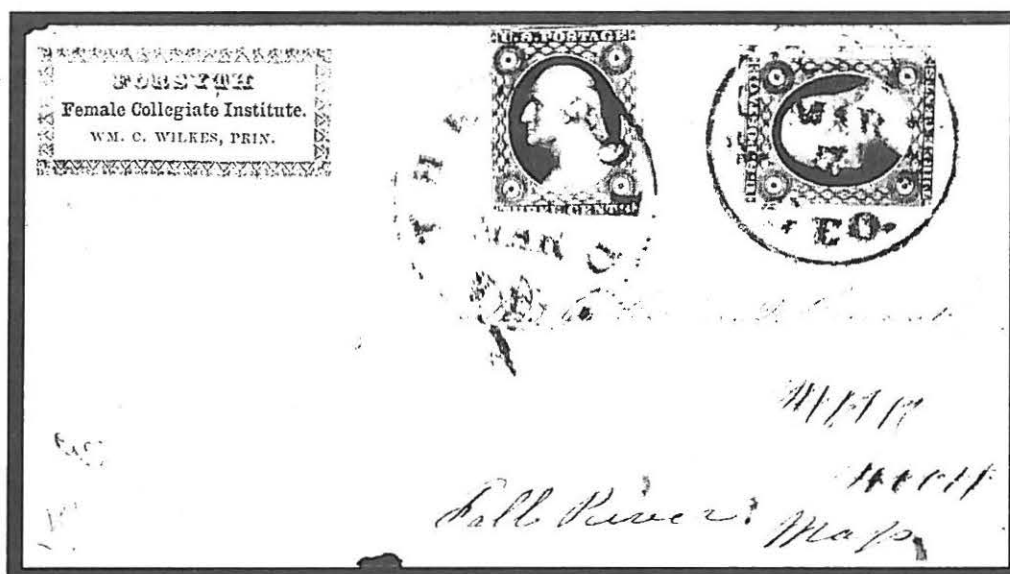
Color: Black

Type: Typeset

Position: UL

Size: 17mm x 38mm

Period of use: circa 1855



Black FORSYTH / GEO. Postmark dated 7 Mar ties 3c 1851 stamp on Forsyth Female Collegiate Institute college corner card cover to Thertford, Virginia were it was forwarded with a second 3c 1851 stamp to Fall River, Mass.

Snapping Shoals R. F. D. (continued from page 1)

rural free delivery to an entire county as a unit rather than establishing individual routes piecemeal. County Service was established for Newton County on 15 April 1902. (*Report for 1904-1905.*)

This resulted in a revamping of existing routes in Newton County, and one change was that the RFD route named Snapping Shoals ceased to exist. It had operated less than nine months from roughly 1 July 1901 to 14 Apr 1902!

One other route in Newton County, Hayston RFD, also appears to have been a casualty of County Service at the same time as Snapping Shoals. These two appear to be the very first RFD routes ever discontinued in Georgia. Hayston had been established 15 Oct 1900 (*Report for 1900-1901, p.151*), eight months earlier than Snapping Shoals and so was the longer lived of the two. It appears that Snapping Shoals may have been the shortest lived of any Georgia RFD in existence during the period 1900-1909!

This is the period during which the use of the familiar RFD handstamped postmarks is largely confined. The great majority of Georgia handstamped RFD markings are from 1901-1907.

The Snapping Shoals Post Office itself was a third casualty of the County Service plan for Newton County. It was ordered to be discontinued 30 April 1902. While a post office could continue to operate after the RFD route(s) emanating from it were discontinued, the demise of the Snapping Shoals Post Office serves to underscore the highly unusual history of the Snapping Shoals RFD route. Among the Georgia post offices from which RFD routes emanated prior to the 30 June

1903 cut off date for Department-issued postmarking devices, there was not another discontinuance until the Wenona Post Office in 1919! (The Hayston Post Office was not closed by the implementation of County Service. It held on until 1957.)

There are probably only a couple of Georgia RFD markings that might reasonably be considered to be more desirable than Snapping Shoals. The first would be the Covington marking known from 1902-03 which reads "WAGON "A"" in the bottom line and has a big A where the route number normally appears in the killer. This is another product of County Service in Newton County. There were only a few RFD markings nationwide with the word wagon in the postmark, and so these are considered to be very desirable.

The second possibility for a more desirable Georgia RFD marking would be the earliest known use of an RFD postmark in Georgia. It was not until 1 Aug 1900 that the Post Office Dept. instructed the Rural Carriers to postmark the mail they collected and furnished all routes with marking devices. Any 1900 RFD marking from Georgia would be desirable but especially if it were from August or September with a claim to being the earliest known.

The great name, short life, and connection to Newton County's "County Service" story certainly make Snapping Shoals one of the most desirable Georgia RFDs. Add to this the cover's fine condition, original contents, very early use and fully struck postmark, and it is quite clear that this is truly an *extraordinary* Georgia Rural Free Delivery cover!

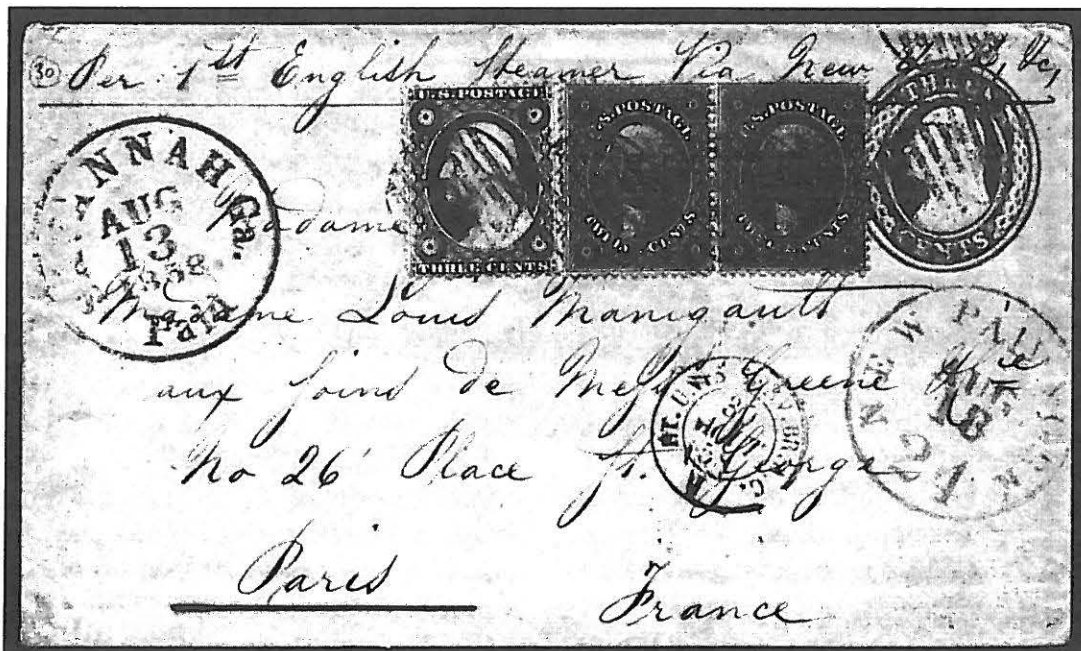
R. F. D.
SNAPPING SHOALS,
JUL 16 1901
GA.

The Snapping Shoals R F D postmark

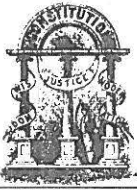
Cracker Covers



Vertical pair of 1857 12c stamps and single 3c stamp tied by black Augusta postmark dated 22 March 1858 on cover to Geneva, Switzerland.



Unusual combination of horizontal pair of 1857 12c stamps and single 1857 3c stamp used on 3c postal stationery envelope tied by Savannah grids and postmark dated 13 August 1858 on cover to Paris, France.



Georgia Post Roads

Volume 16, Number 2

April 2006

Whole Number 70

Knoxville, Ga. Earliest Reported Use

By Ken Hall

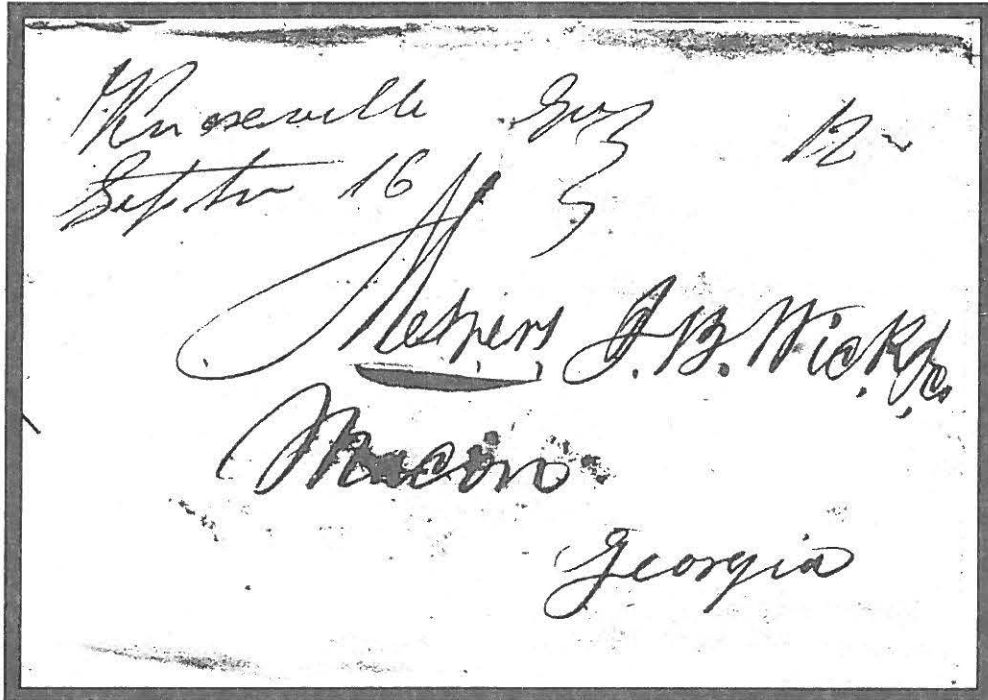


Figure 1. New earliest recorded manuscript Knoxville postmark dated 16 Sep 1826.

In the October 2003 issue of Georgia Post Roads, I published an article on the earliest reported use of a Knoxville (no "e"), Ga manuscript postmark, which at the time was October 19, 1826. The letter was addressed to John B. Wick at Macon Ga and was signed by Albert Clopton.

Recently I was the high bidder on a lot described as "Knoxville (with "e") GA Sep 16 1826 ms pmk w/12 1/2 on FL, addr Macon Ga" (figure 1). There was no description of the contents and I wondered at the time if this letter was also addressed to John Wick and signed by Mr. Clopton. When I received the lot, the new letter was addressed to Mr. Wick, but was not signed by Mr. Clopton. However, the Sept 16th date is 33 days earlier than my

other letter which makes this letter the new earliest reported use.

Even though there are only 33 days difference between the two letters, both the writing of the manuscript postmarks and the spelling of Knoxville (with "e") was different (Figure 2). Finding a new earliest date was great by itself, but, with the differences in the spelling, and the handwriting of the postmark, plus the content, I felt I had a nice bonus.

(continued on page 12)

Correction

The lead article in the January 2006 issue was inadvertently attributed to Gary Doster. The author was actually Jeff West. The editor apologizes for this error.

President's Message

The Chairman of our Nominating Committee provided his report on nominees for office. The nominees are:

President – Mike O'Reilly
 Vice President – Ed Jackson
 Secretary-Treasurer – Frank Crown

It is not too late for additional nominees. Any other nominees should be submitted to our Secretary, Mike O'Reilly, for inclusion on the ballot.

There was no response to my request for covers to make up an exhibit on Georgia postal history for Washington 2006. Fortunately Doug and Nancy Clark agreed to step in and prepare the exhibit with some of their covers and others provided by your officers. If you can make Washington 2006 be sure and look for the Georgia Postal History Society exhibit.

The list of nominees listed above and the response to my request for covers for the Washington 2006 exhibit are indicators of a serious problem in the Georgia Postal History Society. We are a small society and one that has a solid core of members. However, leadership for the society over the last ten years or more has come from a very few members. There needs to be a continuous "changing of the guard" to infuse the society with new ideas and fresh leadership. Look at the slate of nominees for the upcoming election. It is nothing more than a shuffle of the current officers.

The GPHS needs your help. Don't feel that just because we have a slate of officers to vote on you can wait until the next election. If you feel you are ready to serve the GPHS contact the Secretary to have your name added to ballot. I don't believe any of those already on the ballot would mind the competition.

Frank

Secretary's Report

There have been no changes in our membership this quarter, which prompts me to remind all members to set a goal for the new year to recruit a new member for next year. Help your society grow!!

We currently have 37 members on our membership list.

Remember to send address changes to me at mcoreilly@att.net.

We end the quarter with a bank balance of \$1,418.05.

Mike

Washington 2006

As most of you know the National show of the decade will be held in Washington, DC in late May and early June. The last national show was Pacific '97 that was held in San Francisco. If you went, you probably remember it one of the largest if not the biggest stamp shows you ever went to.

Washington 2006 will be no different. If you the opportunity to attend you should go. It will be held Saturday 27 May through 3 June at the Washington Convention Center. You can find more information in *Linn's Stamp News*, the *American Philatelist* or on line at: www.washington-2006.org/.

Chickasawhatchee



The town of Chickasawhatchee may have the longest name of any Georgia post office.

Post Road Notes

Your editor made a terrible error last month in attributing the lead article on the Snapping Shoals R. F. D. to Gary Doster. Gary provided the article but I failed to realize that it was written by Jeff West. My sincere apologies to both.

The "Cracker Covers" page in this issues features two covers with corner cards of relief agencies that served the Union forces: The U. S. Sanitary Commission and the U. S. Christian Commission. The covers provide evidence that these organizations continued to support the Union forces in the immediate post war occupation period.

The U. S. Sanitary Commission cover can be year dated by the purple postmark that was used by Confederate Augusta in the last months of the war and which continued in use until the fall of 1865. The Macon cover is more difficult to date but it was probably used in March 1866 before the occupation by Union forces ended.

As I mentioned in my last column, I am retiring as your editor with the publication of the October 2006 issue of *Georgia Post Roads*. Someone in the society needs to step forward and agree to take on the duties of editor after my departure.

If anyone is interested or can be persuaded to take on the duties please contact me.

If you wish to communicate with me please note my new email address in either of the boxes to the right. By the time you receive this my old email address with no longer be valid.

It is not too early to consider preparing an exhibit for the annual Southeastern Stamp Show this fall. If you haven't exhibited before try a one frame exhibit of 16 album pages. It is fun to show off your favorite topic and you might win an award.

Frank

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Coming in Future Issues

Atlanta fancy cancels

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 Georgia Postal History Society**

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Washington 2006

27 May – 3 Jun 2006

Washington Convention Center, Washington, DC

Editor Wanted

Editor wanted for *Georgia Post Roads*. If you are interested contact Frank Crown.

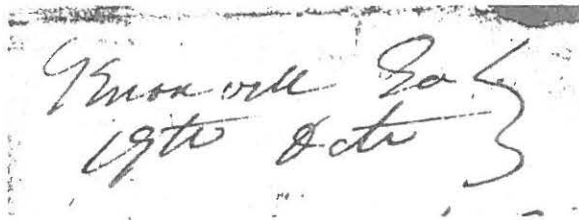
Knoxville Earliest Reported Use continued

Figure 2. Manuscript Knoxville postmark dated 19 Oct 1826.

The letter was written by S. W. Nichols to Mr. J. B. Wick, telling him that he wanted to sell and trade with the Indian Nation and would have to go to Fort Mitchell to get permission and that he may stop at Flint River before going on. He also states that he has asked a man who speaks the language well to go with him, but has not received an answer. There is also a list of items that he wants Mr. Wick to send to him so he can take them to the Indians. Unfortunately Mr. Nichols never mentions which Indians that he wanted to trade with so I contacted Frank Crown for more information.

Frank was kind enough to provide the additional information. "Between the Flint and Chattahoochee Rivers (the latter is the western boundary of southern Georgia) was the Creek Nation. I believe the Creek Nation also had some land west of the Chattahoochee River as well. At this time Fort Mitchell was considered to be in Georgia. In 1827 when they actually ran the line between Georgia and Alabama, Fort Mitchell was found to be in Alabama."

A transcription of the letter and the list of items requested follow. Spelling and grammar have not been corrected.

The letter:

Knoxville 16th Sept 1826

Mr J.B. Wick

Dear Sir

Did not reach here until last night- I do not find the prospect to flattering as I expected- but the field is yet open for business- I am not able to say whether I can git peermistion to sell in the nation or not- and shall have to go to fort Mitchell before I git permistion- perhaps I may stop at Flint river and sell if the prosspect is good- about half the trade depends on having a person that can speak the language- I have made perposells to esquire E. M. Amus(?) to go in the nation and have one of the profits and let you furnish the Stock but he has not yet dissided- I thant it would be to our advantage to take him in that way – he can speak the Language well and they have confidence in what he tells them- but there is no way we can due so well as trading with the Indians and if you will furnish thy goods money can be made and thare is at least one half in knowing what kind of goods to buy- A jeneral assortment of Callico- be sure to git common and good- checks-white and blue beads by (?) – you due well to rite to new york for a jeneral assort the articles mentioned and every article of calico or checks and plads- let them be the most fancy coullers- I enclose list – the mail is starting- I will rite tomorrow.

Respectfuy

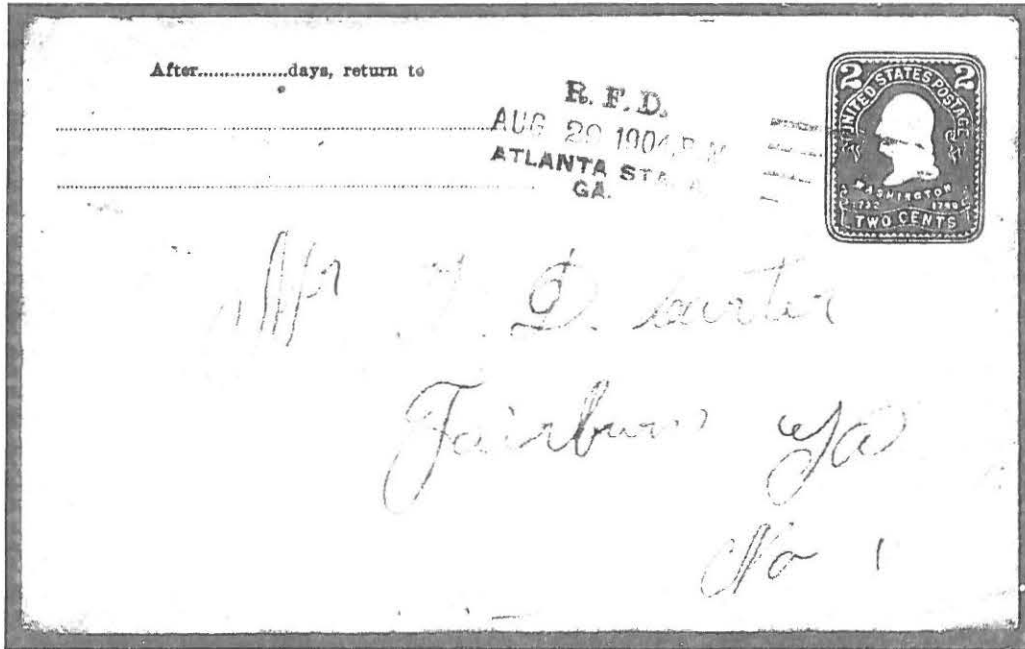
S. N. Nichols

The list of items requested:

- Fancy Callico
- Furniture checks and (?)
- White and Blue Beads
- Dufpel Blankets
- Good and (?) plads
- Cotton shawls
- Red and green bindings
- Assorted cotton shirts
- Blue shawls
- 1 or (?) red scarlete jentlemens cloks
- Saddle & Bridle
- Common pocket and butcher knives

More on RDFs

Frank Crown



Black Atlanta 1904 RFD postmark on cover to Fairburn, Georgia.

In the last issue of *GPR* there was a feature article on Rural Free Delivery (RFD) postmarks. That article focused on what we would call rural post offices. It may come as a surprise to some that RFD routes were also based in the larger cities. The cover at figure 1 bears an Atlanta RFD marking for Station A (full size illustration is at figure 2). This RFD route undoubtedly served some of what were then the rural suburbs of Atlanta.

years ago. The RFD postmark indicates the letter was picked up during the afternoon of 29 August. On the reverse is an Atlanta machine cancel with a time of "3:30 PM" on 29 August. It was then dispatched to Fairburn, a small town just to the southwest of Atlanta, where the receiving marking indicates it arrived at 5:00 PM on 29 August. A model of efficiency. From pickup to delivery at the office of destination in one afternoon!

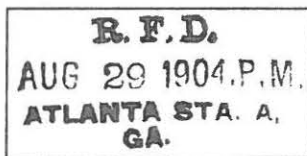


Figure 2. Atlanta RFD marking (actual size)

An examination of markings on the reverse of the cover (figure 2) reveal the efficiency of the U. S. post office 100



Figure 3. Reverse of cover showing transit markings.

Unlisted Cancel from Roswell Georgia

Wade E. Saadi

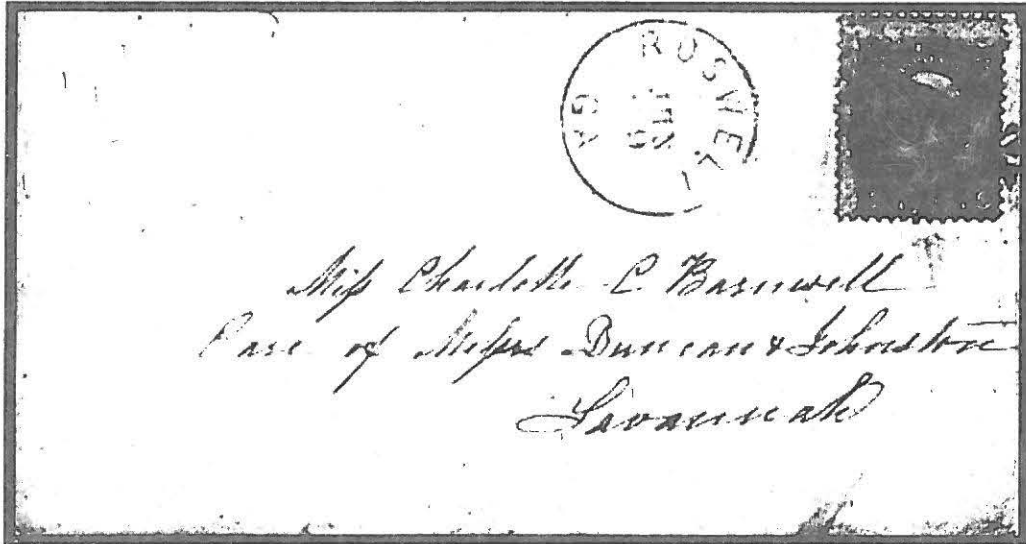


Figure 1. Blue ROSWELL / GA postmark dated 29 Jun on cover with blue fancy cancel of casket with a cross at the head.

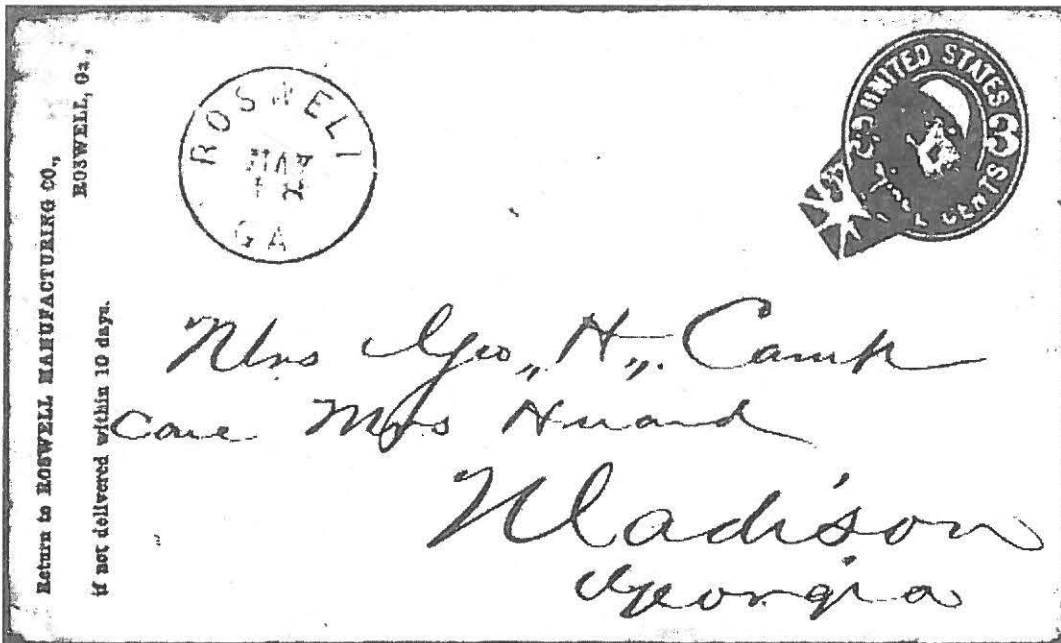


Figure 2. Blue ROSWELL / GA postmark dated 18 May on cover with blue fancy cancel of casket with a cross at the head.

The cover at Figure 1 has an interesting blue cancel, struck on a Scott #65. The left part of the cancel is clearly a "Cross". When

looking at the whole cancel, it appears to be either a "Cross" on a casket or a "Cross" over a grave plot. The cover is postmarked,

“ROSWELL / GA / JUN / 29” in the same blue ink. The cancel is not listed in any reference I have, including Skinner–Eno and Simpson–Alexander.

The significance of the cancel is unknown. It could indicate the stamp itself has been “killed” by the canceling device. However, since it was used in post Civil War Georgia, it could also be in memory of those

who gave their lives for the Confederacy.

I have a scan of a three-cent entire, sent to me by another collector (figure 2,) that has the exact same cancel.

If anyone has information of this cancel, I would appreciate your letting me know. Wade E. Saadi, 40 Fulton Street, New York, NY 10038-1850

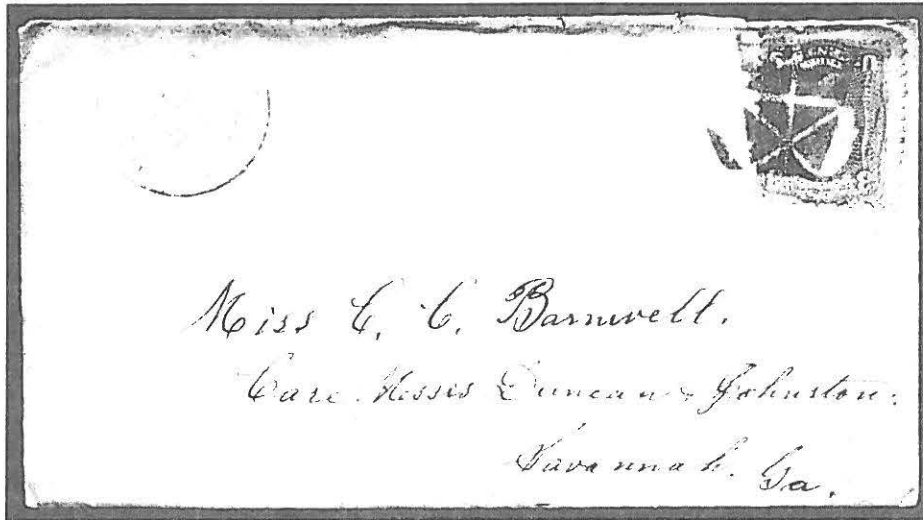


Figure 3. A third Roswell cover with the blue casket fancy cancel dated 18 Jun (1867).

Editor's Comments:

In preparing this article for publication the editor located the cover at figure 3. Images of just the fancy cancels on the three covers were prepared. These are illustrated as figures 3, 4 and 5 and are from the covers dated 29 Jun, 18 May and 18 Jun respectively. All are actual size.

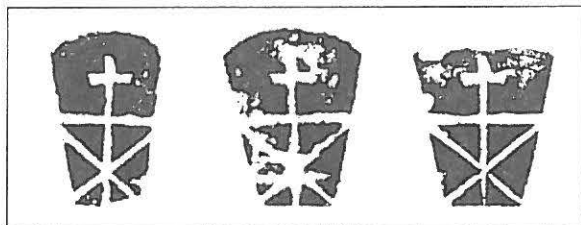


Figure 3

Figure 4

Figure 5

A cursory examination of the three markings shows apparent differences. The

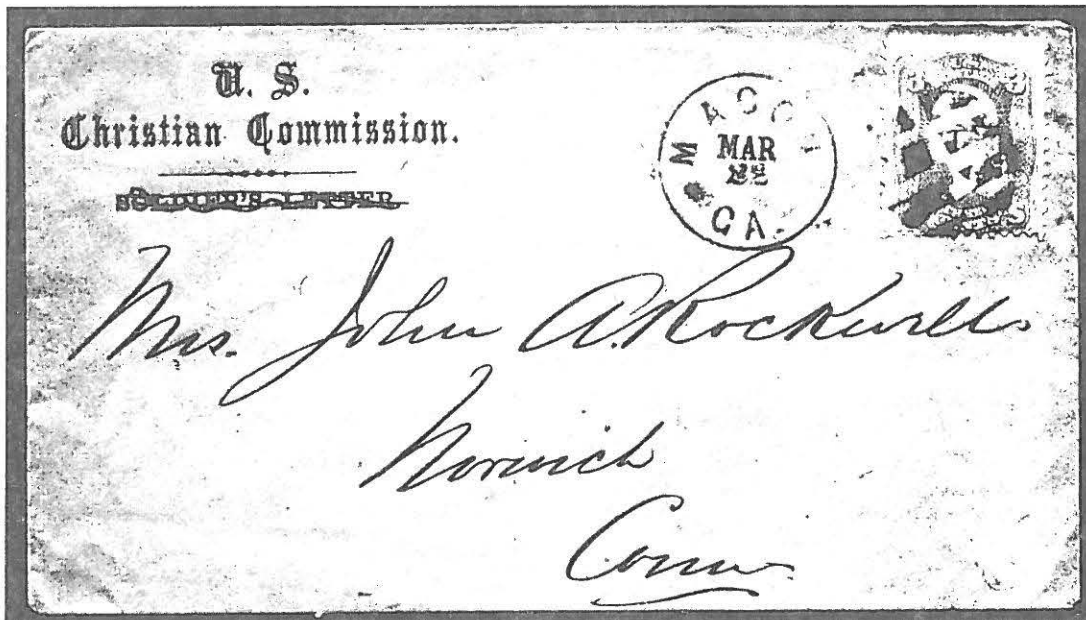
cancel in figure 3 is not as wide as the other two. The cross at the head of the coffin in figures 4 and 5 appears to tilt slightly toward the left. Finally there appears to be a horizontal line at least partially through the center of the “X” in the lower portion of the casket in figure 4 that is not seen in the other two.

As noted in previous articles fancy cancels are a difficult field because many times strikes of the same marking appear different due to rapid wear, reworking or cleaning. At the same time there is evidence that the postmaster or clerk who prepared these markings favored a particular design and would often repeat it with resulting differences due to the hand carving method used to prepare the cancels.

Cracker Covers



Purple AUGUSTA GA. postmark ties U. S. 3c 1861 issue on cover with embossed "U. S. Sanitary, Commission, Soldiers Mail" corner card at upper left. The insert is an enhanced view of the corner card. Period of use is August 1865.



Black MACON / GA. duplex postmark on corner card cover of the "U. S. Christian Commission." Note "Soldier's Letter" is lined out indicating use by an officer or civilian. Year of use is probably 1866.



Georgia Post Roads

Volume 16, Number 3

July 2006

Whole Number 71

Negative "5" Rate Marking

Frank Crown

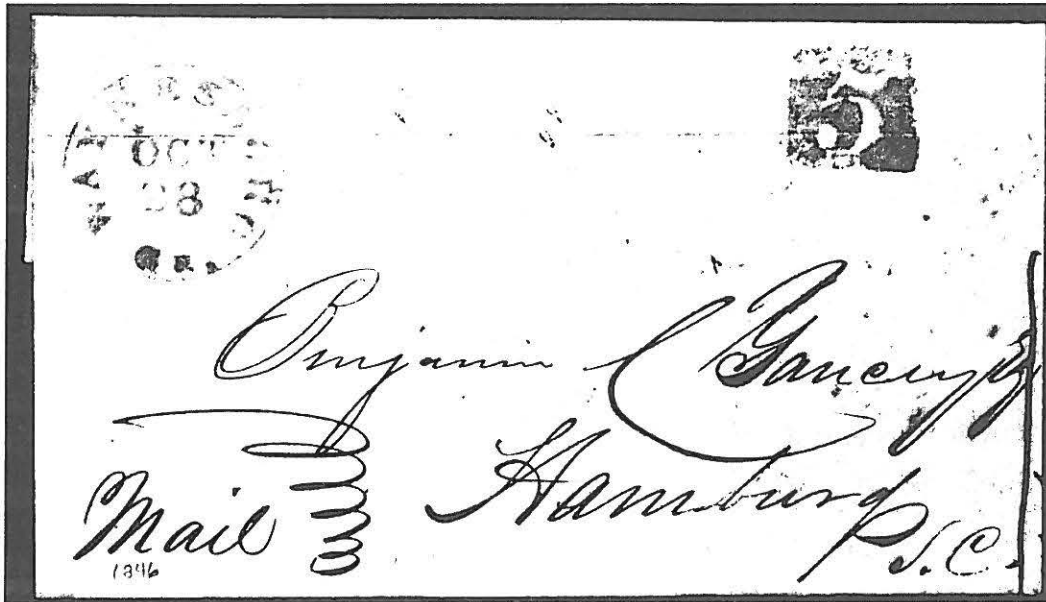


Figure 1. Red WAYNESBORO / Ga. postmark dated 28 Oct [1846] on cover with a red negative "5" rate marking.

Recently a new stampless rate marking was discovered on a cover from Waynesboro, Georgia (figure 1). The marking is very distinctive because the rate ("5") appears as a colorless number inside a colored block. Negative markings such as this are extremely rare from Georgia.

The earliest handstamped markings recorded from Waynesboro date from 1835 and are straight-line "FREE" and "PAID" markings. It wasn't until the standardization of domestic postal rates in two zones in 1845 that handstamped rate markings began to appear.

Sometime after the rate change in 1845 the Waynesboro postmaster decided to improve the efficiency of his mail operations by using a handstamp to rate letters. The marking at figure 2 was probably his first

attempt. The crudeness of the design suggests it was prepared locally.



Figure 2. Negative "5" marking.

Only four other negative rate markings are recorded from Georgia towns. They are a Lafayette negative "5" in a jagged box, a Rome negative "5" in star (two types) and a Roswell partial negative "5". The Lafayette and Rome markings are from the late 1840's like the Waynesboro marking. The Roswell marking cannot be dated but was probably used prior to 1853.

President's Message

With this issue of *Georgia Post Roads* you will find your dues notice and ballot for the election of new officers. These are printed on the same sheet. Please cut in half and send to the appropriate address.

Also included on the dues notice sheet is a copy of your address label. Please take the time to review the information on the label and make any needed corrections.

We are still in need of a new editor of *GPR* starting with the January 2007 issue. If interested in the position please contact Mike O'Reilly or myself.

This issue is primarily devoted to the fancy cancels of Atlanta. Like the issues on the Savannah fancy cancels this is just the tip of the iceberg. There are many other designs from both towns. This is an area that deserves much more attention from collectors who are interested in an area needing original research.

Frank

Secretary's Report

We welcome two new members to our ranks this quarter:

#65 Bergman, Richard
PO Box 1096
Marco Island, FL 34146

#66 Fetter, Marvin
135 N. Greenleaf
Gurnee, IL 60031

We currently have 39 members on our membership list.

Remember to send address changes to me at mcoreilly@att.net or at my address listed in the GPHS box on the next page.

We end the quarter with a bank balance of \$1,305.15

Mike

Washington 2006 Report

Mike O'Reilly

Though the hugely successful Washington 2006 International show has been well covered in the philatelic press, it seems only right to recognize the participation of the GPHS and its members in the show.

Doug & Nancy Clark won a Gold medal for their eight frame exhibit on "The U. S. 1903 Hartford Postal Stationary".

Harvey Mirsky (#46) won a Large Gold medal for his eight frame exhibit on "The US 1847 issue: Proving That Stampless Mail Could Be Eliminated"

The GPHS had a one frame exhibit showcasing the full range of Georgia Postal History, thanks to the hard work of Doug Clark who prepared the exhibit.

I won't try to name all the GPHS members that I saw at the show, but I know that the GPHS was well represented. My apologies if I have omitted any exhibitors.

Washington 2006 Report

Doug Clark

There was no exhibit of Georgia postal history in the competitive class. A few Confederate exhibits had Georgia covers. I recall some Athens and other provisionals in Dan Warren's exhibit of "The Southern Mail." It got a vermeil.

Steve Walske's exhibit of "Special Postal Routes during the American Civil War" was filled with express and blockade run covers, but I can't recall what he had from Georgia. He got a large gold with special prize and was one of two candidates for the Grand Prix National (since he didn't win, that's like the reserve grand).

Nancy and I got a gold but we exhibited postal stationery (the 1903 Hartford issue) and not postal history.

Post Road Notes

"Cracker Covers" in this issue features two covers that were found at Washington 2006. The first is a postwar steamboat cover from Savannah. The blue Savannah postmark and circular "STEAMBOAT" marking indicate the letter was deposited in the Savannah Post Office by a steamboat captain who picked it up enroute to Savannah. The "DUE 3" marking was to make up the six cent rate that was charged on letters carried on non contract mail boats.

The second cover is an unusual college corner card cover from Shorter College in Rome, Georgia. The cover has a large green collar in which the stamp was affixed.

The prospectus for Southeastern Stamp Show 2006 is now available on the Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs website (<http://www.stampclubs.com>), or write Bob Davidson, 3004 Prestons Station Drive, Hixson, TN 37343.

The show is scheduled for 22-24 September at the Cobb County Civic Center. The web site has information on dealers, directions and much more.

Hopefully you will want to exhibit. Be sure to get the prospectus and entry form and get it in by the 22 August deadline. Frames may go fast as 100 have been reserved for the American Airmail Society.

There has been a lot of press about the "Grinnell" Hawaiian Missionary stamps in the last few years. An opinion on these stamps was recently rendered by the Royal Philatelic Society in London. The results of over 24 months of research and testing were published in the book, *The Grinnell Hawaiian Missionary Stamps*. It is a fascinating work that details the work done by the Royal Philatelic Society in reaching their opinion. Great reading for those interested in how stamps are expertised.

Frank

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Coming in Future Issues

Georgia way cover
The 6 1/4 cent rate

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Editor Needed!

Editor needed for *Georgia Post Roads*. If you are interested contact Frank Crown.

Early Atlanta Fancy Cancels

Frank Crown

This article focuses on early Atlanta fancy cancels. These are cancels used with postmarks that have only day and month logos. The period runs from 1865 to approximately 1875.

The fancy cancel designs included are: diamonds (DIA); flowers (FLW); circular geometrics (GEC); hexagonal geometrics

(GEH); geometrics (GEO); radial geometrics (GER); letters (LTR); and stars (STR)

Six different postmarks were used with the fancy cancels but others may exist. The six postmarks are listed in Table 1 and identifying characteristics in Table 2.

The fancy cancels are listed in Table 3 and notes on the fancy cancels are in Table 4.

Table 1. Atlanta Postmarks




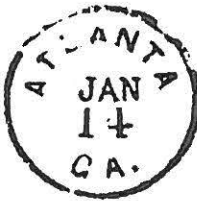


 <p>A</p>	 <p>B</p>	 <p>C</p>
 <p>D</p>	 <p>E</p>	 <p>F</p>

Table 2. Characteristics of Atlanta Postmarks

Postmark (Type)	Size (mm)	Dates of Use	Color	Characteristics
A	22	8 Jun 1866 to 25 Jan 1868	Black Blue	Lazy "L" in Atlanta Period after "GA" is like a small dash
B	23	10 Jul 1869 to 20 Oct 1869	Black Blue	Widely spaced "GA"
C	24	?	Black	"ATLANTA" is a full semi-circle Widely spaced "GA"
D	25	?	Black	Small letters; widely spaced "GA" "ATLANTA" is less than a full semi-circle
E	25.5	?	Black	Base of "A" in "GA" is wide
F	26	9 Oct 1874 to 4 Nov 1875	Black	Extra space between letters and postmark rim Period after "GA" slightly raised

Table 3. Atlanta Fancy Cancels




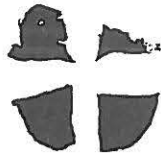
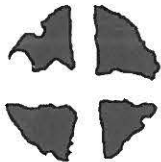



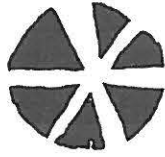



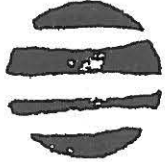




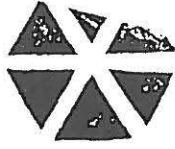














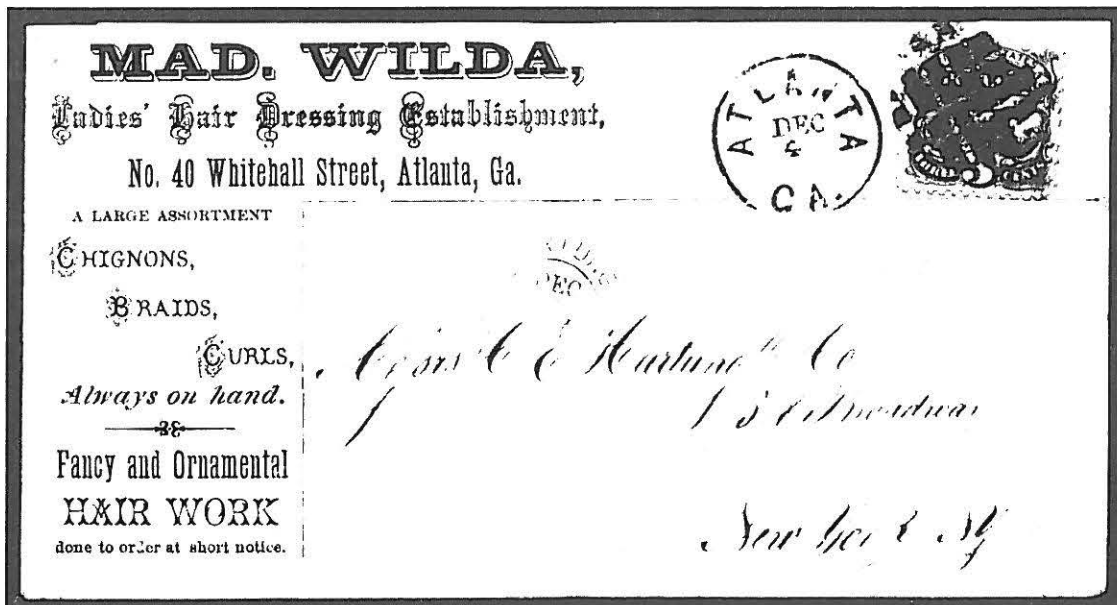
 <p>DIA-01</p>	 <p>FLW-02</p>	 <p>GEC-01</p>	 <p>GEC-02</p>
 <p>GEC-03</p>	 <p>GEC-04</p>	 <p>GEC-05</p>	 <p>GEC-06</p>
 <p>GEC-07</p>	 <p>GEC-08</p>	 <p>GEC-09</p>	 <p>GEC-10</p>
 <p>GEC-11</p>	 <p>GEC-12</p>	 <p>GEC-13</p>	 <p>GEC-14</p>
 <p>GEC-15</p>	 <p>GEH-01</p>	 <p>GEO-01</p>	 <p>GEO-02</p>

Table 3. Atlanta Fancy Cancels (continued)

 <p>GER-01</p>	 <p>LTR-A-01</p>	 <p>LTR-A-02</p>	 <p>LTR-W-01</p>
 <p>LTR-US-01</p>	 <p>ROS-01</p>	 <p>STR-01</p>	 <p>STR-02</p>
 <p>STR-03</p>	 <p>STR-04</p>	 <p>STR-05</p>	 <p>STR-06</p>

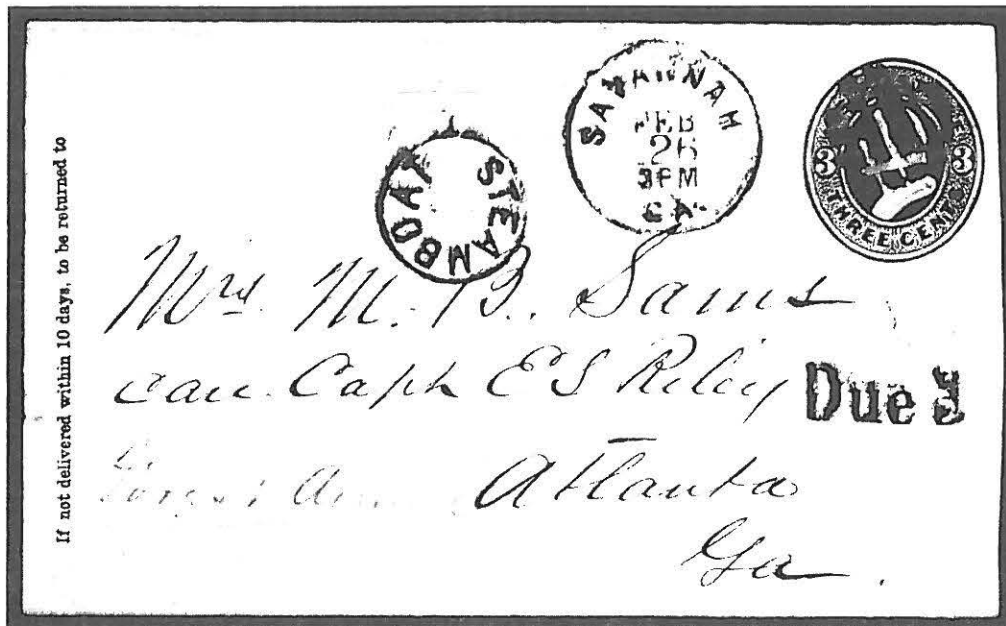


Black Atlanta geometric fancy cancel (GEO-01) on corner card cover of Mad[ame] Wilda's hair dressing establishment.

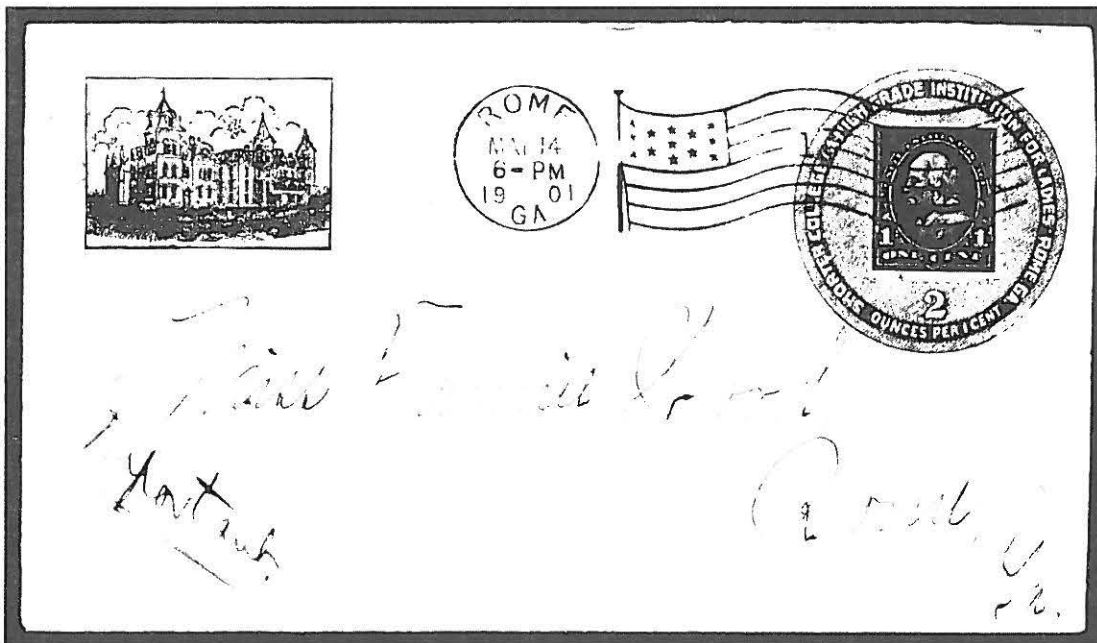
Table 4. Characteristics of Atlanta Fancy Cancels

Type	Dates of Use	Pmk	Color	Stamp Used With
DIA-01	30 Aug 18--	2	Black	3¢ 1869
FLW-02	20 Oct 1869	2	Black	3¢ 1869
GEC-01	30 Aug 18--	4	Black	3¢ 1870-71
GEC-02	21 Jul 1875	4	Black	3¢ 1870-71
GEC-03	4 Nov 1875	4	Black	1c 1873 postcard
GEC-04	25 Jan 1868	1	Blue	3¢ 1861
GEC-05	9 Oct 1874	4	Black	1¢ 1870-71
GEC-06	14 Jan 18--	3	Black	3¢ 1870-71 envelope
GEC-07	10 Jul 1869	2	Black	3¢ 1869
GEC-08	20 Feb 18--	1	Black	3¢ 1861
GEC-09	23 May 18--	2	Blue	3¢ 1861
GEC-10	24 Apr 18--	1	Blue	3¢ 1861
GEC-11	25 Jun 18--	1	Blue	3¢ 1861
GEC-12	8 Jun 1866	1	Blue	3¢ 1861
GEC-13	20 Dec 1868	2	Black	3¢ 1861
GEC-14	2 Jul 18--	3	Black	1¢ 1870-71
GEC-15	13 Nov 18--	6	Black	3¢ 1870-71
GEH-01	25 Mar 18--	5	Black	3¢ 1870-71
GEO-01	4 Dec 1869	2	Black	3¢ 1869
GEO-02	29 Dec 1869	2	Black	3¢ 1869
GER-01	9 Mar 1868	2	Blue	3c 1867
LTR-A-01	-- Oct 1869	2	Blue	3¢ 1869
LTR-A-02	16 Nov 18--	5	Black	3¢ 1864-65 envelope
LTR-W-01	7 May 18--	1	Blue	3¢ 1861
LTR-US-01	30 Mar 18--	1	Blue	3¢ 1861
ROS-01	27 Sep 18--	1	Blue	3¢ 1861
STR-01	30 Aug 18--	1	Blue	3¢ 1864-65 envelope
STR-02	23 Nov 1866	1	Blue	3c 1861
STR-03	1 Jan 18--	1	Blue	3¢ 1861
STR-04	1 Mar 18--	1	Black	3¢ 1861
STR-05	16 Ma- 18--	3	Black	3¢ 1870-71
STR-06	18 Mar 18--	1	Blue	3¢ 1861

Cracker Covers



Blue Savannah postmark with fancy cancel and blue "STEAMBOAT" and "Due 3" markings on cover delivered to the Savannah post office by a steamboat captain.



May 1901 college corner card cover with black illustration of college at upper left and "Shorter College: A High Grade Institution for Ladies : Rome, Ga." in large green circular collar at upper right.



Georgia Post Roads

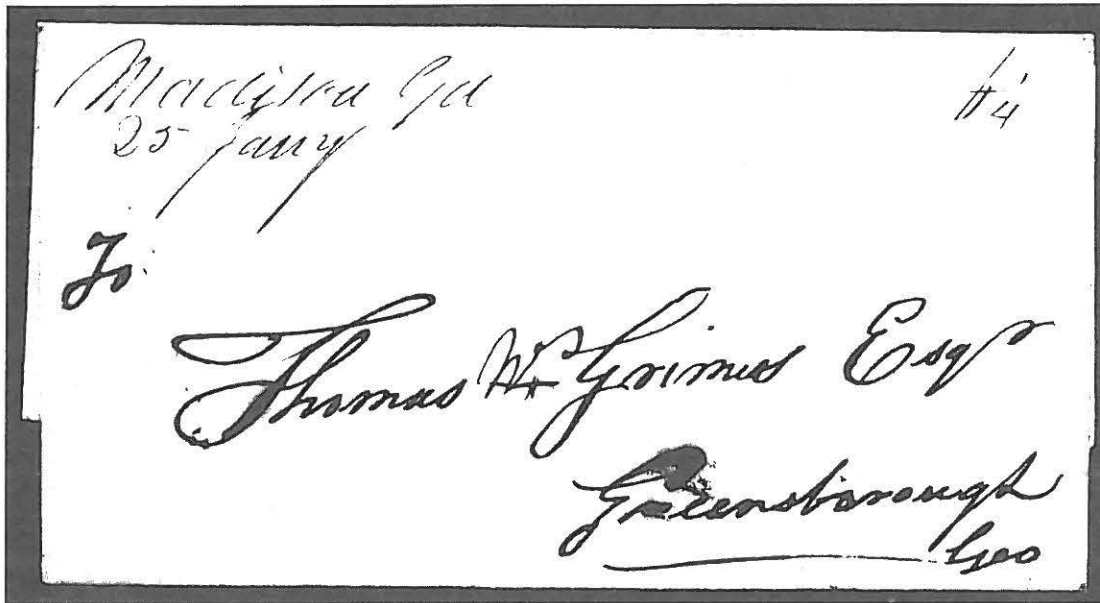
Volume 16, Number 4

October 2006

Whole Number 72

The 6¼ Cent Rate

Frank Crown



Occasionally you will see a stampless cover bearing a 6¼ rate. Those familiar with the postage rates of the stampless period will recognize that there was no such rate. The closest rate is the six-cent rate for letters addressed to points less than 30 miles distant. So why do such covers exist?

The answer lies in the currency that was in use at the time. There was a shortage of coinage from the earliest days of the United States. To fill the void Congress passed the Act of 9 February 1793 that made foreign gold and silver coins legal tender for the payment of all debts and demands. This Act was not repealed until 1857.

The most common of form of foreign specie was in the form of Spanish reales. The most well known coin was the Spanish and Mexican eight-reales coin or piece of eight.

The piece of eight was the equivalent of one U. S. dollar. Each real or piece was worth 12½ cents. Spanish and Mexican half real pieces were accordingly worth 6¼ cents. The British 3-pences was also valued at 6¼ cents.

In the absence of the proper U. S. coinage postmasters would accept the equivalent in foreign specie. The closest equivalent was either 6 1/4 in British, Mexican or Spanish coinage. Many times there was little or no specie in circulation and local banks and merchants prepared script or shinplasters to fill the need for coins. Some of this script was denominated in 6 1/4 cent bills.

While the postage rate was only six cents some postmasters took it upon themselves to make it 6 1/4 cents. One notable example is found in the 1837 Cleveland, Ohio City
(continued on page 28)

President's Message

I must apologize for the error on the ballots for the election. Yes the ballots were intended for this election not the election three years ago. This is a problem with our high tech world. I decided to use the file containing the last ballot to make up the 2006 ballot. Of course in the process I forgot to change the year date. Live and learn.

This is my last message to you as president of our society. It has been a good three years. As I leave office the financial health of the society continues to be excellent. You have only to look at the Secretary-Treasurers report to see that we have more than \$1,500.00 in the treasury. This is quite a feat considering we only have 39 members.

I want to thank the membership for their great support over the past years and encourage you to give the same great support to your new President, Mike O'Reilly.

Frank

Secretary - Treasurer Report

We currently have 39 members on our membership list and there are no new members to report this quarter.

Remember to send address changes to me at mcoreilly@att.net.

We end the quarter with a bank balance of \$1,510.05

Annual Meeting Report

We had a great meeting in Marietta on Saturday, September 23, in conjunction with Southeastern Stamp Show 2006.

President Frank Crown presided over the meeting and welcomed members and visitors. We had a good turnout with attendance by McCary Ballard, Owen Merwin, Ed Jackson, John Buckner, Don Garrett, Doug and Nancy

Clark, Owen Merwin, Doug Davis, and Bob Pou. Roy Delafosse was manning his bourse table and was unable to attend. Bob Davidson and Richard Benjamin attended as visitors and were welcomed to the meeting.

Frank announced the results of the election of officers for the next term as tallied by Gary Doster. The single slate of officers was elected unanimously. Your new officers for the term 2007-2009 are Mike O'Reilly, President; Ed Jackson, Vice-President; and Frank Crown, Secretary-Treasurer.

Frank also stated that the October 2006 issue of *Georgia Post Roads* will be his last as editor. He encouraged anyone interested in editing our journal to please step up to the plate and participate in the good work done by the GPHS. Frank also noted that *Georgia Post Roads* is really the life-blood of the GPHS, and is the primary reason that many of our members maintain their membership. Failing to find an editor could cause serious harm to the vitality of the GPHS.

Frank discussed his on-going research projects: (1) a comprehensive listing of Georgia post offices from 1789 to 1860; (2) a list of the Georgia post offices from 1860-1869, tentatively titled *The Turbulent Decade*; (3) a census of the Georgia Confederate postmasters' provisionals that will update the preliminary census he published several years ago; and (4) a comprehensive work on the Georgia postmasters' provisionals. It is anticipated the work on Georgia post offices in the 1860s will be published by the end of the year. Information on the availability of the these publication will be provided to all members as they are published.

Frank also gave an illustrated talk on Antebellum Atlanta Postal History, the subject of his exhibit at the show. It was an interesting and informative talk. This writer had not seen most of the early Atlanta markings and learned a lot from the presentation.

Mike

Post Road Notes

"Cracker Covers" in this issue features two stampless covers that have somewhat unusual town names. The first cover, from Crackers Neck, is from the Cracker Neck section of lower Greene County. It is claimed by some that the name came about because "crackers" who lived in the area had a hard time making a living. The second cover is from Green Cut and the cancel is in green ink. This town got its name from the land owner whose property the railroad made a cut through.

This is my last issue as editor of the *Georgia Post Roads*. Way back in 1991 I started *GPR* in conjunction with Ernie Owens, who was then the Secretary-Treasurer of the GPHS. It wasn't long before *GPR* replaced the old society *Bulletin* and has been published ever since. I took one vacation from the editorship from 1998 to 2000 when Nancy Clarke took the reins.

Late last year I retired from my job and now it is time for me to retire as editor. This is not a farewell as I will continue to contribute by writing articles but it is time for someone else to take on the task of preparing *GPR* for publication.

Retirement will also give me the time I need to complete the projects mentioned in the report of our annual meeting. It does not seem possible but some of the projects were actually started in the 1970s. Now it is time to complete them.

Frank

Awards

At the Southeast Stamp Show the Georgia Postal History Award for Best Georgia Postal History Exhibit was won by Frank Crown for his exhibit: "Antebellum Atlanta Postal History". Congratulations!

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Editor Needed!

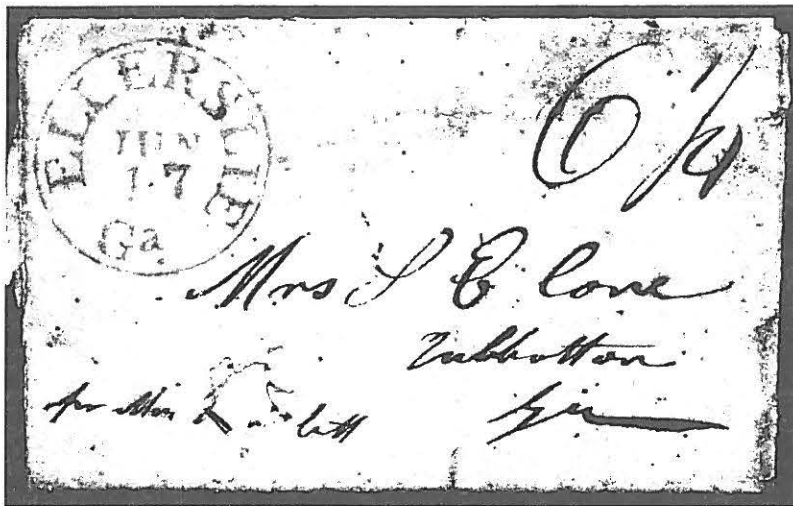
Editor needed for *Georgia Post Roads*. If you are interested contact Frank Crown or Mike O'Reilly.

continued from page 25

Directory that lists the postage rate for distances under 30 miles as 6¼ cents.

We don't know how many postal patrons actually overpaid the postage by ¼ cent. However, some postmasters noted this over-payment by rating letters "6¼" instead of "6". Some postmasters also "over rated" letters sent due. This was presumptuous on their part as they had no way of knowing if the recipient would have the correct change of six-cents or not.

Only three examples of the 6¼ cent rate from Georgia are recorded. They



Red ELLERSLIE / Ga. postmark dated 17 Jun with "6¼" rate.

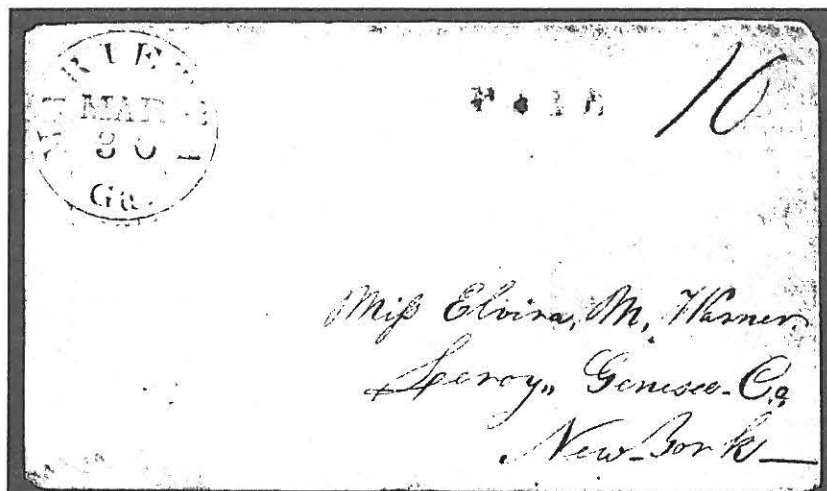
are from the towns of Ellerslie (1835),

Madison (year unknown) and Monticello (1826).

Mystery Cover

The envelope illustrated to the right bears a black MARIETTA / Ga. postmark dated 30 March, a red hand-stamped "PAID" marking and a black manuscript "10" marking. The envelope is of rather rough manufacture closely resembling the so called "oatmeal" covers of the Confederate period.

There are two unusual features of this cover. First is the "PAID" marking which measures 20 x 4 mm. The only "PAID" marking listed for Marietta in the *Georgia Stampless Cover Catalog and Handbook* measures only 16 x 3.5 mm. The second unusual feature is the use of black for the postmark and red ink for the "PAID" marking.



Black MARIETTA / Ga. postmark dated 30 Mar 18-- with red handstamped "PAID" marking on stampless cover rated "10".

If anyone else has a Marietta cover with a "PAID" marking of that matches the measurements of the marking on this cover please contact the editor.

The Initials Handstamp of Warrenton



Patriotic cover with black **CULPEPPER C. H. / Va.** postmark dated 6 Nov and bearing the postmaster's initial handstamped.

In the June 1990 issue of the Georgia Postal History Society *Bulletin* there was an article titled "An Unreported Warrenton, Georgia Postmasters Handstamp." This article described a circular handstamp with script initials. Three covers are illustrated with the initial marking. All are addressed to Warrenton, Georgia and all bear due markings. The article concluded that the initials in the marking were those of W. W. Padgett, the Warrenton postmaster and that he applied the marking to incoming mail and possibly to indicate the amount due had been paid.

Recently another cover bearing the initial handstamp surfaced. Like one of the earlier covers it is on a patriotic cover send due by a soldier and addressed to Warrenton. We now have four covers bearing the initial handstamp and all are due letters. This strengthens the conclusion that the marking was used by postmaster Padgett to mark due letters received at his office. This practice is not unknown. Both the Columbus and Sparta post

offices mark incoming due letters with red rate markings that distinguished them from other incoming mail. It is assumed this was done to enable the postmaster or clerks to readily identify due mail from paid mail when a postal patron came to pick up their mail.

The other three recorded covers with the initial handstamp:

Soldiers letter with manuscript **Winston N. C.** postmark dated 17 May 1863.

Soldiers letter with **GREENVILLE / N. C.** postmark dated 21 ---.

Soldiers patriotic cover with blue **PETERSBURG / Va.** postmark dated 13 Aug.



The "WWP" initial handstamp

Way Mail

Frank Crown

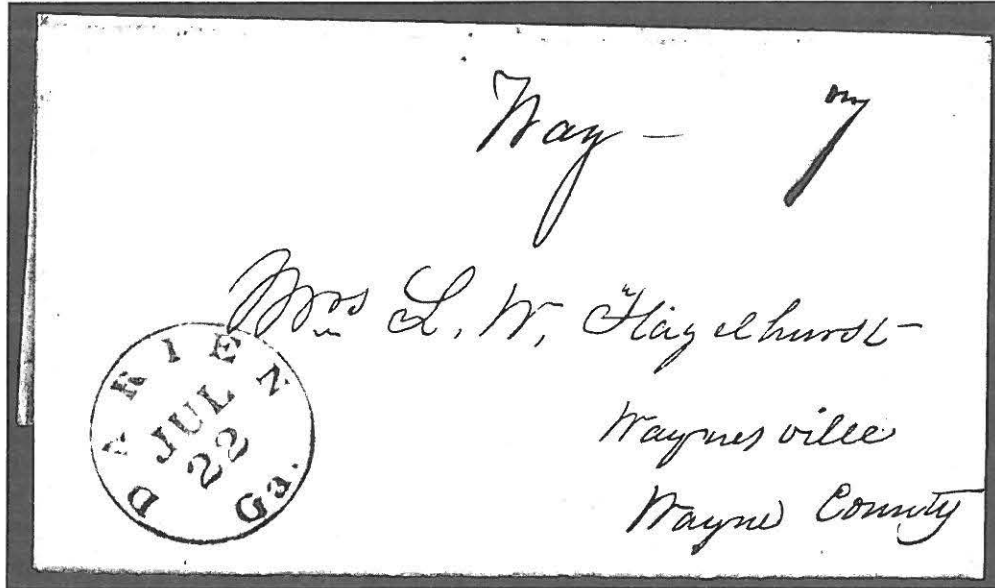


Figure 1. Red **DARIEN / Ga.** postmark dated 22 Jul 18—with a manuscript “Way 7” marking. This rate is to pay the six cents postage and the one cent fee for the mail carrier.

Way mail dates from the first Act to establish the Post Office Department approved on 20 February 1792. Section 15 of the Act states in part, “that the deputy postmasters or agents of the Postmaster General, shall duly account and answer to him, for all bye or way-letters . . .” The word “bye” in this context means off the main route and the word “way” the course traveled or a route. Thus, way mail literally means letters picked up off the main route.

The Act of 20 February 1792 did not indicate a fee for way letters. This was corrected in Section 15 of the Act of 8 May 1794. This Act provided “post-riders and other carriers of the mail, receiving any way letter or letters (and it shall be their duty to receive them, if presented more than two mails from a post-office) shall deliver the same together with the postage, if paid, at the first post-office, to which they shall afterwards arrive, where the postmaster shall

. . . [add] to the rate of each way letter, one cent, which shall be paid . . . the mail carrier.”

This act also had a provision for the delivery of letters by mail carriers to persons along their route. The fee for this service was two cents payable to the carrier plus any unpaid postage. This provision was deleted in the Act of 3 March 1825.

Provisions for Way Mail continued through the Civil War period and beyond. The only significant change during this period was the reduction in the distance from a post office at which mail could be picked up. This distance was reduced to one mile by the Act of 3 March 1825.

Way mail usages are not common. In going through my records of almost 5,000 Georgia stampless covers I found only three stampless way letters and two other covers bearing stamps with way mail markings used before the Civil War. On this and the next page are several examples of Way letters.

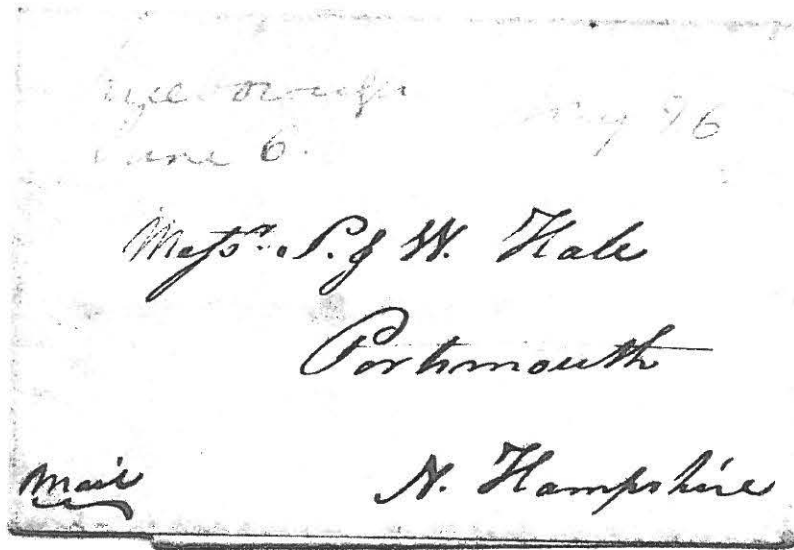


Figure 2. A weak manuscript **Riceborough** postmark dated 6 Jun 18 (18--), with a manuscript "Way 26" marking. The "26" represents the 25 cents postage due and plus one cent for the mail carrier fee.

Figure 3. Manuscript **Mill Ray Ga** postmark dated 23 Jul (185-), on a cover with a 3¢ 1857 stamp and a manuscript "Way 1" marking. The "Way 1" marking to the left of the stamp indicates the amount due for the carrier fee.

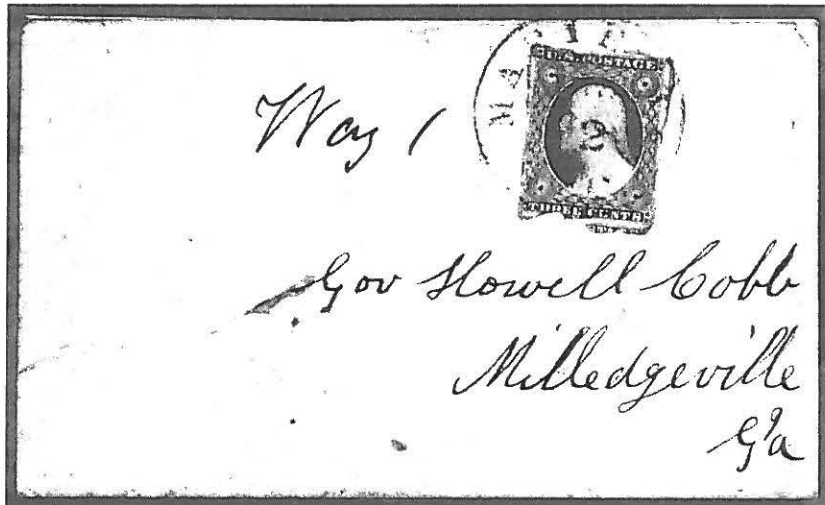
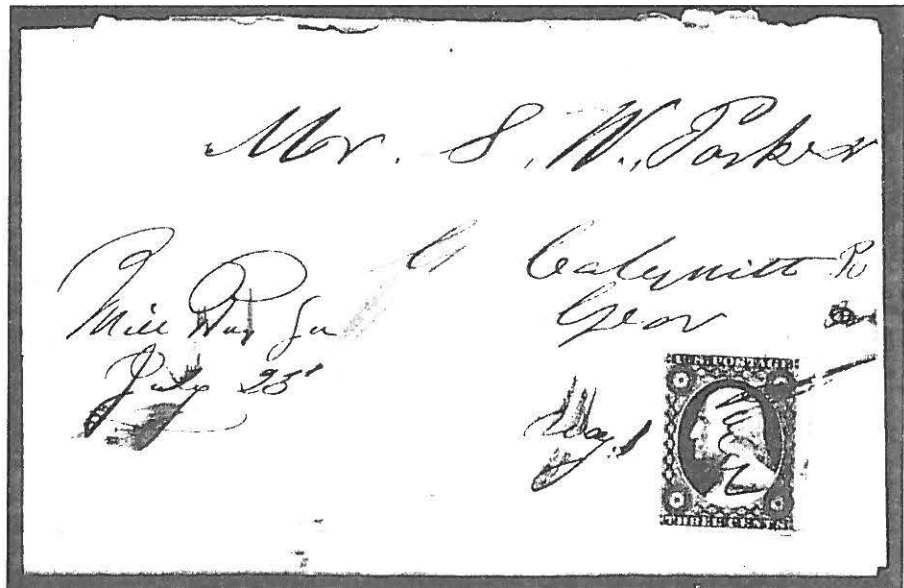
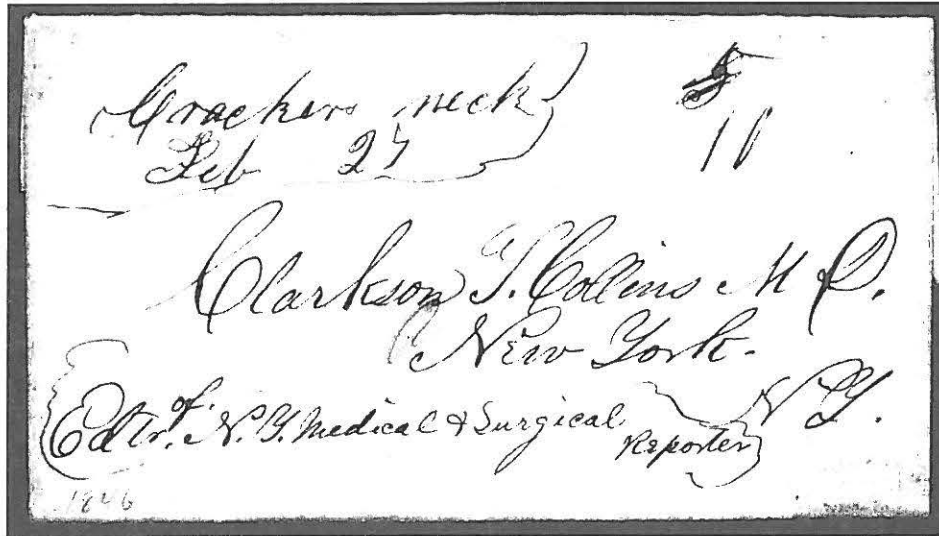


Figure 4. Black **MARIETTA / GEO.** Postmark dated 12 Jun (1858) on cover with a 3¢ 1851 stamp and a manuscript "Way 1" marking. As on the cover in Figure 3 the Way marking indicates the amount due for the carrier fee, the actual postage being paid by the stamp.

Cracker Covers



Manuscript **Cracker neck** postmark dated 27 Feb (1846). This unusually named town was located in Greene county and was in operation from 1837 to 1854.



GREEN CUT / Ga. postmark dated 30 Apr (185-) in green. This cover can be dated between 1854 and 1858 when James Palmer was postmaster. The town was named for the railroad cut that ran through the plantation of Moses P. Green who became postmaster in 1858.



Georgia Post Roads

Volume 17, Number 1

January 2007

Whole Number 73

A Confederate Handstamped Paid and More

Frank Crown

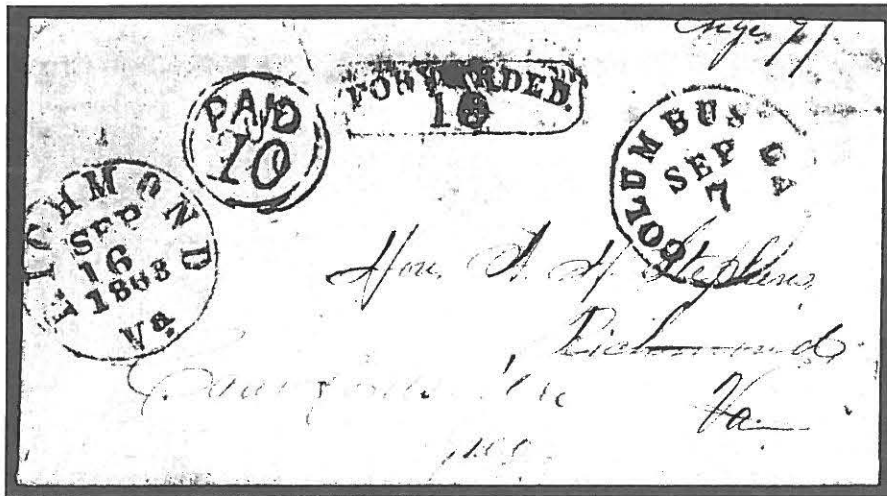


Figure 1. Black Columbus, Georgia handstamped PAID / 10 over DUE / 10 marking on cover forwarded from Richmond, Virginia with a boxed black FORWARDED / 10 marking

The cover illustrated above is more than is immediately apparent. The cover entered the mail at Columbus, Georgia on 7 September 1863 where the handstamped "PAID / 10" marking was applied. The postage was charged to the account of box holder 71 as noted by the notation at upper right. On close examination the paid marking was actually struck over a Columbus "DUE / 10" marking (see figure 2).



Figure 2. Enlargement of the Columbus Paid over Due Marking

Apparently the postal clerk grabbed the wrong marking when he struck the due marking and had to apply the correct paid rate over it.

The cover was mailed to Vice President Alexander H. Stephens at Richmond where it was received about a week later. However, Stephens had left Richmond in July 1863 and was in his hometown of Crawfordville, Georgia. On 16 September the Richmond post office duly forwarded the letter with the "FORWARDED / 10" marking of that office

The back of the envelope provides more information on the letter writer and the purpose of the letter (figure 3). The notation identifies the writer as John T. Cheshire of the 1st Georgia Regiment [Regulars] who was at the General Hospital in Columbus. Cheshire wrote Stephens in the hope of gaining approval to form a guerrilla company. He also informed Stephens of the condition of the
(continued on page 04)

President's Message

This is my first message to you as president of our society. I have enjoyed being the Secretary-Treasurer for the past six years, and it has been a privilege to serve with Frank and Ed as a part of the team entrusted with the care of the GPHS. Following in Frank's footsteps as President will certainly be a challenging task. However, it is reassuring to have both Frank and Ed continuing as part of the GPHS leadership.

That does bring me to the subject of member participation in the GPHS. This is *your* Society, and it needs all of us to help make it a success. Please consider how you can help contribute to that success. Sign up a new member, and help your Society grow, or better yet, give a membership for a year to a collecting friend who has an interest in Georgia Postal History. Maybe that will encourage them to continue their membership at the end of the first year. I am sure that many of us must know at least one postal history collector who has an interest in postal history who would benefit from membership in the Society.

Writing an article for the GPR would also be a great way to get involved. Find your favorite cover in your collection (hopefully it is a Georgia cover), and write a paragraph about it for the GPR. I will be glad to help get your article ready for publication. You might find another Georgia postal historian who has a similar interest, and your article may just add a bit of information to the body of knowledge on Georgia Postal History.

Mike

Secretary - Treasurer Report

As we begin the new year it is our sad duty to announce the resignation of Lyla Owens.

We are also forced to drop the following

members for non-payment of dues.

Norman Ritchie

Thomas E. Stanton

The financial health of the society remains sound. As of 20 December 2006 there was \$1,459.65 in the treasury.

Frank

Confederate Catalog Revision

The Confederate Stamp Alliance recently announced the purchase of the rights to the Dietz Confederate Catalog. A distinguished editorial board consisting of Trish Kaufmann, Frank Crown and Jerry Palazolo has been assembled and are hard at work collecting data for the new book. Both Frank Crown and Jerry Palazolo are members of the GPHS, so the GPHS should be proud to have such strong representation on this project. Section Editors have volunteered for many of the various sections, and have aggressively started working on their respective sections. The title of the new book will be "*Confederate States Catalog and Handbook*", and the publication date is planned for 2010. The CSA has set up a web site at www.csacatalog.org, so GPHS members are encouraged to visit the web site and get additional details about the history of the catalog and the scope of this project. The project is going to take advantage of the latest in scanning technology, and should be a valuable repository of information on Confederate stamps and postal history. Contact Frank at fcrown@knology.net or Jerry at palazolo@bellsouth.net for more information or to contribute your knowledge to the project.

Mike

Attend the GPHS Annual Meeting at the Southeastern Stamp Show (September 28-29, 2007)

Post Road Notes

“Cracker Cover” in this issue features the tale of a cover traveling from Atlanta to Dallas and back again. I can’t say that I have seen many southern covers bearing an USPOD Officially Sealed label.

This is my first issue as editor of the *Georgia Post Roads*, and I had planned for it to be the first of many. Frank and I had several discussions last fall about my taking on the role of GPR Editor as well as being President. I felt then, and still do, that the GPR is the lifeblood of our society. It is the primary mode of communication between GPHS members, and I was afraid that the GPHS would have difficulty sustaining interest without a quality publication.

I must apologize for the delays in getting this issue of the GPR produced and in the mail. The best of intentions have been derailed by a job that has turned out to be more demanding than anticipated.

I would also like to thank Jim Doolin and Frank Crown for contributing articles to this issue of the GPR. Frank has been an invaluable advisor in helping your editor learn the ins and outs of editing a postal history publication, and getting it ready for publication.

Mike

Southeastern Stamp Show 2007

The Southeastern Stamp Show 2007 will be held on 28-29 September 2007, at the Cobb County Civic Center in Marietta, Georgia. It is not too soon to get started working on an exhibit for the show. The annual meeting of the GPHS will be held in conjunction with the show, so please put these dates on your calendar and plan to attend. Note that the Southeastern Stamp Show is a two-day show instead of a three-

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day show as has been the case in previous years.. Check the show web site at <http://www.stampclubs.com/sestampshow.htm> for the latest information - **Mike**

Continued from page 01

men in the 1st Georgia Regiment. The notation ends with the unexplained line, "expires Feb. 1864." and the note "answered"

The service record of John T. Cheshire shows he enlisted on 19 Apr 1861 in Company D of the 1st Georgia Regulars. In July he was transferred to Company K. After leaving the Columbus Hospital he was detailed as Acting Sergeant Major on 23 May 1864. Then in March 1865 he deserted and was sent to the Provost Marshal General in New York City.

It seems somewhat odd that a soldier who was interested in forming a guerrilla company in September 1863 and who was detailed as an Acting Sergeant Major in May 1864 lost his enthusiasm for the war and deserted in early 1865.

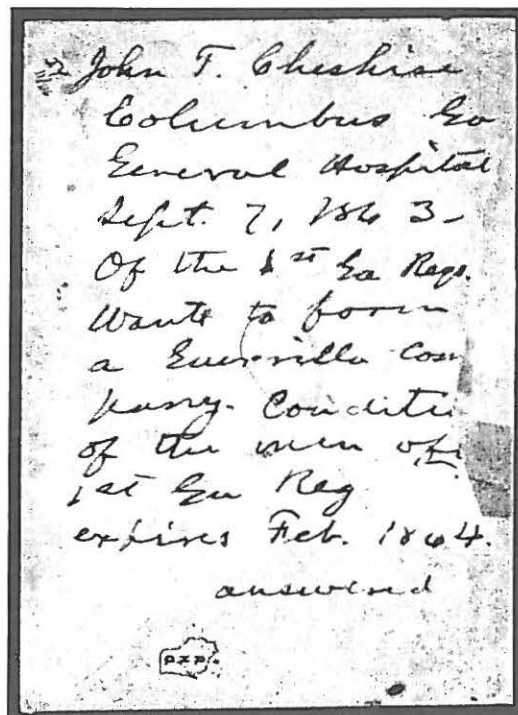


Figure 3: Reverse of cover showing notation by Stephen's secretary

Chattahoochee Valley Exposition

Continued from page 05.

This exposition illustrated envelope is unlisted in "Postal Markings of U.S. Expositions", authored by William Bomar, and published in 1986. Though there may be no special postal marking associated with this event, Bomar's catalog does list other U.S. expositions for which there were no special markings. I would venture a guess that other illustrated envelopes may exist for this exposition prior to or after the 1888 design shown here

Editor's Note: Another Chattahoochee Valley Exposition cover was recently sold on EBay

in December. It was purchased by the individual who is updating the 1986 Bomar catalog, so it should be a fair assumption that the Chattahoochee Valley Exposition will be represented in the forthcoming revision

Also, the Chattahoochee Valley Exposition is still active as a tax-exempt agricultural organization, with headquarters in Talbotton, Georgia. Your editor has been unable to determine if this is actually the same organization as shown in the above illustrated advertising cover, and would appreciate input from readers who can provide additional information.

The Chattahoochee Valley Exposition

Jim Doolin

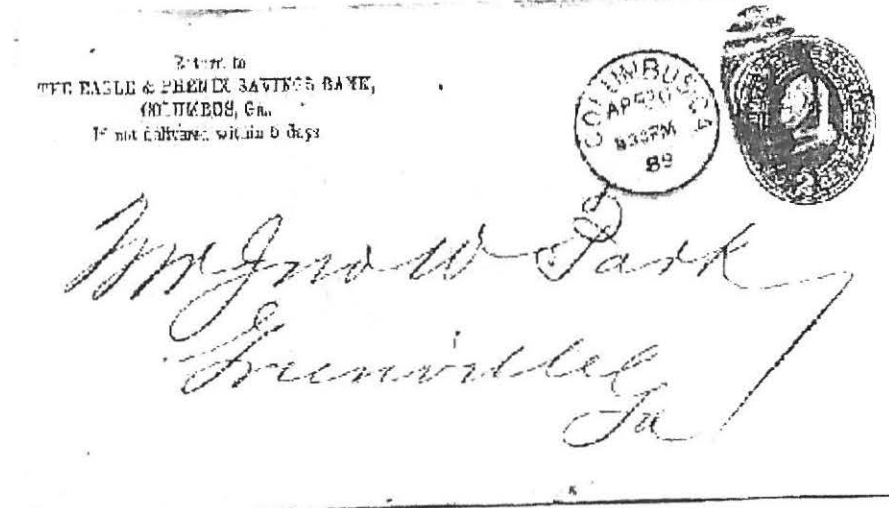


Figure 1 - Cover from Columbus, Georgia used on April 20, 1889.



Figure 2 - Reverse showing the Chattahoochee Valley Exposition

As early as the 1850's Columbus, Georgia had been hosting an annual event in the late fall called the Chattahoochee Valley Fair. By the late 1880's this annual event was called the Chattahoochee Valley Exposition. Columbus, Georgia is located at the head of navigation on the Chattahoochee River which forms the western boundary of Georgia with Alabama. Figure 1 shows the front of a 2 cent green entire. Figure 2 portrays an illustrated

envelope on the back side of the 2 cent green entire. A single prominent building is shown with dates for the exposition which lasted for two weeks - from November 15 to December 1, 1888. The handstamp postmark on the front of the envelope is dated April 20, 1889 - almost four months after the event.

(Continued on page 04)

Forwarded Covers from Georgia

Mike O'Reilly



Figure 1. Blue Watertown NY postmark dated 13 Aug to Roswell, Georgia. Roswell / Ga. postmark dated 23 Aug 18— with a handstamp 5 cent marking.

The cover shown above represents a standard occurrence for mail handling that came about with the 1851 issue. The 3 cent 1851 stamp pre-paid the postage from Watertown, New York to Roswell, Georgia. As the recipient was not found at Roswell, the cover was forwarded to Sulphur Springs, Georgia as indicated by the Roswell marking and the crossed out Roswell address, with a new address directing the letter to Sulphur Springs. However, the Roswell Postmaster created a conundrum when applying the Roswell postal markings.

The 1851 postage rates stated that the rate for pre-paid letters was 3 cents. Unpaid letters carried a rate of 5 cents, or in effect a 2 cents penalty for not pre-paying the postage.

This letter is interesting because either the letter should not have been marked as "PAID", or a 3 cent rate handstamp should have been used to indicate the postage rate.

This cover is further enhanced by the

variety of colors present. The 3 cent 1851 stamp is a nice red-brown, the Watertown townmark is in blue and all of the Roswell markings are in black. All-in-all, an attractive three color cover.

Through the courtesy of Frank Crown, we are privileged to show two more interesting examples of forwarded mail covers used from Georgia.

Continued on page 07

The Turbulent Decade Georgia Post Offices 1860-1869

Publication Announcement

Frank Crown, GPHS Past President has announced the publication of his new book on Georgia Post Offices from 1860-1869. See the enclosed flyer publication details and ordering information. A review will be forthcoming in the next issue of the GPR. This will be a valuable addition to Georgia Postal History



Figure 2. Greensborough 22 Jan 1840

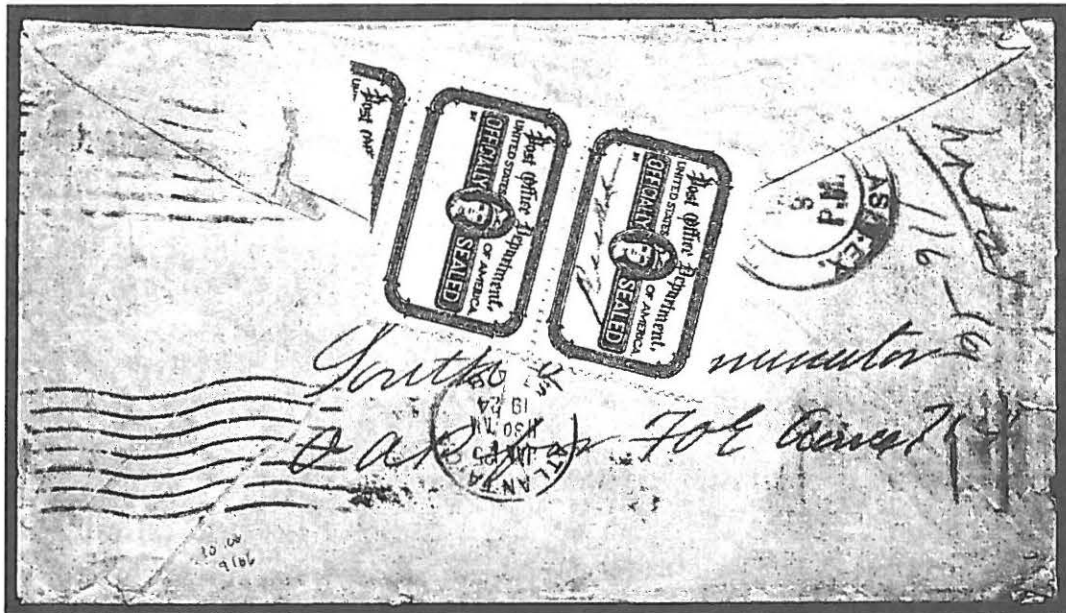
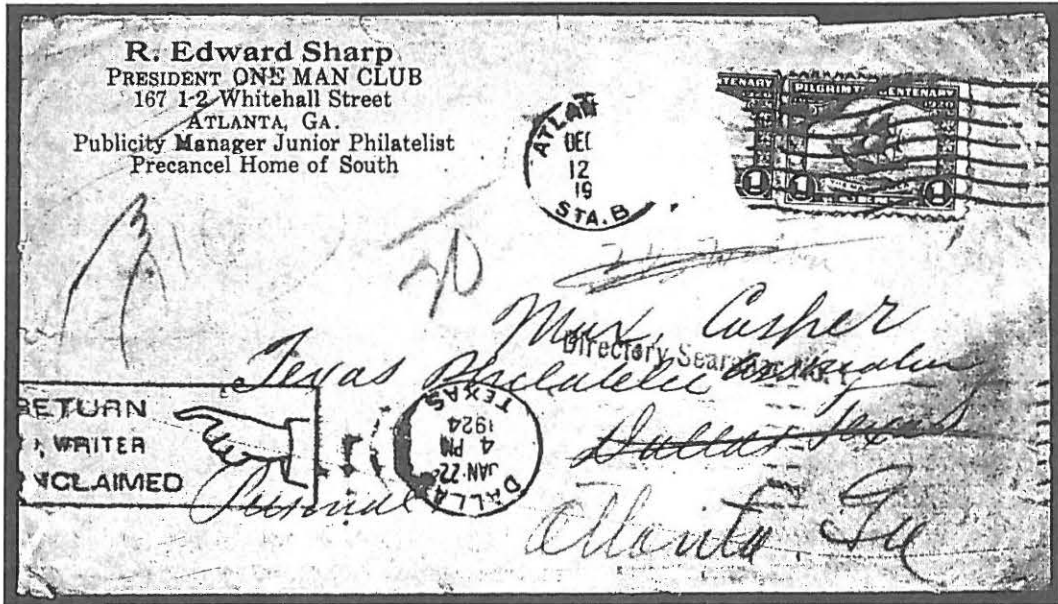
Cover mailed from Greensborough with red postmark and manuscript “10” rate marking to Augusta. Forwarded from Augusta with blue postmark and what appears to be a manuscript “10” marking but which the postal clerk interpreted as “12 1/2” as he added the postage due as “22 1/2.” From Augusta the cover went to Branchville, SC where it was forwarded again to Orangeburg C. H. S. C. with “6 1/2” additional postage due added. Curiously the total postage due was added up as “28 3/4” instead of the correct “29.”



Figure 3. Eufaula, Ala. 4 May – no year date.

Cover mailed from Eufaula, Ala on 4 May with postage paid by 3c postal stationary and 3c 1851 to pay the registration fee. Forwarded from Columbus with blue postmark (12 May) and blue “FORWARDED”, “3” markings to Ellijay, Ga.

Cracker Covers



This Cracker Cover is an interesting piece of Atlanta postal history. The cover was originally sent from Atlanta to Dallas, Texas. There the addressee could not be located and it was marked, "return to writer, unclaimed." Somewhere on the return trip the envelope was partially torn open and the "officially sealed" labels applied. This was probably in Atlanta because the labels partially cover the Dallas backstamp.

Georgia Post Roads

Volume 18, Number 1

Spring 2010

Whole Number 74

Journal of the Georgia Postal History Society

American Philatelic Society Affiliate No. 224

Reorganization of the G.P.H.S.

Some of us are not willing to give up on the Georgia Postal History Society and are anxious to have another try at keeping it alive.

The following G.P.H.S. members have consented to serve as society officers on an interim basis.

Douglas N. Clark, President
Edwin Jackson, Vice President
Jim McDevitt, Secretary
Nancy B. Clark, Treasurer

An election is needed to set a permanent board of officers in place. Consequently, I am appointing the following nominating committee to organize a ballot to be sent to members of record.:

Jim McDevitt, Chair, 3561 Country Ct. N.,
Mobile AL 36619.

Ed Jackson

Any member may propose names, including their own, to the above committee. The committee will place one or more names or each office on a ballot, which will be mailed to the membership for voting. It is a requirement that each person appearing on the ballot be a member of the G.P.H.S. and agree to serve.

Any member who feels that we are making a mistake and that GPHS *should* be dissolved, may express that opinion with the ballot enclosed.

-Douglas N. Clark, Acting President

A Small Society

There are many small societies in the philatelic world, particularly among the specialty state postal history societies. I am "chairman of the board" and editor of the Massachusetts society (the Massachusetts Postal Research Society). We have a total of about 60 members, who faithfully read (I think) the writings by me and a few others in *The Massachusetts Spy*, our journal, every time I can put one out. I put one out about once a year, because I have very little help in terms of other authors. To put out even one issue a year is hard work for me, because I only collect two Massachusetts counties.

I go through this masochism (editing the *Spy*) because I want the society to continue to exist.

It gives the state's postal history a presence and it gives us an outlet when one of us really does have something to say.

Do I wish more members were active? Of course I do. Do I wish more would write articles? You bet. But do I condemn those who are not interested in working for the society but want to pay dues anyway? No; we are all grateful to have them on board; to read our stuff and pay for the printing, if nothing else.

So I propose we give it a try with Georgia. Luckily I foresee having some help with articles for the *Post Roads*. I'll need it, because from Georgia, I only collect one county!

-Douglas N. Clark

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Railroads of Georgia

Macon & Montgomery R.R. in manuscript

Douglas N. Clark

A manuscript marking of the Macon & Montgomery R.R. has been known for some time. A tracing of the marking, is shown and labeled 360-B-1 in Towle and Meyer's *Railroad Postmarks of the United States* and also listed in several later railroad postmark catalogues, renumbered as 360-M-1. Figure 1 shows the cover from which the tracing was taken. I acquired the cover at the AMERIPEX stamp show in 1986 and, as far as anyone knew, it was the only existing example of 360-M-1.

What does the discovery of a second copy of 360-M-1 tell us? Route agents marked letters in manuscript for two reasons; either they had no handstamper or the handstamper was lost or left off the train on a certain day. It seems to me that the existence of two markings in manuscript suggests the former. Handstamp markings of the Macon & Montgomery route agent are known, (Figure 3), all on undated covers, but perhaps the existence of the two covers places the handstamp markings outside the March 4-October 4, 1856 period and perhaps even outside of the extended period, going back to July 1, 1855, the establishment date of the Macon & Montgomery route agent.

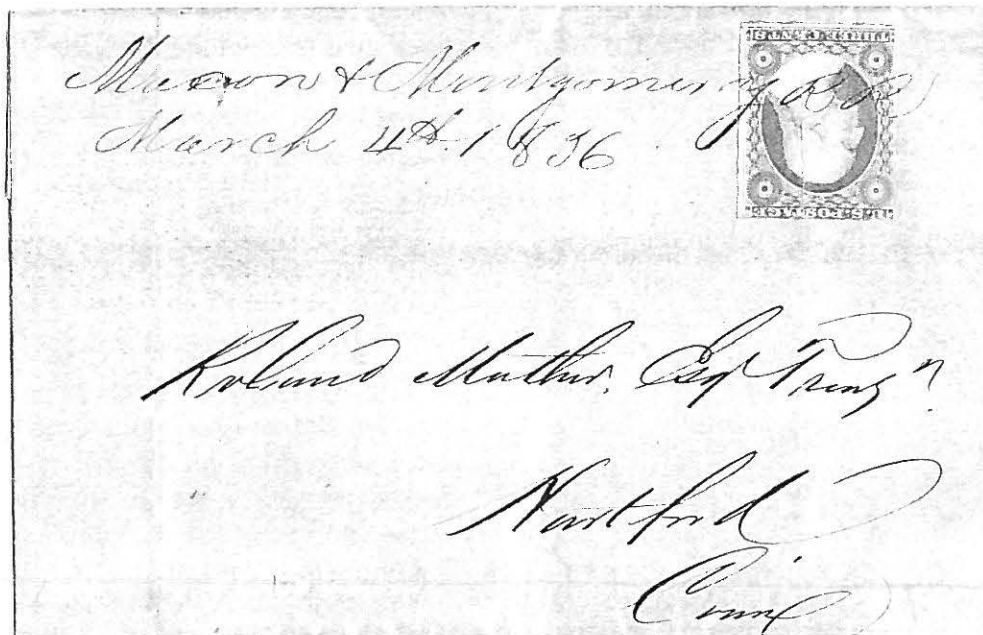


Figure 1. Macon & Montgomery R.R. in manuscript, 1856, from which the tracing in Towle and Meyer was made.

Now another example has appeared. The cover, illustrated in Figure 2, was part of an original find made by T. Lowrell Pierce of Macon, who brought the cover to our 2007 annual meeting in Atlanta and very kindly agreed to sell it to me. The cover in Figure 2 has an 1856 year date, the same as the cover in Figure 1. The origin is Reynolds, GA (there is no message in the Figure 1 cover, so its origin is not known).

I must admit to a special fondness for the cover in Figure 3, with its bold strike of the lovely railroad handstamp. The marking had a catalogue listing as early as 1958 in Remele's classic *United States Railroad Postmarks 1837 to 1861*, where it bore the catalogue number M½. Charles Towle knew the tracing, which he renumbered 360-C-1. But never saw the cover. He counseled me to buy it if ever I had the chance. And so I did.

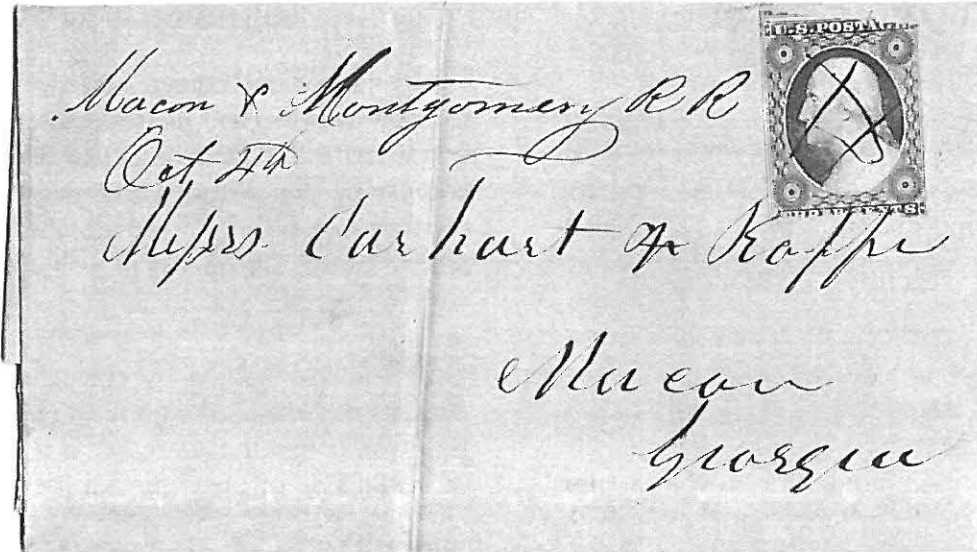


Figure 2. The second example of 360-M-1, October 4, 1856, Reynolds, Ga. Origin.

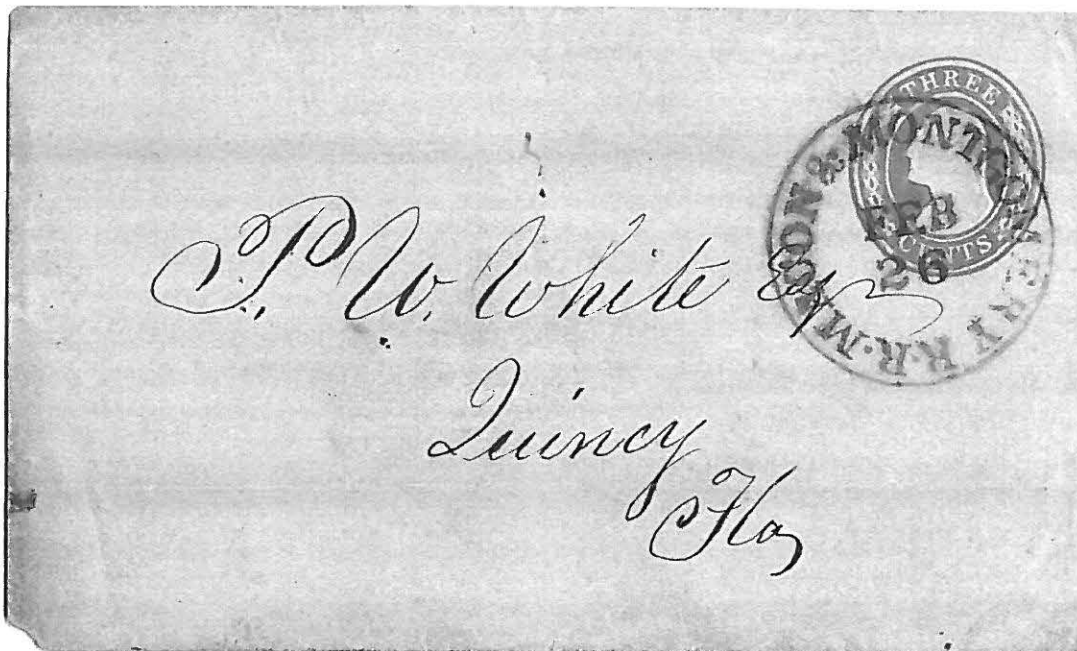


Figure 3. 360-C-1 on undated Nesbit entire. The covers in Figures 1 and 2 suggest that the year may be post-1856.

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John L. Kay, *Directory of U.S. Route Agent Lines*, Mobile Post Office Society, 2000.

Charles L. Towle and Henry A. Meyer, *Railroad Postmarks of the United States, 1861 to 1886*, U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, 1968.

Charles L. Towle, *U.S. Route and Station Agent Postmarks*, Mobile Post Office Society, 1986.

C. W. Remele, *United States Railroad Postmarks 1837 to 1861*, U.S. 1851-60 Unit No. 11 of the A.P.S., 1958.

Dead End for 9197 at 30336

Nancy Clark

I know some people think only moldy oldie stuff is postal history, but I beg to differ. Modern postal history continues to be created. In another fifty years or so, today's mail will recall "the good old days" at the turn of the century. Since I no longer live in Georgia, my search for modern materials has become more of a challenge. But a discussion on the Virtual Stamp Club <<http://www.virtualstampclub.com/>> (VSC) caught my eye, as it concerned a piece of modern Georgia postal history.

An unsuccessful attempt was made to mail check number 9197 from Bonita Springs, FL to the United Parcel Service (UPS) in Philadelphia. The sender received an electronic image of the check on a form letter from the USPS Recovery Center in Atlanta, GA., indicating that the original document (the check) was destroyed.

The body of the letter says "One way to help reduce instances when a mail piece cannot be delivered is to always include a return address. In that way, if for any reason your letter cannot be delivered, we will be able to immediately return it to you." (Is your eyebrow raised too?)

The form letter with the check image (figure 1) says "the Postal Service has recently installed imaging equipment to expedite the return of undeliverable checks that arrive at one of our facilities. An electronic image of the check contained in your mail piece is shown below. Please be assured that to protect your personal information, the scanned document is not retained and the original document has been shredded."

There is a return address of Lionel A. Snow, Manager, USPS Mail Recovery Center; Post Office Box 44161 in Atlanta but no telephone contact given. The zip code for the Recovery Center is 30336.

This raises several questions. If the check was intact, why was it, rather than an image, not returned to the original sender?

Clearly the mail center had the correct address (from the check) and the letter even had printed bar codes for the Florida address. They also had the address of the intended recipient, but rather than forward the check, they shredded it and let the sender know. This seems to be a new policy, as forwarding service should be provided for first class mail.

It was opined by a wag on the VSC that perhaps the reason the policies we expect were not followed is that the addressee is a direct competitor of the USPS.



October 18, 2007

BONITA SPRINGS, FL 34135



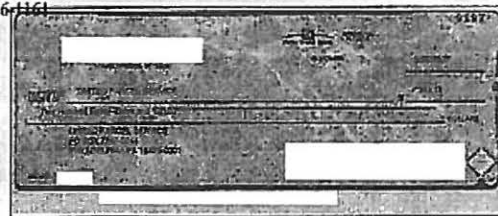
You recently mailed a letter that we were unable to deliver or return. When this occurs, the letter is sent to a Mail Recovery Center where employees are authorized to open the mail to determine if address information is available to return it to the rightful owner.

In support of this effort, the Postal Service has recently installed imaging equipment to expedite the return of undeliverable checks that arrive at one of our facilities. An electronic image of the check contained in your mail piece is shown below. Please be assured that to protect your personal information, the scanned document is not retained and the original document has been shredded. Since we realize the importance of each piece of mail that is entrusted to our care, this correspondence is being provided for your records.

Our employees work very hard to provide prompt, accurate service; and we regret that we were unable to deliver your mail piece on this occasion. One way to help reduce instances when a mail piece cannot be delivered is to always include a return address. In that way, if for any reason your letter cannot be delivered, we will be able to immediately return it to you. We appreciate your business and look forward to serving your future postal needs.

Sincerely,

Lionel A. Snow, Manager
 USPS Mail Recovery Center
 PO Box 44161
 Atlanta, GA 30336-1161



135074

Figure 1. Post office form with image of check that "could not be delivered."

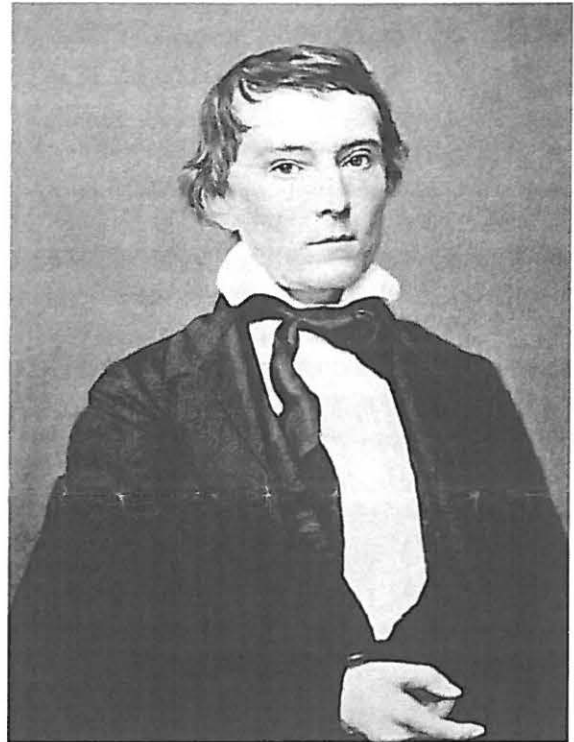
A Brief Profile of Alexander Stephens

Edwin L. Jackson

Although five feet nine inches in height – which was normal for the day – Alexander Hamilton Stephens was a diminutive figure, weighing only 96 pounds. Sometimes known as “Little Al-eck” because of his boyish appearance, Stephens was frail in appearance and afflicted with a variety of sicknesses and ailments. Never marrying, he devoted his life to law and politics.

Alexander Stephens was born to a poor farming family on February 11, 1812, one day shy of Georgia’s 79th birthday. Most authorities say he was born near Crawfordville, in Taliaferro County – though several sources say he was born in neighboring Wilkes County. It is not clear what happened to his parents, but both apparently died when he was fourteen. Stephens’ mother had been from Wilkes County, and some acquaintances – perhaps her relatives – paid his tuition to attend Washington Academy and then the University of Georgia.

In 1828, at age 16, Stephens entered the University of Georgia, completing his degree in four years. After graduation, he taught school and read law. In 1834, he returned to Crawfordville, where he bought a house he named Liberty Hall



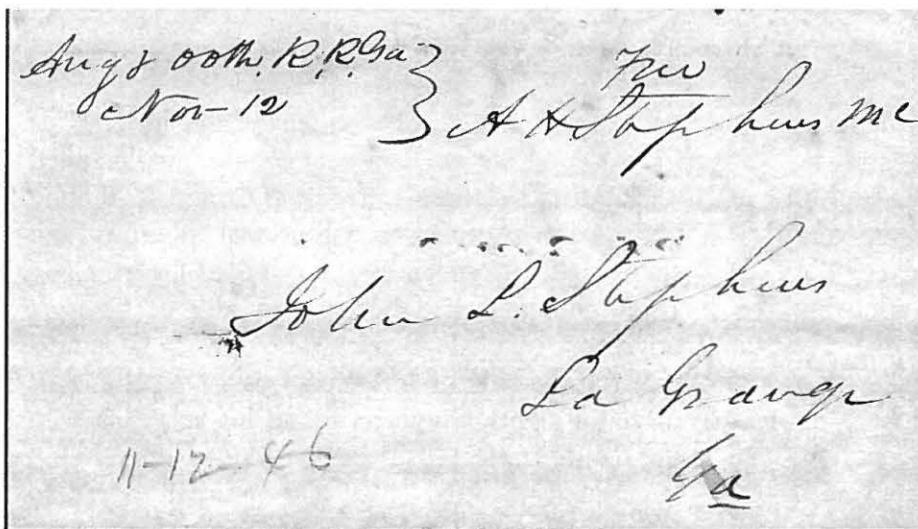
Alexander Stephens in his youth.

and began the practice of law. Stephens quickly developed an interest in politics and in 1836 was elected to the Georgia House of Representatives. Among the causes he championed in the General Assembly were the new Western and Atlantic Railroad and creation of a statewide system of public schools.

In 1842, Stephens was elected to the Geor-

gia Senate, but in the following year he was elected to fill a vacancy in the U.S. House of Representatives. He served in the House from Oct. 2, 1843, to March 3, 1859. During his time in Congress, he switched party allegiances from Whig to Unionist to Whig to Democrat.

During his life, Stephens changed his views on slavery. In 1836, he condemned slavery as “abominable” and nine years later he called himself “no defender of slavery.” Yet, during his years in Congress, he saw the nation coming apart over the issue and became an ardent supporter of slavery and the



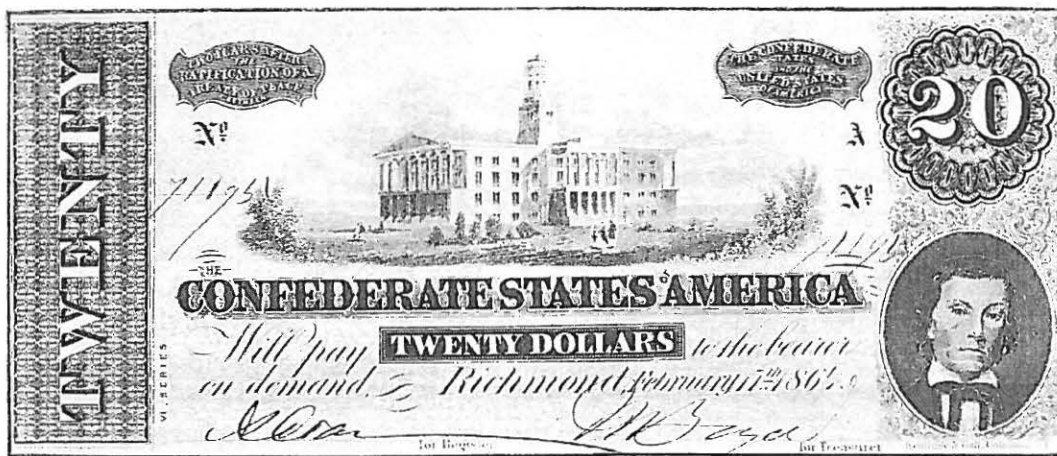
Stephens’ 1846 Congressional frank. Postmark of Aug[usta] & Ooth[caloga] R.R., joint route agent of Georgia and newly forming Western and Atlantic Railroads.

rights of southern states. By the end of his tenure, Stephens was one of the most vocal defenders of slavery in the House.

In 1858, for reasons unclear, Stephens chose not to run for reelection to the House. Between sessions of Congress, he had maintained a successful law practice in Crawfordville. After his term ended on March 3, 1859, he returned home and took up the full-time practice of law. Stephens was very successful – not only as an attorney but as a planter. By 1860, he owned a 920-acre plantation, worked by 34 slaves, in Taliaferro County.

Georgian T.R.R. Cobb were instrumental in drafting a new Confederate Constitution. Also, perhaps because of his earlier pro-Union stance, he was elected vice president of the provisional government to appeal to the more moderate elements in the South. On November 6, 1861, the seceded states held their first national election. Stephens was elected vice president of the Confederacy, and on December 2, 1862, his portrait graced the new \$20 Confederate bill.

Initially, Stephens was an active supporter of the new Confederate government, and president



1862 \$20 Confederate bill, with Stephens' portrait.

Though tied to the South over the future of slavery, Stephens opposed the breakup of the Union. Even after Lincoln's election in November 1860, he unsuccessfully appealed to fellow Georgians to exercise restraint and patience. However, the fervor for a decisive response to Lincoln's election was too strong, and on January 16, 1861, a secession convention assembled at the state capitol in Milledgeville. Stephens was a delegate and spoke out against leaving the Union – advocating instead a wait-and-see stance. Though opposing secession, when it became apparent that a majority of the delegates wanted Georgia to join the four other states that had already seceded, Stephens reluctantly signed Georgia's Ordinance of Secession.

Subsequently, Stephens was elected as a Georgia delegate to the Provisional Confederate Congress that convened February 4, 1861, in Montgomery, Alabama. There, he and fellow Geor-

Jefferson Davis consulted with him frequently. On March 21, 1861, in Savannah, vice president Stephens gave his most remembered speech in which he defended slavery as the "foundation" and "corner-stone" of the Confederacy. But as the war progressed, Stephens had little to offer in terms of military strategy. He also became disillusioned with Davis and the Confederate Congress, feeling both were usurping constitutional liberties and states rights – especially the rights of Georgia. By 1863, Stephens had become an ally of Georgia governor Joseph E. Brown, who quickly became a thorn in the side of Jefferson Davis over the issue of states rights. Stephens found his relations with the Confederate president so strained that he left Richmond in July 1863 and returned home to Georgia through December 1864.

By early 1865, the situation for the Confederacy had become so desperate that Jefferson

Davis called on his vice president to lead a three-member delegation on a secret mission to meet with Abraham Lincoln and U.S. Secretary of State William E. Seward to explore a negotiated peace. They met aboard a ship at Hampton Roads, Virginia, on February 3, 1865. Stephens' mission ended in failure when Lincoln and Seward refused any resolution of the war that allowed the Confederacy to exist as a separate nation.

After the failed peace negotiation, Stephens returned to Liberty Hall in Crawfordville. The end of the Confederacy came quickly. On April 9, 1865, Robert E. Lee surrendered to Ulysses Grant at Appomattox Court House in Virginia. On April 26, 1865, Joseph E. Johnston surrendered Confederate forces under his command to William T. Sherman in North Carolina.

With the Confederacy on the verge of collapse, Jefferson Davis fled Richmond. Presumably on the way to continue the war in the West, Davis was captured near Irwinville, Georgia, on May 10, 1865. The next day, Union troops arrested Stephens at his home in Crawfordville.

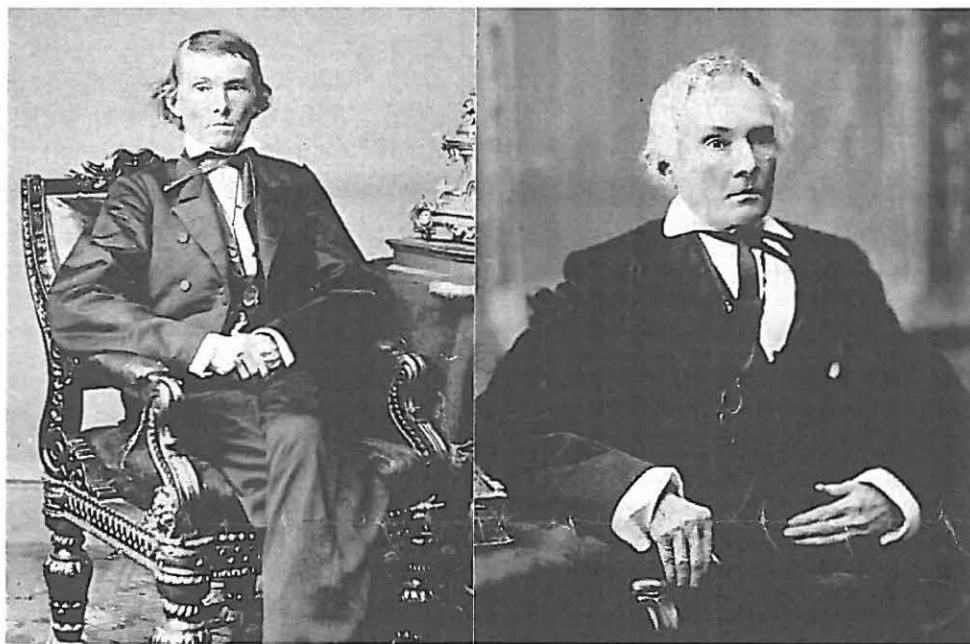
He was sent to Fort Warren in Boston Harbor, where he was imprisoned until released on parole on October 12, 1865, at which time he returned home.

In the early stages of Reconstruction, Georgia prepared to quickly rejoin the Union. In January 1866, the General Assembly elected Stephens to the U.S. Senate, but the Senate refused to seat him. The next year, Stephens began work on a two-

volume defense of secession and the Confederate cause – *A Constitutional View of the Late War between the States*.

In 1872, at age 60, Stephens ran for the U.S. Senate but lost to John B. Gordon, a popular Confederate general. A month later, on the death of U.S. Representative Ambrose Wright, Stephens ran for his old seat in the U.S. House and won. Though still spirited in mind and speech, the feisty debater was now crippled in body and forced to use a wheelchair or crutches. In 1882, Stephens decided to retire from Congress. That summer he returned to his Crawfordville home, apparently with the intention of spending his final days out of politics. However, the Georgia Democratic Party was badly divided and encouraged him to run for governor to unite the party. He reluctantly agreed and won the

1882 election. On November 4, 1882, Stephens took the oath of office as Georgia's new chief executive. Earlier in the day, he tendered his resignation to Congress. Stephens' health had never been good, and now he was confined to a wheel chair.



Stephens in middle age, seated, and in his later years, after the War.

Just four months after becoming governor, Stephens died on March 4, 1883. He was buried in Atlanta's Oakland Cemetery, but his body was later removed for reinterment at Liberty Hall in Crawfordville.

In 1905, the General Assembly created a new county and named it for Stephens. In 1927, Georgia selected Alexander Stephens to join Crawford Long as its two representatives in Statuary Hall in the U.S. Capitol.

Southeastern Stamp Show 2010

After a one year hiatus, Georgia's national stamp show resumes this fall, September 24-26 at the Cobb County Civic Center, 548 S. Marietta Parkway, Marietta, Georgia.

As usual, GPHS will hold its annual meeting at the show. Members and others should bring an item of postal history for show and tell. We can also have a discussion of the future of our society.

Exhibits are, of course, welcome. Go to the Southeastern Federation web site

<http://www.stampclubs.com/>

and follow the links to download a prospectus.

Just as Georgia needs a postal history society, it needs a national level stamp show. Your attendance and patronage will help keep this tradition alive.

Frank Crown

is undeniably the leading Georgia postal historian of the day. Indeed, Frank is one of the leading philatelic researchers and we are fortunate that his principal specialty is the postal history of our state. Although Frank is now devoting much of his energy to the revisions of the Dietz and *Stampless Cover* catalogues, we hope that he will continue to be a contributor to Georgia Post Roads.

Vote:

Enclosed is a ballot with which members may vote to dissolve the GPHS legally (according to the by-laws). Please make sure to return to Jim McDevitt.

Georgia Post Roads is the official organ of the Georgia Postal History Society and subscriptions can be obtained only through membership. Publication is anticipated to be quarterly.

Manuscripts for publication are solicited dealing with all areas of Georgia postal history and, more generally, with philatelic or historical topics related to the state of Georgia. Articles for publication may be submitted in the form of typed manuscripts or, preferably, on disk or via email. The editor should be contacted before transmission.

Douglas N. Clark, Acting Editor
P.O. Box 427
Marstons Mills MA 02648
<dnc@math.uga.edu>

Georgia Postal History Society membership is open to all persons of good standing with an interest in philately related to the state of Georgia. Contact

Jim McDevitt, Acting Secretary
3561 Country Ct. N.
Mobile AL 36619

The Society's web site is
<http://www.stampclubs.com/gphs/index.htm>

Quote:

"This Society may be dissolved upon a three-fourths majority vote of the membership..."

-Georgia Postal History Society Bylaws

Georgia Post Roads

Volume 18, Number 2

Summer 2010

Whole Number 75

Journal of the Georgia Postal History Society

American Philatelic Society Affiliate No. 224

G.P.H.S. Lives!

A vote by the membership, on the question of dissolution of the society has failed. By a vote of 13 to 2, the membership voted not to dissolve the G.P.H.S.

The ballot for the vote was distributed with the last issue of *Georgia Post Roads*, pursuant to the Bylaws, which require a three fourths vote of the membership in order to dissolve.

At the 2006 meeting of the society, it was decided to have a rotating editorship for *Post Roads*. Subsequent to this, articles were submitted by Douglas and Nancy Clark (see the last *Post Roads* issue and by Ken Hall (see page 2 of this issue). But the issue was never completed.

Now we definitely need articles from the membership. Your editor is an enthusiastic collector of one Georgia county and of railroad covers of Georgia. But he needs the help of other collectors to cover the range of membership interests in the *Post Roads*. Please consider writing up your favorite topic, or just one cover, and let your fellow members enjoy your writings.

Please Pay Dues

Several months ago, a dues bill was sent out by acting Secretary Jim McDevitt. The dues are a modest \$5 per member.

If you have not already done so, please remit dues now, as we will be trimming the rolls of non-payers.

We want you as a member.

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A ballot for election of officers of the society is enclosed with this issue.. Please fill out and return the ballot to make your volunteer officers official.

Attend our **annual meeting** at Southeastern Stamp Show, September 24-26 in Marietta.

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Discovery Copy Mount Yonah, GA

Ken Hall

Since this postmark was not listed in the ASCC, after receiving the letter, I sent a copy to Frank Crown, and he verified that it was the discovery copy. I felt very fortunate that there are still postmarks that can be found.

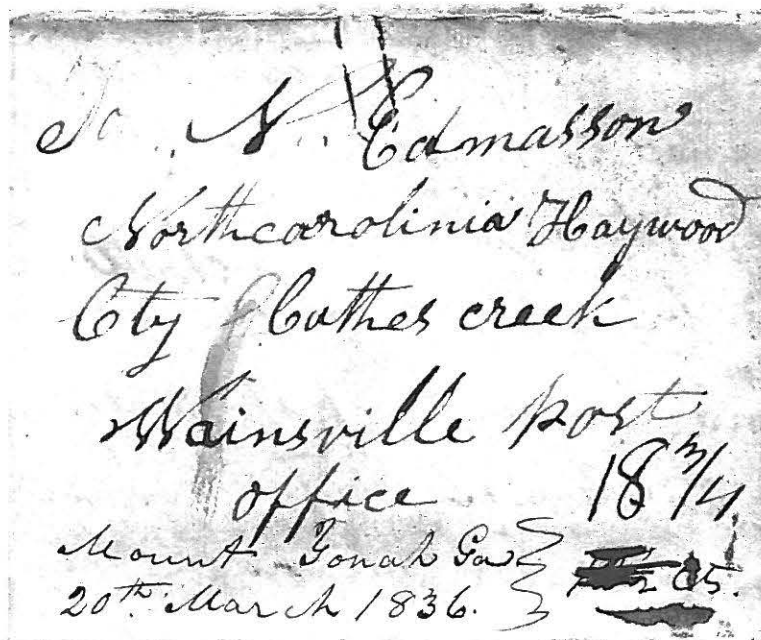


Fig. 1

This letter has a manuscript postmark, MOUNT YONAH, GA, 20th March 1836 (Fig 1), and is datelined "Georgia, Habersham Cty (County), March the 13th 1836 (Fig 2). It is a one page letter on the problems of buying a horse and wagon, and signed by Jacob Duckett."

ent rates are shown on the cover, $12\frac{1}{2}$, $18\frac{3}{4}$ and 25, it would appear the postal employee was unsure as to the distance the letter was going or the rate to charge. Someone crossed off both the $12\frac{1}{2}$ and 25 leaving the $18\frac{3}{4}$ as the final rate.

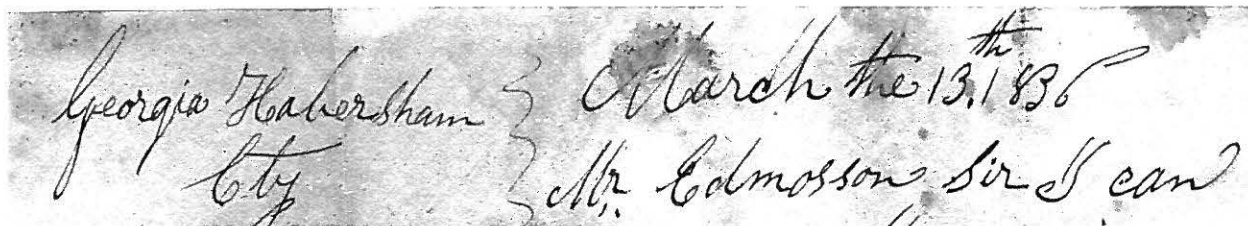


Fig. 2

According to *Georgia Place Names*, YONAH MOUNTAIN, or MOUNT YONAH was located in White County, with the notation that "a rural community and post office named YONAH was located eight miles southwest of Cornelia in Habersham County" prior to 1857. According to the reference books that I have, the post office was

The addressee's name appears to be "Edmasson," but there is nothing listed on the 1830 or 1840 census with that spelling. Also, I was unable to find locate "Cuthes Creek." I tried various spellings, possible locations, maps, etc, but found nothing. Where is Cuthes Creek?

Shown in Figure 3 is the very interesting contents of this letter.

If anyone has any additional information or comments about Mount Yonah or the addressee's address, please contact the author at <kenhall@oldletters.com>.

References

1. Georgia Place Names by Kenneth Krakow, 1975
2. Fanning's Illustrated Gazetteer of the United States, Published by Ensign, Bridgeman & Fanning, 1855;
3. United States Post Offices Vol. VIII, Richard Helbock, 2007

Georgia Habersham City } March the 13th 1836
 Mr. Edmossen Sir I can
~~in~~ inform ^{you} that we are all in common
 health at present hoping these lines ^{will find} you
 well I applied to Washburn for that note
 one Bird and it could not be found he promis
 to get it and bring it to me ^{at Christmas} he has moved off
 and I have no account of it when I here where
 he has moved to I will write to him to know
 why he did not let me have the note —

You Requested me to let you know what
 Hulsey and Sutton done Hulsey left the money
 and offered to give up the waggins and horses Sutton
 threaten to go home and sue you for it and
 said it would be hard for you to pay it twice
 and at last took two hundred and fifty
 dollars for the waggins and horses some man
 has informed Hulsey that one of the legislature
 members said he seen seven hundred dollars

Fig. 3.

drawed for him and he thinks he has not got all
 of his money ~~it appears that it is~~ ~~to be you~~
~~and the money~~ it appear presumeable
 that it falls on you if is my iudia from what
 I can learn it was General Newland that
 reported the news so no more at present
 but remains your Jacob Suckett

Premature British Recognition of Georgia Statehood—1782

Bernard Biales

The wrapper shown here is remarkable for several reasons. It contained Revolutionary War-time documents from the last British governor of Florida to the first governor of Georgia under the reformed government, John Martin. It is docketed as originating "8th August 1782," very soon after Savannah was invaded by Gen. Wayne's men and then, in July, abandoned by the British. It bears fairly intact, presumably official, but minimally readable, seals. As through the lines "On His Majesty's Service" (official) mail, it is very significant.

On His Majesty's Service,
To
His Excellency,
John Martin Esq^r
Governor and Commander in Chief of
the State of Georgia,
Savannah

His Excellency Gov Gonyea
8th August 1782
Florida Affairs

After the passing of the independence resolution on July 2, 1776, recognition of the United States was a slow process. France's support of the rebellion constituted a sort of *de facto* recognition (comparable to European treatment of the C.S.A.). France then officially recognized the United States by the treaty of February 6, 1778. During the fighting, the Netherlands also traded with the U.S. (April 1782).

The key recognition, that of Great Britain, was a prolonged and incremental process. A few high points are worth reviewing. After Yorktown, the war wound down, but combat continued. On March 2, 1782, the House of Commons passed an antiwar resolution. Informal talks between Franklin and Oswald, a British agent, began in April. One

American demand, as a precondition to formal (and secret) negotiation, was the recognition of the United States, rather than the colonies and provinces, as the British would have it.

Eventually, a compromise was reached in which Oswald would treat with the United States as such, but actual independence would be the first article of the treaty. Oswald's authorization to this effect arrived September 27 leading to the preliminary treaty of 29/30 November, 1782.

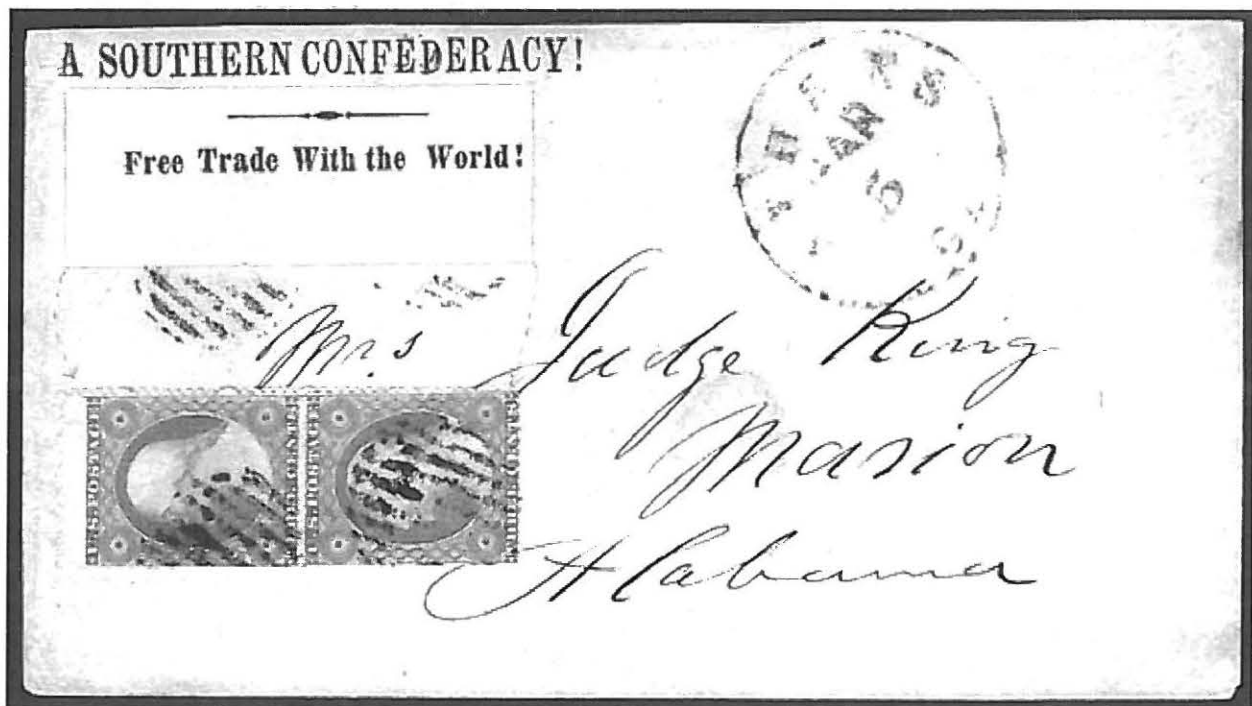
But here we have the British governor of Florida, on an official communication, referring to Georgia as a "state" in advance of the secret instructions to Oswald. As late as December 5, the King (and Cabinet) created a sensation in his speech to Parliament when he announced that the government was prepared to recognize the United States independence as part of a treaty. His Majesty choked on the phrase.

But one feature of the address is not just remarkable, but historically important.

Athens Cover's Cachet Promotes Free Trade with the World!

Nancy B. Clark

This propaganda cover with printed cachet (Dietz PS-1) recently appeared in a Schuyler Rumsey auction. The pair of 1857 3¢ dull red adhesives was tied to the cover by grid cancels with an Athens, Georgia March 5, 1861 postmark. It travelled to Marion, Alabama. The stamps were originally stuck on over the cachet but were removed and repositioned later.



Callie King (Callender McGregor Lumpkin King), born September 26, 1826, to whom this letter is addressed, was a daughter of Joseph Henry Lumpkin¹ and Callender Grieve Lumpkin. Judge Porter King, whom she married February 19, 1852², was a lawyer (admitted to the Bar in 1845) and Perry County Representative to the Alabama Legislature for one term beginning 1847. He was appointed a circuit judge in 1850 and served until 1861, when he resigned in order to join the Confederate Army. He was Captain of a company of vol-

unteers drawn mostly from students of Howard University³. The company became part of the Fourth Alabama Infantry. He was active in the construction of the Selma, Marion & Memphis Railroad and was its first president.

The Kings' oldest son, Joseph Henry Lumpkin King, was appointed by President Cleveland as receiver of public monies for the United States Land Office at Perry, Oklahoma Territory, before he moved back to Anniston, Alabama. Porter, the second son, was a lawyer who joined the firm of King and Anderson, became first a member of the City Council (1890-1891) and then Mayor of

Atlanta (1895-1896) and then member of the Georgia Legislature twice. Their third son Thomas worked with the Bessemer Steel Company. Five other children died in their infancy.

Free trade does not refer only to the ability and desire to trade goods with the world on a tariff-free basis. It supported states' rights and rights were based on the British model that those who are economically advantaged were also socially and culturally prepared to lead in political realms.

¹ Superior Court Justice of Georgia (1850-1853), he was born in Lexington, Georgia. He served in the U.S. Congress 1843-1849 and 1855-1857

² He had been married previously to Margaret Erwin, who

died in 1850.

³ Now part of Samford University in Birmingham, AL. Howard College was founded in 1842 in Marion AL and named for British prison reformer John Howard.

Railroads of Georgia

Georgia's Earliest Railroad Cover

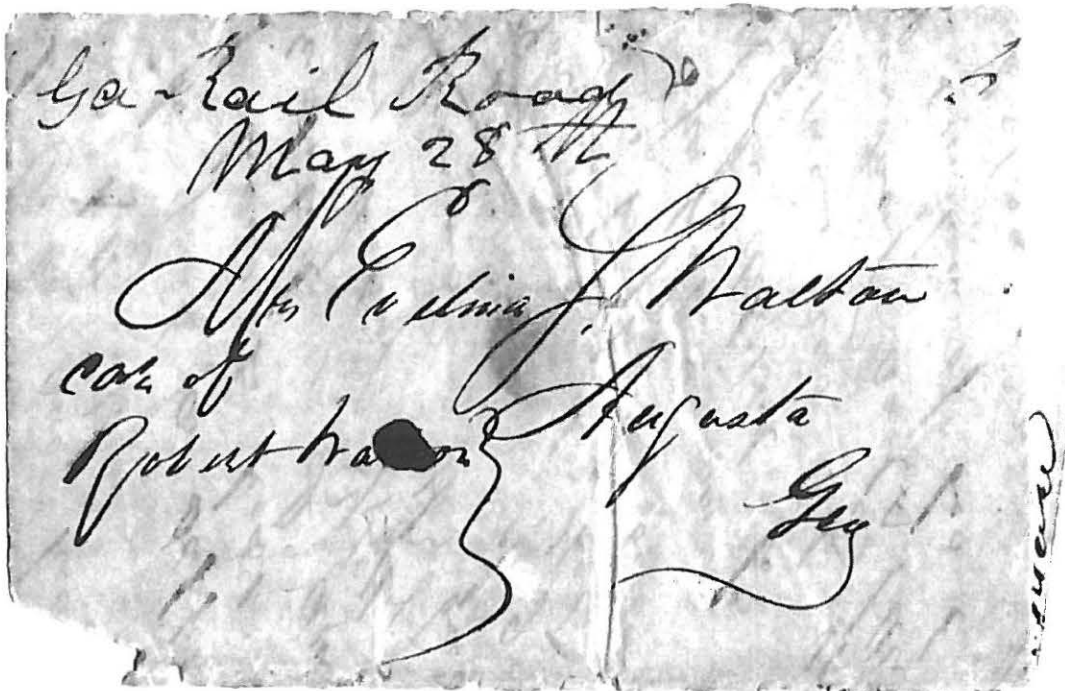
Douglas N. Clark

The cover shown here is headed Atlanta, May 29, 1846. The postage charged is 5¢, for the 1845 half ounce rate for under 300 miles (Atlanta to Augusta). Most important is the postmark, which reads "Ga. Rail Road." This makes it the earliest recorded rail way route agent cover of Georgia.

the Western & Atlantic R.R., extending north from Atlanta to Calhoun (then called Oothcologa). This route agent route was established January 8, 1846, extended and renamed Augusta & Dalton in 1847.

Several covers are known postmarked with Augusta & Oothcologa R.R. One was illustrated on page 5 of the previous *Post Roads* issue. The designation Oothcologa & Augusta R.R. is also seen.

Remarkably, four or five examples of this earliest Georgia route agent are known, despite its very short and very early existence. The cover shown here is the earliest, according to my records.



Ga. Rail Road May 28th (1846) route agent postmark of the Augusta & Oothcologa R.R., Georgia's first railway mail route.

The first route agent established in Georgia, according to John L. Kay's *Directory of Route Agent Lines* (Mobile Post Office Society 2000), was the Augusta & Oothcologa R.R., a joint contract with the Georgia Railroad, between Augusta and Atlanta and

This cover was originally owned by G.P.H.S. founding member Ernest Owens. I am grateful to Frank Crown for helping me acquire it from Owens' estate.

Georgia Post Roads

Volume 18, Number 3

Fall 2010

Whole Number 76

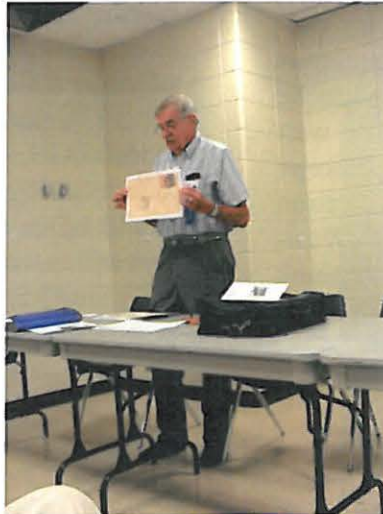
Journal of the Georgia Postal History Society

American Philatelic Society Affiliate No. 224

G.P.H.S. Meeting at Southeastern Stamp Show

The Society's annual meeting was, as usual held with Southeastern Stamp Show, at Marietta, Ga., September 25, 2010. The results of the election were announced: Douglas Clark, President; Edwin L. Jackson, Vice President; Jim McDevitt, Secretary; Nancy Clark, Treasurer.

New member Galen D. Harrison regaled the attendees with a talk on Georgia Prisoner of War Mail. He used blown up copies of the covers, in lieu of slides or power point (see right).



Galen also entered two exhibits, *Prisoners' Mail from Dixie, An In-depth Look*, which won a gold and the grand award and *Civilian Flag of Truce Mail of the Civil War*, which also received a gold.

year. Contact:

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My Memories of McCary Ballard

Frank Crown

I knew McCary for many years but it wasn't until I was stationed in Atlanta in 1981 that we became warm friends. We shared a mutual interest in postal history, particularly that of Georgia.

From time to time McCary hosted informal meetings of Confederate and Georgia postal history collectors at his home. It was at one of these meetings in 1984 that Erv Underwood suggested the formation the Georgia Postal History Society. In short order the society was formed with McCary one of its most active supporters. In 1986 he became President of the new organization.

As was typical of McCary he contributed to the *Newsletter*, the first publication of the Society. This was a practice he continued when the name of the publication was changed to *Georgia Post Roads*. During my many years as editor of *Georgia Post Roads* I fondly remember both his support and his periodic questions about how things were going

with the "Post Roads."

McCary had varied collecting interests. One of these was Georgia Confederates. When we went to shows together he was always curious about what I was buying for my collection. On one occasion I showed him some Georgia stampless covers I purchased. He took an immediate interest and from that day on I had a new competitor for this type of material.

McCary had an eye for quality material and he took pride in getting the best quality Confederate and Georgia stampless covers he could find. In the area of Georgia stampless covers we maintained a friendly competition that revealed his most admirable trait. He was unselfish in his willingness to share. This was not just a sharing of knowledge but also a sharing of material from his collection for study to advance the knowledge and understanding of Georgia postal history. It was this unselfish sharing that is most memorable to me.

McCary was not only a founding member of the Georgia Postal History Society but one of its staunchest supporters. He will be sorely missed.

Lexington, GA Prisoner of War Cover

Douglas Clark

The cover to a Johnson's Island prisoner shown here was acquired by the late McCary Ballard, some twenty years ago. McCary was generous with specialist collectors like myself, but when he sent me a copy, I knew that I would have to wait for his estate to be sold to add it to my Oglethorpe County collection. The sale of McCary's collection took place at the Schuyler Rumsey auction at Westpex, April 25, 2009 and I would like to think McCary would be happy that I now own the cover.



There is excellent information on prisoner of war covers in the books by Harrison and Trepel and Walske, but to analyze a specific cover, one does not always find exactly what one needs without examining other covers, etc. So it may be useful to repeat here my analysis of the cover, even though it is not entirely original research. Galen Harrison has been kind enough to read and lend his stamp of approval to my analysis.

The cover originated in Lexington, with their handstamped PAID 10, Dietz type I, applied on November 28, 1863 or 4, with postage charged to Box 43.

Endorsed "Flag of Truce" and addressed to a prisoner of war at Johnson's Island, Ohio, the letter had to cross into the Yankee States, which it likely did at Old Point Comfort, Va., where the U.S. adhesive was applied and a censor left his marks (Ex. and C). The docket "Care of William Robinson, Richmond, Va" in the lower left corner likely identifies a friend or agent who supplied the adhesive and/or assisted with the forwarding north.

A notation at the top of the cover reads "\$15.00 GB," indicating that this was a money letter containing \$15 cash (green backs). Such a letter would be carried by courier, rather than the U.S. post office, after crossing the border. This explains why the U.S. adhesive was never cancelled. The

number 93 below the stamp would be the courier's control number. "Dep" at the bottom indicates that the money was deposited for the prisoner.

The addressee, Captain John C. McConnell, was a native of Cherokee County, Georgia. He enlisted in "D" company, Georgia 14th Infantry on July 9, 1861, at the rank of Second Lieutenant and was promoted to captain on November 26, 1861.

McConnell was wounded and taken prisoner at the Battle of Gettysburg, July 2, 1863. he died of "inflammation of the brain" at Fort Delaware, on May 17, 1865. I could find nothing about his connection to Lexington.

A Brief Profile of Howell Cobb

Edwin L. Jackson

One of the most common items found in collections of Georgia postal history is a cover addressed to Howell Cobb. Rarer is correspondence from Cobb, but either way any serious collector of Georgia postal history should be familiar with the name of Howell Cobb. This can be explained by the fact that in his day, Cobb was one of the most recognized politicians in Georgia. Additionally, with the possible exception of William Crawford, no nineteenth century Georgia politician attained higher national prominence than Cobb. During his political career, he held a number of different state and national offices, and as a result received a substantial amount of mail.

Howell Cobb was born on September 7, 1815, on the Cobb family estate of Cherry Hill Plantation near Louisville in Jefferson County, Georgia. He was the eldest son of John and Sarah Cobb and older brother of Thomas R.R. Cobb, who was born in 1823. Soon after Thomas' birth, the family moved to Athens, Georgia. Here, Howell enrolled in the University of Georgia, graduating in 1834. He subsequently read law and was admitted to the bar in 1836. However, politics, not law, quickly became Cobb's passion. In 1837, the General Assembly appointed him as a superior court circuit prosecuting attorney.

In 1842, Cobb successfully ran for a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives, taking office in March 1843. By this time, however, the nation was deeply divided over the issue of slavery, especially over the extension of slavery into the western territories. In 1820, the Missouri Compromise had provided a temporary settlement. But, following the Mexican War, the United States demanded that Mexico cede to it the vast area between Texas and the Pacific Ocean. The question of whether slavery would be allowed in the newly acquired territory threatened the tenuous balance between North and South. After gold was discovered in California in 1849, the supporters of statehood applied for admission to the Union. In response, Georgia politicians threatened secession if California was admitted as a free state.

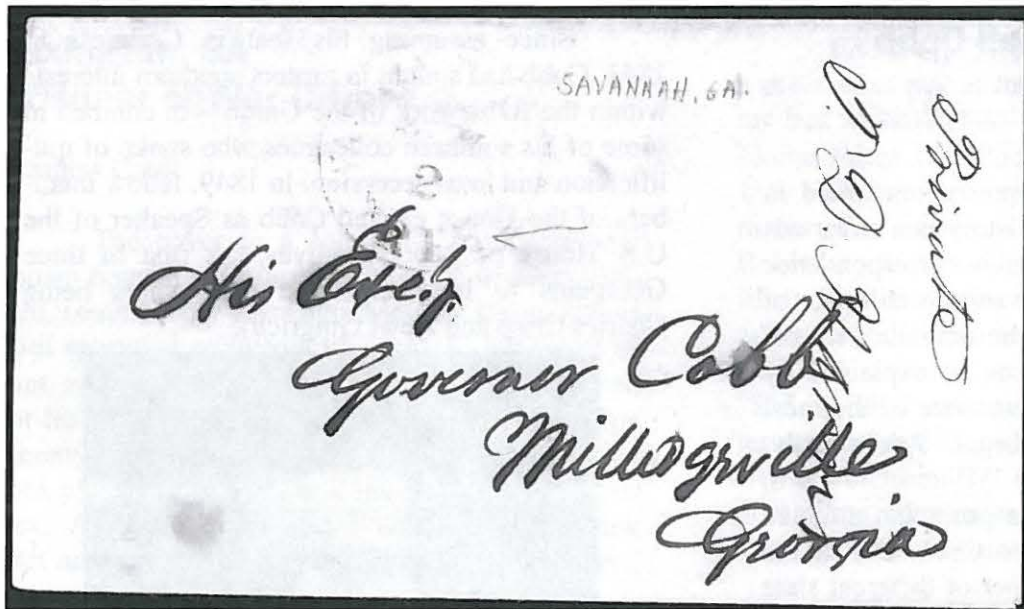
Since assuming his seat in Congress in 1843, Cobb had sought to protect southern interests within the framework of the Union – in contrast to some of his southern colleagues who spoke of nullification and even secession. In 1849, fellow members of the House elected Cobb as Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, the first of three Georgians to hold this post (the others being Charles Crisp and Newt Gingrich).



Cobb as Speaker of the House of Representatives

As Speaker of the House, Cobb helped secure passage of the Compromise of 1850, which allowed California to enter the Union as a free state but allowed slavery in any new states in the western territories ceded by Mexico to be determined by the voters of such states. The legislation was so unpopular in the South that a special convention was called in Georgia over whether to accept or reject the Compromise of 1850. Although a majority of convention delegates voted to support the agreement, many states' rights Democrats in the South turned against Cobb because they thought the compromise was too much of a concession to the North and threatened the eventual balance of power between free and slave states.

Cobb served a single term as Speaker of the U.S. House (1849-1851), thereafter returning to Georgia to campaign successfully for governor. He served one term as Georgia's governor (1851-



Cover addressed to Cobb as Governor (1851-53). Note the FREE in Savannah CDS. Why it could be sent free is not clear, as Cobb did not have the franking privilege as governor.

1853). At the time, state legislatures elected each state's two U.S. senators, and some members of the Georgia General Assembly pushed for Cobb's election to the U.S. Senate. But his role in bartering the Compromise of 1850 led opponents in the General Assembly to veto his consideration. In 1854, Cobb successfully ran for reelection to the U.S. House of Representatives, where he served one additional



Cobb in military dress. Probably during his time as Colonel, before Confederate uniforms were issued.

term (1855-1857).

In the 1856 presidential election, Cobb was a strong supporter of Democrat James Buchanan in his race against John C. Fremont, first presidential candidate of the new Republican Party. Buchanan easily won and subsequently named Cobb his Secretary of the Treasury.

As the 1860 election approached, Cobb worried about the rising strength of the Republican Party in the North and believed that the future of the Union

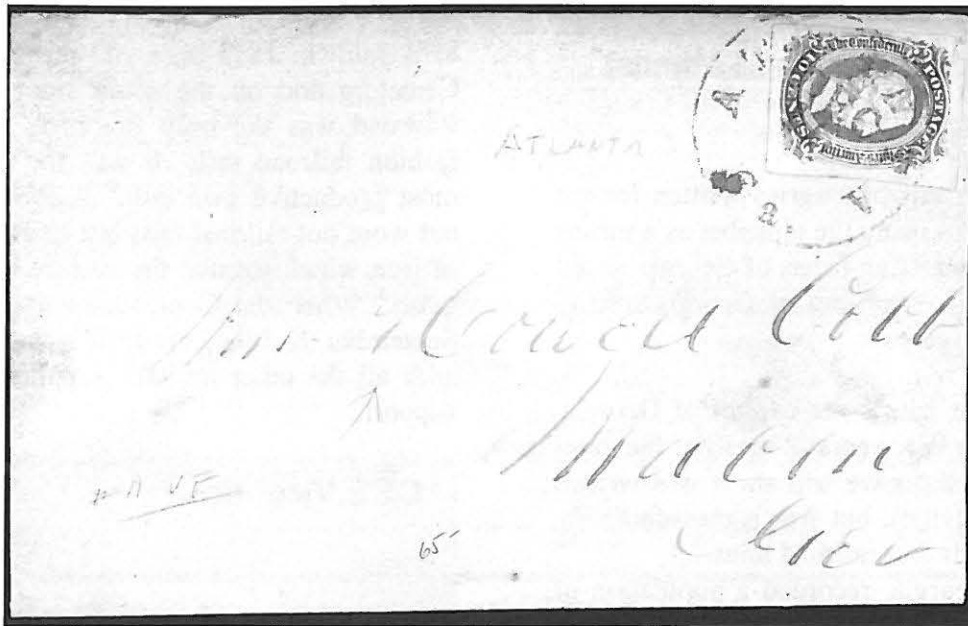
depended upon the Democratic Party. In 1860, he briefly considered seeking the Democratic nomination for president but bowed out because of the Democratic split into northern and southern factions. Abraham Lincoln's election in November 1860 and the impending secession of South



Cobb as Secretary of the Treasury (on revenue adhesive R357)

Carolina, led Cobb to resign as Secretary of Treasury, on December 10, 1860, and return to Georgia, where he urged his home state to follow South Carolina's lead.

On February 4, 1861, delegates from Georgia and the six other states that had seceded met in Montgomery, Alabama, to form a new government. Delegates elected Cobb as president of the provisional Confederate Congress. Following adoption of a new constitution, Cobb's name was considered for president of the new Confederate States of America. But, there were some who still could not forgive him for his support of the Compromise of

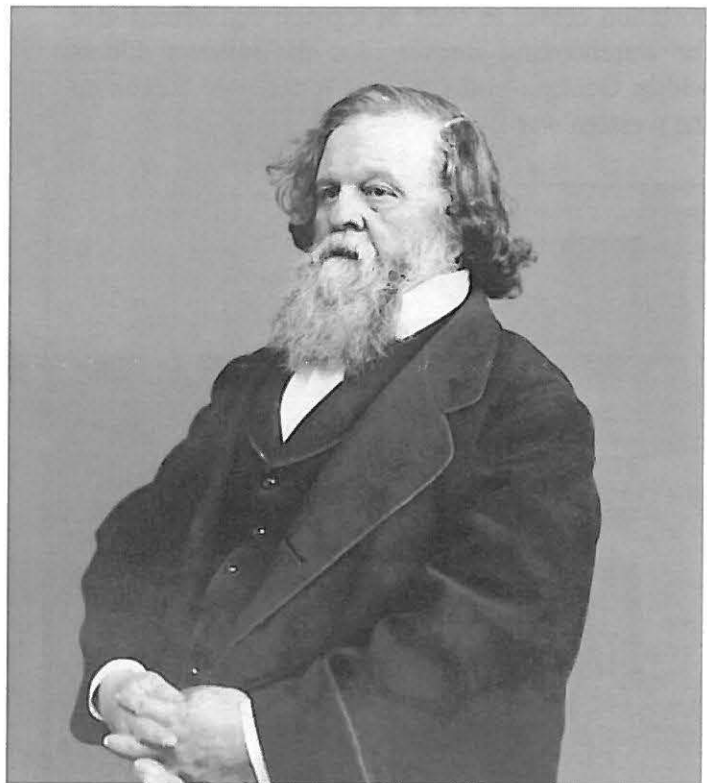


Confederate cover to Cobb in Macon, postmarked Atlanta, December 16 probably 1864, when Cobb was in charge of Georgia's reserve troops (those left behind because of age or other condition) and was based in Macon. Sherman had just bypassed Macon, on his march to the sea.

1850, so the nomination instead went to Jefferson Davis.

Cobb had no military experience, but with the outbreak of the Civil War was given the rank of colonel in the 16th Georgia Infantry. In February 1862, he was appointed a brigadier general in the Confederate Army, and in September 1863 promoted to major general. After service on the battlefield in Virginia, Cobb was transferred to Florida. In 1863, he assumed command of state reserve troops in Georgia, where he served the remainder of the war. On April 20, 1865, six days before Gen. Joseph E. Johnston surrendered his command (which included Georgia) to Sherman, Cobb surrendered his rag-tag force to Union officers in Macon.

After the war, Cobb was upset by radical Republican policies to reconstruct the South but reserved public criticism in the hopes of securing a pardon. In 1868, Pres. Andrew Johnson granted a pardon, after which Cobb became a vocal opponent of Reconstruction. His criticism was short-lived, however, as during a trip to New York, Cobb died on October 9, 1868. His body was returned to Athens, Georgia, where he was buried in Oconee Hill Cemetery.



An aging, bearded Cobb, after the war.

A is for Atlanta (and Alexander Stephens and Athens)

Nanty B. Clark

This is the start of a series written for the *Georgia Post Roads*, using the alphabet as a means to explore some interesting facets of Georgia postal history. An effective alphabet of Georgia history will hopefully emerge.

Atlanta

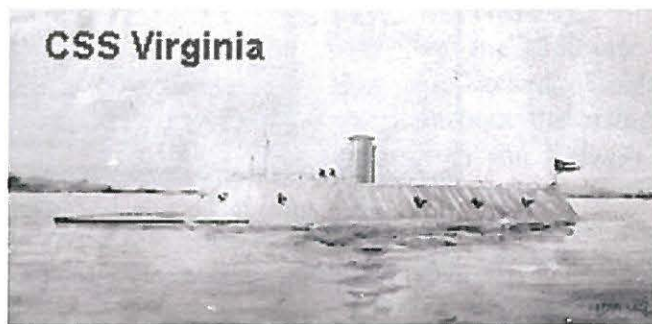
First on our trip is the capitol of Georgia, Atlanta, during the War years. It was not the capitol at the time the letter we will show was written (that was Milledgeville), but was a manufacturing center supplied with four railroad lines.

Atlanta, Georgia, recorded a population of 9,554 (one fifth of which were slaves), the 99th largest city in the United States according to the 1860 Census.¹ Though relatively small at the beginning of the war, it played a large role in the battles for the Confederacy toward the end of the War Between the States. During the War it became a transportation center as well as a place considered safe for warehousing supplies for the military forces within Georgia and for the Confederate forces on the western war fronts.



An Atlanta store front sign reading "Auction & Negro Sales." From www.historyplace.com

Schofield and Markham's Atlanta Rolling Mill, built in 1858 on a site just east of Oakland Cemetery and on the south side of the Georgia Railroad was the only Southern mill that could fashion railroad rails. It was the South's second most productive iron mill.² It could not only roll out worn out railroad rails but also make the sheets of iron which formed the surface of the *CSS Virginia*.³ When the Confederate troops left Atlanta September 1, 1864, the mill was destroyed along with all the other military supplies and means of support.



The iron which clad this ship was rolled at the Atlanta Rolling Mill. Copied from the website <http://americancivilwar.com>

North of Selma, AL a rich line of ore was found near the Selma, Rome and Dalton Rail Road and another foundry and rolling mill was established there.

When the forces in Tennessee fell to northern troops in 1862, Athens took responsibility for the manufacture of Enfield rifles and Atlanta became the chief producer of caps and friction primers.⁴ The ordnance shops which had been located in Nashville, TN, were relocated to Atlanta when Nashville was lost to the Northern Army. Meanwhile, by April of 1862, Augusta was producing gunpowder at the Government Powder Mills.

The Provisionals

On February 4, 1861, the Confederate States of America was formed. The new rates for postage did not formally go into effect until June 1, 1861. This left postmasters from states which had seceded in a difficult position. In order to indicate mail had been prepaid so it could move to its intended recipient, John Reagan, Confederate Postmaster General, told Southern Postmasters to continue their work and pay all monies to the Northern government, which had appointed them, until the

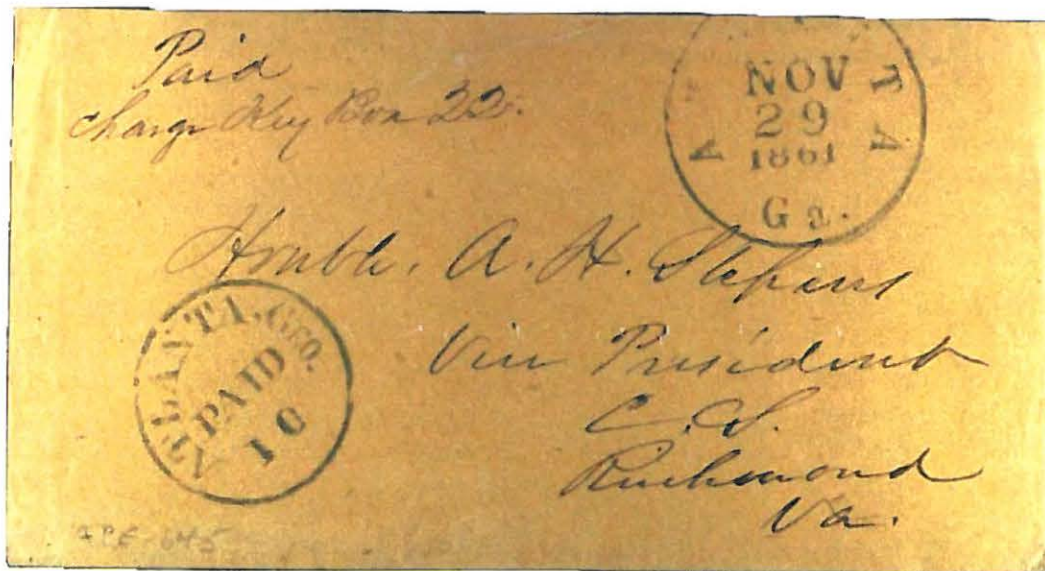


Athens Provisional, Type II, used December 31, 1861, image courtesy Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc.

Confederate Post Office Department could get its own house in order.

Some of the Postmasters, like those from Athens, prepared adhesives to use provisionally until the Confederate Post Office Department could

including Atlanta, Marietta and Milledgeville, reverted to pre-1847 practices and used handstamps for the rate. In the case of provisionals, these rated handstamps were applied before the envelope was sold and indicated postage was pre-paid.



Atlanta Provisional on a cover addressed to Alexander Stephens, dated November 29, 1862. Image borrowed from the Marc Haas covers on Richard Frajola's PhilaMercury

Census site. These covers were sold to Gibbons in 1979. Because of the "charge Key Box 22" notation this may be a "handstamped paid" usage of the provisional handstamp.

provide them with confederate general issues.

Some Postmasters had envelopes printed with indicia indicating the amount of postage paid, sold just as postal stationary is today. Other offices,

Alexander Stephens

The Atlanta Provisional shown above is on a missive sent to Alexander Stephens during the time he was in office as Vice President of the Con-

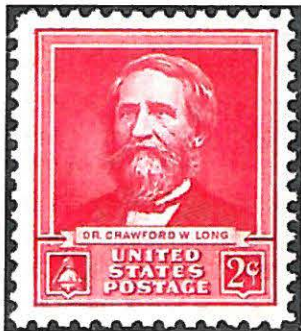
federacy.⁶ At the time, he was in Richmond, Virginia, the Capitol of the Confederacy. Richmond was named the new capitol May 30, 1861, almost six months prior to the date this letter entered the system.⁷

While he was of frail health all his life, Stephens was brilliant and active in legal matters for 32 years. His cases ranged from getting a slave acquitted who had been charged with attempted murder, to standing as a Presidential Elector in the United States election of



Alexander Hamilton Stephens,
photo courtesy Wikipedia

1860. He studied at what would become the University of Georgia in Athens, where he shared lodging with Crawford W. Long, who in later years became known for his studies in the application of anesthesia by ether. Stephens spent much of his life at his home in Craw-



Crawford W. Long, room mate in the years they shared at Franklin College

fordville, which he named "Liberty Hall."

In March of this year (March 21, 1861), in Savannah, Stephens gave what is called the "Cornerstone Speech," where he proclaimed slavery the "natural condition" of blacks as well as the foundation of the confederacy. It wasn't until 1862 that Stephens publically denounced several policies of President Jefferson Davis, including his military strategy, impressment and conscription.

He was arrested at his home in Crawfordville May 11, 1865 and removed to Ft. Warren in Boston Harbor until October 1865.

On his return to Georgia he was elected to the United States Senate.

Lesser known is the fact that Stephens also served as Governor of Georgia from November 4, 1882 to March 4, 1883 when he died from an injury caused by a gate falling on him. He was originally interred in Oakland Cemetery in Atlanta, but later removed to the grounds of his homestead in Crawfordville. (A more in depth look at Alexander Stephens can be found in Edwin Jackson's article *Georgia Post Roads* 18, No. 1 Spring 2010.)

Footnotes

¹Savannah (41st), Augusta (77th), and Columbus (97th)

²After Richmond's Tredegar Iron Works

³By 1863 it was bought out by a South Carolina firm and was used to produce cannon as well

⁴Army of the Heartland: The Army of Tennessee, 1861-1862, Thomas Lawrence Connelly, LSU Press, 1967, 2 volumes.

⁵He served in that capacity from February 11, 1861 to May 11, 1865

⁶The original capitol of the Confederacy was Montgomery, AL, until May 29, 1861

⁷From April 3-April 10, 1865 the city of Danville, VA was named as the last capitol of the Confederacy.



Fort Warren, Boston Harbor, with Confederate Navy and Army Officers, circa 1863-4 from <http://americancivilwar.com>

Georgia Post Roads

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Robert Toombs as Congressman. *See page 6.*

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The Society's web site is
<<http://www.stampclubs.com/gphs/index.htm>>

A Most Interesting Address

Harvey Mirsky

Given the fact that the use of post office boxes was not an uncommon practice during the stampless era, one would expect to see 1847 letters addressed to box numbers. However, such letters are extremely rare.

Obviously, "E.H.L." held a box at the Buffalo Post Office and the box number alone was all that was needed for delivery. It is the only example of 1847 mail addressed to a box number known to this author.



Figure 1. A very rare example of an 1847 letter addressed to a Post Office Box – this may be unique.

The cover shown in Figure 1 was mailed from Washington, GA and is one of only three 1847 covers recorded from that town (at least two of which – this and another – were written in the same hand). It carried two 5¢ Franklin stamps for the over-300 miles postage to Buffalo, and is addressed to "E.H.L./Buffalo/N.Y./Box 248."

Regretfully, GPHS member and U.S. 1847 issue collector Harvey Mirsky died May 9, 2011.

Eager to share his knowledge, he was a prolific writer and his exhibit of the 1847 issue - first one frame and then multi-frame - won gold and grand awards from the beginning.

Southern Express Agent Lexington (Depot)

Douglas N. Clark

There is no list available of the Southern Express Co. agents in Confederate towns. Trepel and Walske, while reproducing a list of Adams Express Co. agents, imply that most kept their positions when Henry B. Plant bought Adams Express to found the Southern Company at the beginning of the war. The Adams Express Co. list gives the name "Little" as the agent at Lexington, GA.

The cover in Figure 1 confirms this, as it is a Southern Express Co. cover from the headquarters in Augusta to A. Little, Agt., Lexington. The manuscript franking indicates express business.

In fact, the railroad did not run to Lexington. Agent Anderson Little served in the nearby town of Lexington Depot, the stop on the Athens Branch of the Georgia Railroad serving Lexington. Lexington Depot is better known today as Crawford, GA, which had been the post office name since its establishment in 1857 with Anderson Little as its first postmaster, a position he held until 1865.



Figure 1. Southern Express Co. cover sent from Augusta. Only a 22 of the date is visible (July 1863?).



Figure 2. Second use of the cover in Figure 1. From Crawford, GA to Alexander Stephens, July 31, 1863.

The cover in Figure 1 is a turned cover, the inside used to Alexander Stephens in Crawfordville (Figure 2). According to the usual Stephens docketing, the sender of this side of the cover is not Anderson but one B. W. Adkins. The year is 1863.

diers coming through Crawford entered the Depot building, looking for Confederate treasure. Little tried to be as quiet as possible, but was most concerned that the ticking of his pocket watch, which he had hanging above his bed, would give him away.

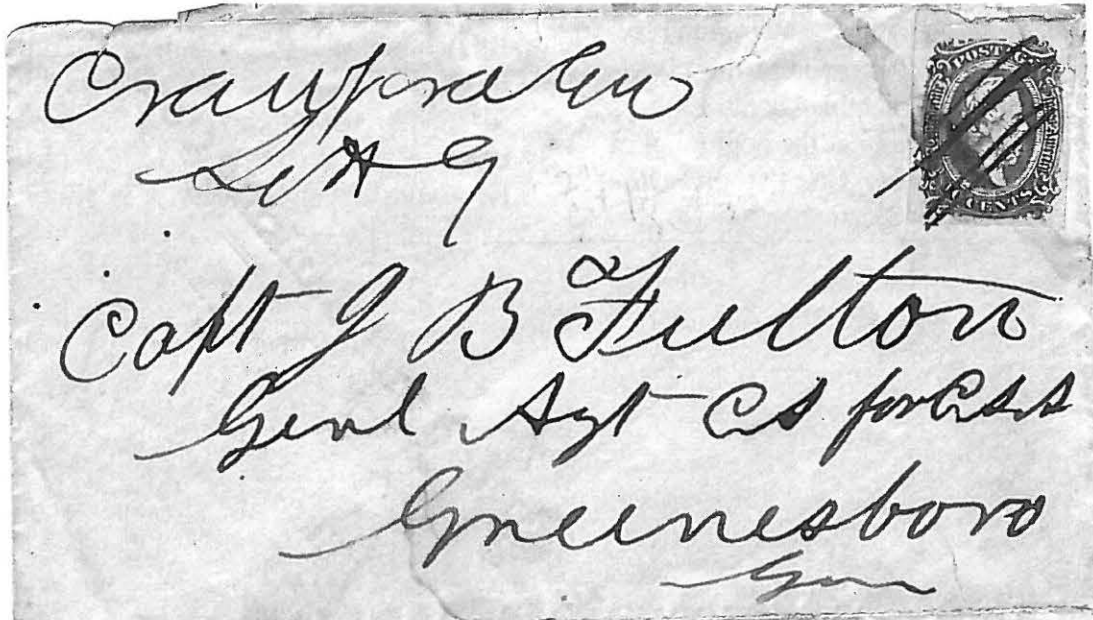


Figure 3. Adversity cover sent by Southern Express Company agent Anderson Little and postmarked by Postmaster Anderson Little. Cover fashioned from the Georgia Railroad Company form, shown in Figure 4.

Anderson Little began working for the Georgia Railroad as conductor on the main line (Augusta to Atlanta) and came to live in Crawford when he was appointed Station Agent in 1857, the same year he became postmaster there.

There are covers, known by enclosures, to be sent by Anderson Little. One of them, an adversity cover fashioned from a Georgia Railroad form, is shown in Figure 3 (the opened up form is in Figure 4). It is not hard to believe that the handwriting of the address and the postmark are the same.

Anderson Little apparently lived in the Crawford Depot building during the War Between the States. It seems that Little was asleep in his chambers in the Depot one night when Yankee sol-

Anderson succeeded in evading the enemy, and lived to hold the station agent position for 43 years, succeeded by his son Harrison, who held the job for another 40 years.

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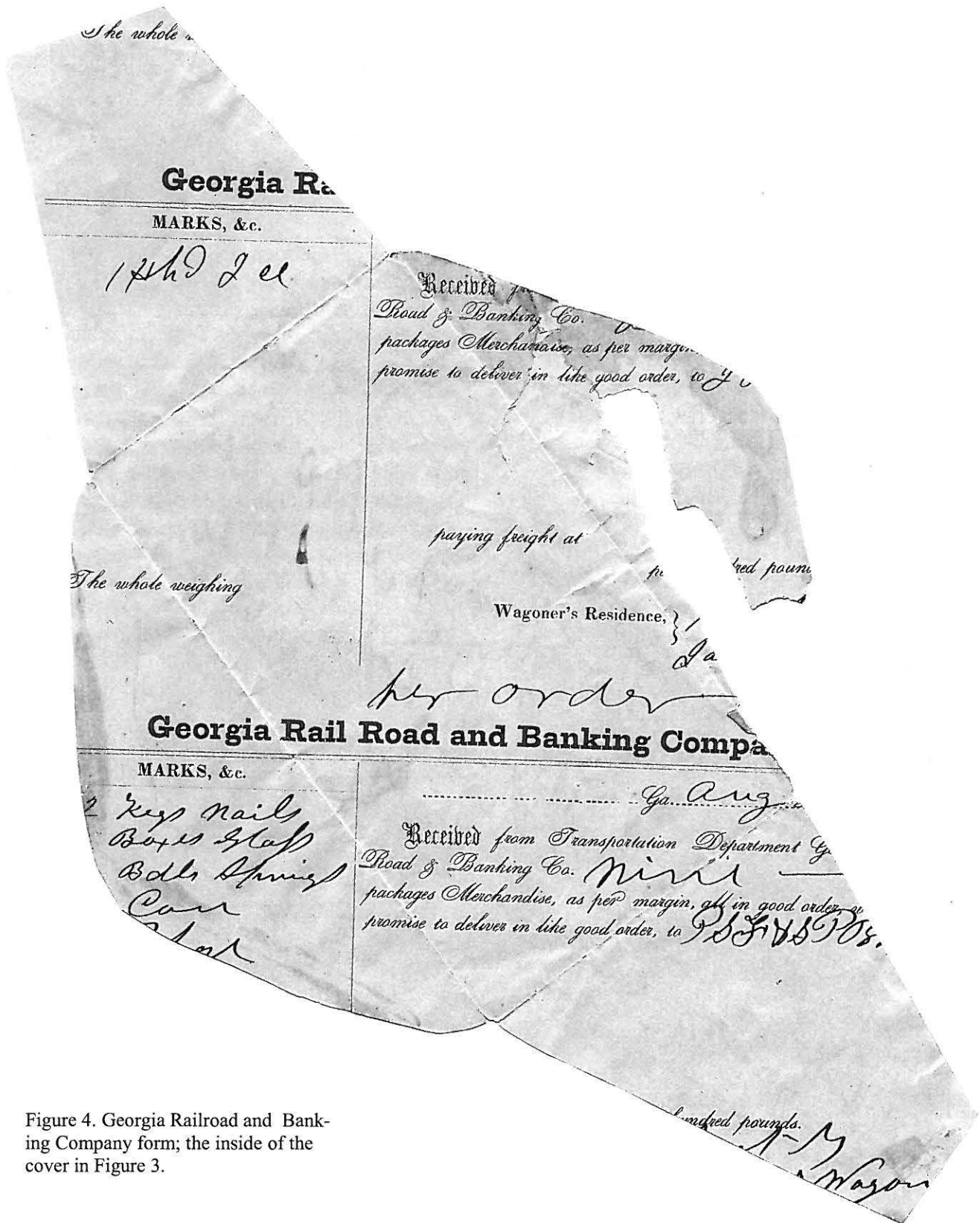


Figure 4. Georgia Railroad and Banking Company form; the inside of the cover in Figure 3.

Robert Toombs: Georgia's Unreconstructed Rebel

Edwin L. Jackson

In his era, Robert A. Toombs joined Howell Cobb and Alexander Stephens as one of Georgia's three most influential politicians in Congress. He also proved to be an enigmatic figure who went from a strong supporter of the Union to one of the most ardent proponents of secession.

Robert Toombs was born in Wilkes County, Georgia, on July 2, 1810. Little is known about his childhood years, but apparently he was well tutored, for at age fourteen, he entered the University of Georgia. Here, Toombs excelled as an orator, but, he also commonly broke university rules. As a result of one incident – apparently involving his conduct in a card game – he was about to be expelled, so he withdrew and continued his education at Union College in New York, where he graduated in 1828. Toombs then studied law at the University of Virginia, after which he returned to Washington, Georgia, where he was admitted to the bar in 1830.

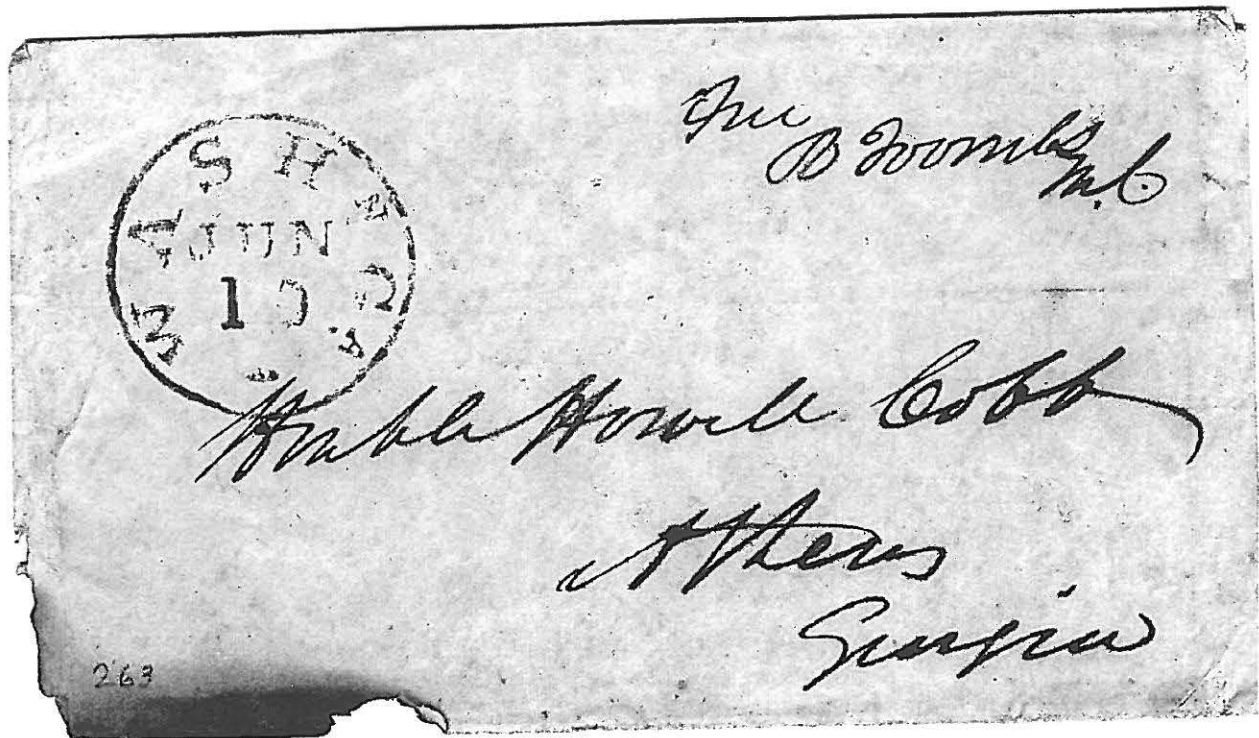
That same year, he married Julia Dubose, with whom he fathered three children.

Toombs honed debating skills learned as a member of the Demosthenian Literary Society at the University of Georgia and became a successful lawyer and planter, becoming very wealthy.



Toombs in Congress

In 1837, voters of Wilkes County elected Toombs to the Georgia House of Representatives. He served in the General Assembly until 1843. The next year, he successfully ran for a seat in the U.S. Congress, where he became close friends with Alexander Stephens. In 1852, he was elected to the U.S. Senate, where he served until resigning in January 1861.



Toombs' free frank in the House of Representatives. Undated, but 1844-52. Postmarked Washington, GA.

During the contentious decades before the Civil War, Toombs had remained a supporter of the Union. Despite the national debate over slavery – especially the expansion of slavery to the western territories – Toombs had steadfastly believed that a political compromise was possible.



General Toombs

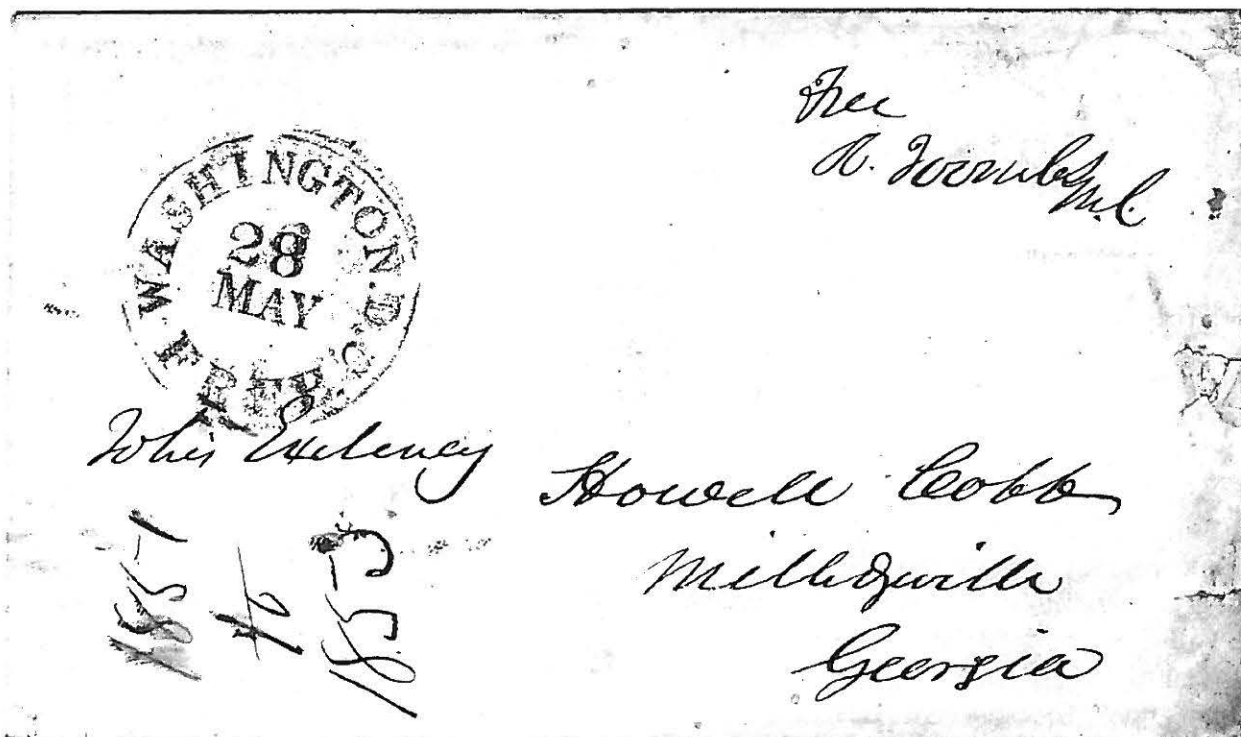
Thus, like Alexander Stephens, he opposed breaking up the Union over the issue of slavery. But, the rise of the Republican Party – and its apparent commitment to abolition – led Toombs to convert from Unionist to radical secessionist. This was especially true following the election of Abraham Lincoln in November 1860. On January 7, 1861, Toombs announced his resignation in a speech to the U.S. Senate. He then returned to Georgia to take a leading role in the secession convention that convened in the state capitol in Milledgeville on January 16. During the proceedings, he gave an impassioned speech calling

for Georgia’s secession before Lincoln was sworn in as president. On January 19, the convention voted to secede.

Following Georgia’s secession, Toombs proceeded to Montgomery, Alabama, as a delegate to the convention to form a provisional government for the seceded states. As it turned out, Toombs was not only a delegate but a candidate for the office of provisional president of the Confederacy. The four leading candidates included fellow Georgians Howell Cobb and Alexander Stephens, plus Jefferson Davis from Mississippi. Toombs was considered by some as the front-runner for the presidency, but some accounts report that his excessive drinking in the evenings doomed his candidacy.

After his election, Jefferson Davis asked Toombs to be his secretary of state. The primary function of this post would be to seek foreign recognition of the new Confederacy – especially by Britain and France. Toombs had no diplomatic experience, but reluctantly accepted Davis’s offer.

For five months, Robert Toombs served as Confederate Secretary of State. It was not a post he had wanted. Also, he did not like Davis – and in particular his authoritative style of making decisions. Toombs felt he was little more than a glori-



Toombs free frank with Washington D.C. postmark. Undated, but with 1851-53 docketing.

fied clerk with an impossible task, given Britain's opposition to slavery. Apparently, he also wanted a chance to be involved in a military role, so he resigned as secretary of state in July 1861.

Although Toombs' only prior military experience was serving as a captain of a volunteer unit during the Creek War, in July 1861, he was given the rank of brigadier general in the Confederate Army of the Potomac (which subsequently was integrated into the Army of Northern Virginia). Toombs served in a variety of battles and campaigns most notably the Battle of Antietam, in which he was wounded.

When denied a promotion to major general, Toombs resigned his commission in March 1863 and returned home to Washington, Georgia. From that point on, he played no active role in the Civil War. Interestingly, in May 1865, when Jefferson Davis stayed briefly in Washington, Georgia, during his flight from Union capture, Toombs made no effort to see Davis – even though his home was only a few blocks away from the building where the Confederate cabinet held its last meeting.

Despite Toombs' lack of involvement during the last two years of the Civil War, U.S. Secretary of State Edwin Stanton believed that he had been a conspirator in Lincoln's assassination. Union troops were dispatched to Washington, Ga., to arrest Toombs, but he was able to flee, leaving his wife behind. Initially, he stayed with friends in Georgia. However, knowing his days of freedom were numbered, Toombs made his way to Mobile, where he caught a boat to New Orleans. In late October 1865, he sailed for Cuba. By the summer of 1866, he was in Paris. There, Julia joined him for a year-long stay in France.

By 1867, Toombs was no longer considered a conspirator in Lincoln's assassination, so he felt safe in returning to the United States. He and Julia sailed to Cuba, then to New Orleans, then up the Mississippi River and by rail on to Canada, where they stayed briefly with friends.

On his return to the United States, Toombs visited Washington, D.C., where he met with some of his old colleagues in the U.S. Senate. One, Sen. Oliver Morton of Indiana, urged Toombs to apply for a pardon. Toombs replied indignantly, "Pardon for what? I have not pardoned you all yet!" Toombs joined Jefferson Davis as the only two for-

mer Confederate leaders to refuse to ask for a pardon for their role in the Civil War.

Though he never regained his citizenship, Toombs became active in Georgia politics after the end of Reconstruction. He was determined to replace the "carpetbagger" state constitution imposed in 1868 during Reconstruction. In 1877, Toombs led the efforts of state Democrats to replace the 1868 constitution with a more conservative document. Georgia's "Redeemer Constitution" was Toombs' most lasting legacy, continuing in force until a successor constitution was adopted in 1945.

Until his death, Toombs disliked Republicans – especially former state Democrats who changed party allegiance during Reconstruction. And while choosing to live in Washington, Georgia,



Toombs later in life.

he never seriously considered restoring his citizenship in the United States. If there was any question of his "reconstruction," Toombs stridently proclaimed in 1880, "I am not loyal to the existing government of the United States and do not wish to be suspected of loyalty." Until his death, he remained an "unreconstructed rebel."

Yet, despite his ardent political beliefs, Toombs could be a gracious gentleman. It is said that he always was kind to strangers to his hometown and hosted a visitor to his table for most meals. Reportedly, he remained opposed to building a hotel in downtown Washington on the grounds that, "If a respectable man comes to town, he can stay at my house. If he isn't respectable, we don't want him here at all."

Toombs' wife, Julia, died in 1883, the same year that his good friend Alexander Stephens died. In 1885, Toombs may have suffered a stroke. He died on Dec. 15, 1885, and was buried in Rest Haven Cemetery in Washington, Ga. In 1905, the Georgia General Assembly created a new county and named it in his honor.

Georgia Post Roads

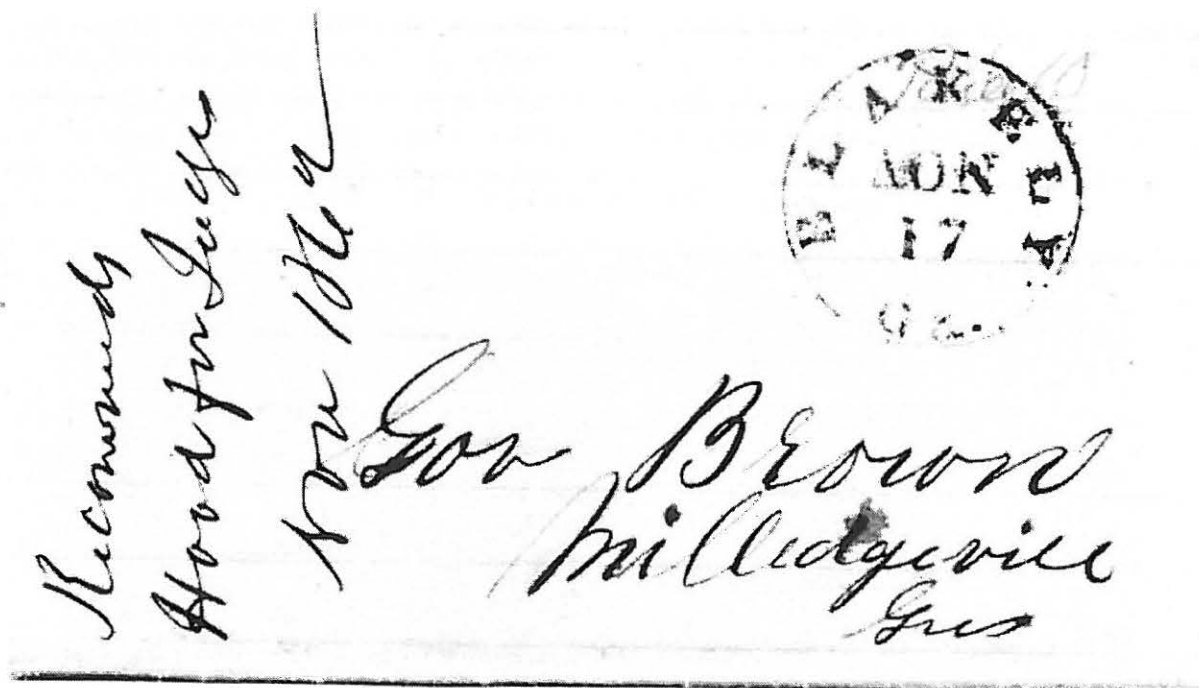
Volume 19, Number 2

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Blakely, Ga. November 17, 1862 manuscript paid cover to
Governor Brown. (See page 4).
Cover courtesy of Patricia A. Kaufmann

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The Society's web site is
<<http://www.stampclubs.com/gphs/index.htm>>

Sergeant Witcher and the Yankee Sword

Douglas N. Clark

Benjamin H. Witcher fought with the Gilmer Blues, one of four Confederate volunteer units organized in Oglethorpe County, Georgia and by all accounts served as a Gallant soldier. But the most memorable deed he performed, a step toward improving north-south relations postwar, came almost 20 years later

ties. After crossing the Potomac into Maryland, in September 1862, the company retreated to Sharpsburg, where only four of the Blues engaged survived without being wounded or killed. Witcher was one.

In the spring of 1863, the Blues were sent to the Carolinas, first Kingston, N.C., then Charleston and in February 1864, they were ordered to Ocean Park, Florida, near Lake City. At that time, the soldier's due cover in Figure 1 was sent by Sgt. Witcher to his sister Martha (Mattie) J. Witcher, living in the family's home town of Point Peter, GA. Johnson always refers to Witcher as a private,

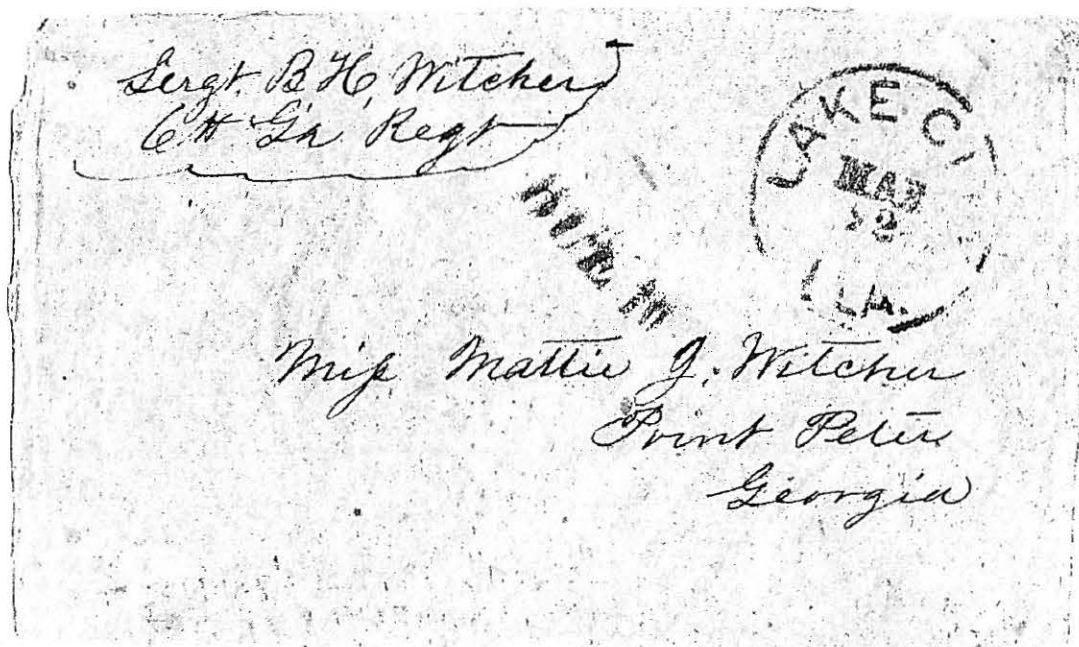


Figure 1. Lake City, Florida handstamped due cover from Sgt. Witcher to his sister, March 22, 1864.

There is a very detailed account of the history of the unit by R. G. Johnson, a lieutenant in the Blues, which appeared in the Oglethorpe County newspaper in the 1870s and '80s, reprinted in the book *This they Remembered*.

The Blues were mustered into Company "K" of the Sixth Georgia Infantry on May 28, 1861 in Atlanta, with Benjamin Witcher listed as a private. Shortly after, the regiment was ordered to Richmond.

The Blues spent 11 months in Yorktown and then fought at Williamsburg, Seven Pines, Mechanicsville, Cold Harbor and Savage Station, each time returning to the Richmond area between bat-

even in the last payroll at the end of the war. The American Civil War Database lists one promotion for Witcher, to Sergeant Major in 1864. It seems likely that he would have had earlier promotions. The cover in Figures 1 and 2 certainly proves that he held the rank of sergeant at the time they were written.

The cover in Figure 1 was turned and sent back to Sgt. Witcher in the spring of 1864 (Figure 2). We can be pretty certain that the year is 1864, as the Blues were not near Richmond in June 1863.

In August 1864, along the Weldon R.R., in Virginia, the brigade the Blues were fighting with surprised the enemy and drove them from their

trenches. A troop of 2,500 Confederate soldiers captured 3,000 of the enemy, including 299 soldiers of the 39th Massachusetts Infantry. There was so much capturing on both sides that Johnson writes "A portion of the time we were not fighting, but both armies were kept busy capturing and recapturing each other."

One of the captured union officers was Lieutenant Luke R. Tidd of Woburn, Massachusetts. Tidd carried with him a sword, inscribed on its scabbard:

Gilmer Blues present at the surrender, a few days later at Greensboro, N.C.

Eighteen years later, in June 1883, Witcher remembered Lt. Tidd's sword, resting in the Masonic Lodge in Point Peter and wrote to William T. Grammer, postmaster of Woburn, Mass., asking if the lieutenant was still alive and if he would like to get possession of his weapon again. The speedy response confirmed that *Captain* Tidd was alive and well and was "pleased at the prospect" of receiving back his sword.



Figure 2. Reverse of the cover in Figure 1. Turned and sent from Crawford, Ga, June 21, 1864.

"Lieutenant L. R. Tidd, Thirty-ninth Massachusetts Regiment. From his friends in Woburn."

For some reason, the captured sword fell into the hands of Sgt. Witcher who, after the war, placed it in the Masonic Lodge (Joppa Lodge, 162, F. & A. M.) in his home town of Point Peter, Ga, where Witcher had served as a worshipful master since the lodge was chartered in 1851..

According to Johnson, the Blues fought bravely through the rest of the war, including an unsuccessful attack on Ft. Harrison in September 1864 and a battle near Kingston on March 12, 1865. The last battle the Blues fought, at Bentonville, Al, March 19, 1865, saw Sgt. Witcher wounded; but he was one of ten of the original

Sgt. Witcher shipped the sword to Grammer, together with a belt bearing the shield of the state of Georgia, which Witcher had attached to the sword when he first receive it.

A presentation ceremony at Tidd's house was organized and it turned into a reunion of Tidd's company, also including other officers from the war residing in the area and Woburn town officials. Speeches were made characterizing Sgt. Witcher as "once our enemy and now our friend." There was a toast to "Georgia and Massachusetts: May they never be severed by the tie that now binds them."

Please turn to **Sword**, page 8.

B is for Baldwin... and many other significant Georgia essentials

Nancy B. Clark

Abraham Baldwin (1754-1807) was a member of the Continental Congress. Though born in North Guilford, Connecticut, he is most remembered for authoring a bill to create the nation's first state university from his Wilkes County home base. Georgia granted 40,000 acres to form a state college on February 25, 1784. Two years later the first board meeting for the University of Georgia took place and the Board elected Abraham Baldwin President. In 1787 the Georgia assembly appointed Baldwin along with William Pierce, William Few,



Abraham Baldwin stamp released on the campus of the University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia January 25, 1985

George Walton, William Houston and Nathaniel Pendleton to serve as delegates to the Philadelphia Constitutional Convention. Baldwin and Few signed as the Georgia representatives on the draft of the Constitution sent to Congress prior to states' ratification. In 1789 Baldwin served with George Mathews as Georgia's first representatives to the U. S. House of Representatives. From December 1801 to December 1802 Baldwin served as President pro tem of the U. S. Senate. Baldwin County was created in 1807. Abraham Baldwin died in Washington D.C. March 4, 1807 and is buried there in Rock Creek Cemetery.

Baldwin County is on land ceded by the Creek Nation, via Chief McIntosh, as part of the 1802 Treaty of Fort Wilkinson.



Baldwin County Georgia as it was in 1806 (above) and as is today (right)



This land, between the Oconee and Ocmulgee Rivers housed the state capitol from 1804 until 1867 in Milledgeville, the county's only incorporated city. Milledgeville is still county seat for Baldwin County, though it was



Hillsborough manuscript marking and Paid 5 on cover forwarded from Crawfordsville, Georgia, where it received a town postmark and oval PAID hand stamp and manuscript 10. Vice President Stephens had relocated to Richmond, Virginia. Patricia Kaufmann, on whose web site this was found, says the docketing indicates the letter came from W. H. Reese, writing to request a position in the Confederate Government, dated November 26, 1861.

laid out in 1803 with plans proposed specifically to make it a capitol city. Washington D.C. is the only other United States city to share that distinctive history. Baldwin County was incorporated in 1806. It has a total area of 258.5 square miles. The largest county in Alabama is also named in honor of Abraham Baldwin. (Baldwin never lived there.)

The first court house in the county held its first session June 26, 1806 in a log cabin in Hillsborough owned by George Hill. Hillsborough was transferred to Randolph County (now Jasper County) in December of 1807 when the legislature created four new counties from Baldwin. Milledgeville became the county seat and a court house was planned to be constructed on the southeast corner of Penitentiary Square.

Carl Vinson, Congressman for fifty years (1914-1964), was born in Baldwin County and was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom with Special Distinction by President Lyndon Johnson. This country's third nuclear powered carrier was named USS Carl Vinson after him.



Carl Vinson

Born as Norvell Hardy in Harlem, Georgia, comedian Oliver Hardy started his career in the Milledgeville Opera House. He worked as a projectionist at the town's first movie theater, the "Palace," where it is conjectured by some that he got the idea to be in movies.



Youthful Oliver Norvell Hardy (left)

The famous comedy team of Laurel and Hardy commemorated on this 1991 stamp, issued in Hollywood, California (below).



Flannery O'Connor and friends

Flannery O'Connor wrote *Wise Blood* and *The Violent Bear It Away* while living at Andalusia, the 544 acre family farm in Baldwin County, and is buried in Memory Hill Cemetery in Milledgeville.



Milledgeville, Ga. postmark was used as an illustration on this 1993 stamp issued to celebrate the grand opening of the National Postal Museum in Washington, D.C. This postmark was actually in use during the pre-adhesive period.

Bobby Brown State Park is named for Navy Lieutenant Robert T. Brown, an Elberton man, who lost his life serving in WW II according to the state park's web site. You will have to decide whether or not it is fitting for a Navy man to have a park on a man-made lake named for him. Located where the Broad River and Savannah River once flowed around rich farmland that supported the large plantations of the town of Petersburg, the Clarks Hill Reservoir takes 20,000 acres. Lt. Brown's State Outdoor Recreation Area is 665 acres and offers a campsite as well as a playground. Petersburg only lives in memory, though the occasional dry season will expose the foundations of some of the plantations when the reservoir evaporates sufficiently.



Bobby Brown State Park.

It is interesting that there is another Bobbie Brown who rose to prominence from Georgia. He was born in Dublin, Georgia and also served in World War II. When he signed up for duty in Columbus, Georgia, he signed his papers as "Bobbie E. Brown," and that's what he was called throughout his thirty year Army career. He led a platoon up Omaha Beach and received the Medal of Honor for his heroism at Crucifix Hill, Haarberg, Germany, where he was wounded. During street fighting in Aachen he was more severely wounded. He finished the war with

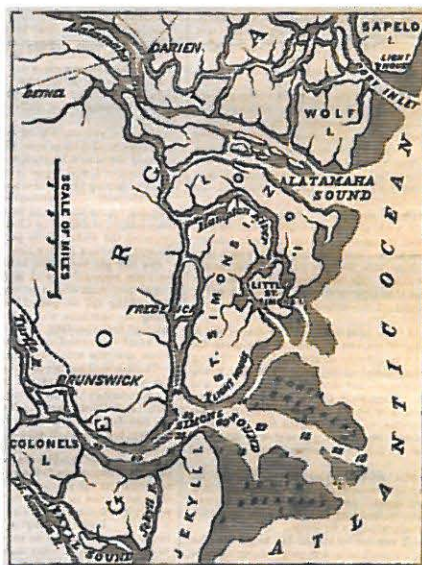


1983 Medal of Honor postage stamp illustrates the medal awarded Bobbie E. Brown for his outstanding efforts on Crucifix Hill

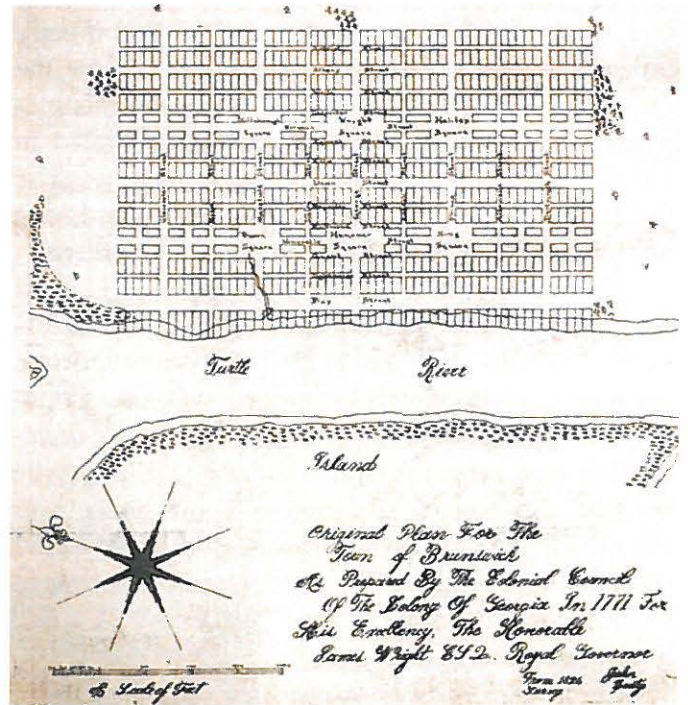
13 war produced wounds which continued to bother him in his post-war life, and two silver stars and a Bronze star in addition to the Medal of Honor. His post-war career was unsuccessful. Though a recognized war hero, he had only a seventh grade education and had difficulty finding employment, finally working as a janitor at the US Military Academy at West Point. He committed suicide in 1971 and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

Let's explore the rice plantations which used to dot the Atamaha River round and a out Brunswick, a sampling of which can be discerned at the Hofwyl-Broadfield Plantation. And one must mention Fort Frederica on St. Simon's Island, where actions in 1714 kept the area British rather than Spanish.

Brunswick was first settled by Mark Carr, who arrived from Scotland in 1738. He was part of James Oglethorpe's Marines, and settled on the Turtle River. In 1771 the



Brunswick, Georgia from Harper's Weekly, October 26, 1861



Original Town Plan for Brunswick, based on Oglethorpe's plan for Savannah, Georgia.

Royal Province of Georgia purchased his land and laid out the town of Brunswick. It was named for the German Duchy of Brunswick-Lünenberg, ancestral home of England's King George II.

I did mention Brunswick, stew, didn't I? Well here's a recipe:

- 2 1/2 lbs. chicken pieces (preferably legs and thighs)
- 1 1/2 lbs. lean ground beef
- 3/4 lb. ground pork
- 28 oz diced tomatoes (canned are fine)
- 14 1/2 oz can creamed corn
- 14 1/2 oz can lima beans,
- 1/2 cup ketchup,
- 1/2 cup apple cider vinegar,
- 1/2 stick butter,
- 1 tsp black pepper,
- 3/4 tsp red pepper,
- 1/2 tsp salt.

Cook the chicken in water to cover for about 20-30 minutes. Remove the bones and skin. Allow the broth to cool in the refrigerator so you can easily remove the fat. Shred the meat. Cook the beef and pork until the meat turns gray. Skim off the fat. Combine all the meats in a large pot. Add everything except the corn and lima beans and cook over low heat for 2 1/2 hours stirring frequently.

Add the corn and beans and cook for another 1/2 hour. Taste and ad-just seasonings if needed.



What would a "B" Georgia article be without a mention of Brunswick Stew! (incomplete is what.)

When my father was alive, this was about the only way we could get him to eat his vegetables; there was so much meat in there he didn't no-

tice the veggies. (There's a touch of history for you, albeit not postal. Dad was however a postal historian, so allow me this divergence!)



Butler Plantation on Butler Island (below). Chimney in right photograph from the steam powered rice mill which once stood there.

We can't leave Brunswick without mention of Fanny Kemble Butler. Francis Ann Kemble was a British actress. She made her debut in 1829 at Covent Garden. It was a grand entrance playing Juliet in Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. She followed the British triumph with a tour along the eastern United States in 1832. She caught the eye of Pierce Mease Butler and they married.

Now Pierce is an interesting case too. When his grandfather, Major Pierce Butler, died he left his rice plantation just south of Darien Georgia, not to his children, but to his grandchildren, on the condition that they change their last name to his. Pierce Mease did just that, prior to marrying Fanny. In 1838 the couple and their two daughters made a visit to see his holdings on the Georgia islands of St. Simons and But-

ler's. Fanny was morally opposed to slavery and kept a diary of her conversations with slave women and observations of planters' handling of their affairs.



Fannie Kemble Butler, English actress and abolitionist

The couple realized they had irreconcilable differences, primarily based on strong opinions regarding slavery; they separated and then divorced in 1849. Butler retained custody of their daughters, allowing Fanny access to the two girls only two months a year. This placed her under duress not to publish her journal exposing treatment of slaves despite strong urgings to do so from abolitionists.

She finally published the memoirs, *Journal of a Residence on a Georgian Plantation*, in 1863 under the name Frances Anne Butler. The plantation and the chimney of the rice operation are still there. As a footnote, one of their daughters (Sarah) grew to be pro abolition and the other (Frances) to be pro slavery. The pro-slavery daughter published her own memoir, *Ten Years of an Georgia Plantation*, in an attempt to counter her mother's book.

Shown on page 1 is a Blakely, Georgia cover with handstamped town marking and manuscript Paid 10 to Governor Brown at Milledgeville. The November 17 missive contains a recommendation for judge appointment. According to Patricia Kaufmann, whose web site offers this cover, the letter is signed by M. G. Stamper and John T. Hurvand and recommends Colonel Arthur Hood for Circuit Court Judge.

I had no intention to compile such a lengthy list of Bs for the *Post Roads*. Now it's time to start searching for the Cs!

Sword (continued from page 3)

The return of the Yankee sword, symbolic of repaired relations between north and south, received national attention, including coverage in the *New York Times*.

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Gussie Reese, Ed., *This they Remembered*, Washington Publishing Co., Washington GA 1965.

Florrie C. Smith, *History of Oglethorpe County, Georgia*, Wilkes Publishing Co., Washington GA. 1970.

Post Script**There was no Winter or Spring**

Post Roads did not publish Winter or Spring 2011 issues, due to lack of submitted material and the editor's general lack of time. We have produced Summer and Fall issues rather close together to try to make amends. Members desiring more frequent issues or growing tired of Oglethorpe County, might consider submitting an article. Your editor can produce an issue rather quickly when material is at hand. Writing articles takes a little longer.

GPHS 2011 Meeting

The Georgia Postal History Society meets annually at the Southeastern Stamp Show in the

Atlanta area. This year there was no show, but the 2012 show will be held earlier than usual in the year, together with the APS winter meeting (Ameristamp Expo), January 27-29 at the Cobb Galleria Centre, 2 Galleria Parkway, Atlanta.

GPHS will share a table with the Southeastern Federation of Stamp Clubs at the show and members are invited to stop by for postal history discussion or to spend a few hours helping mind the table.

A Society meeting will be scheduled, although no formal presentation is planned at this writing. Show and tell objects of Georgia postal history are always welcome.

Georgia Post Roads

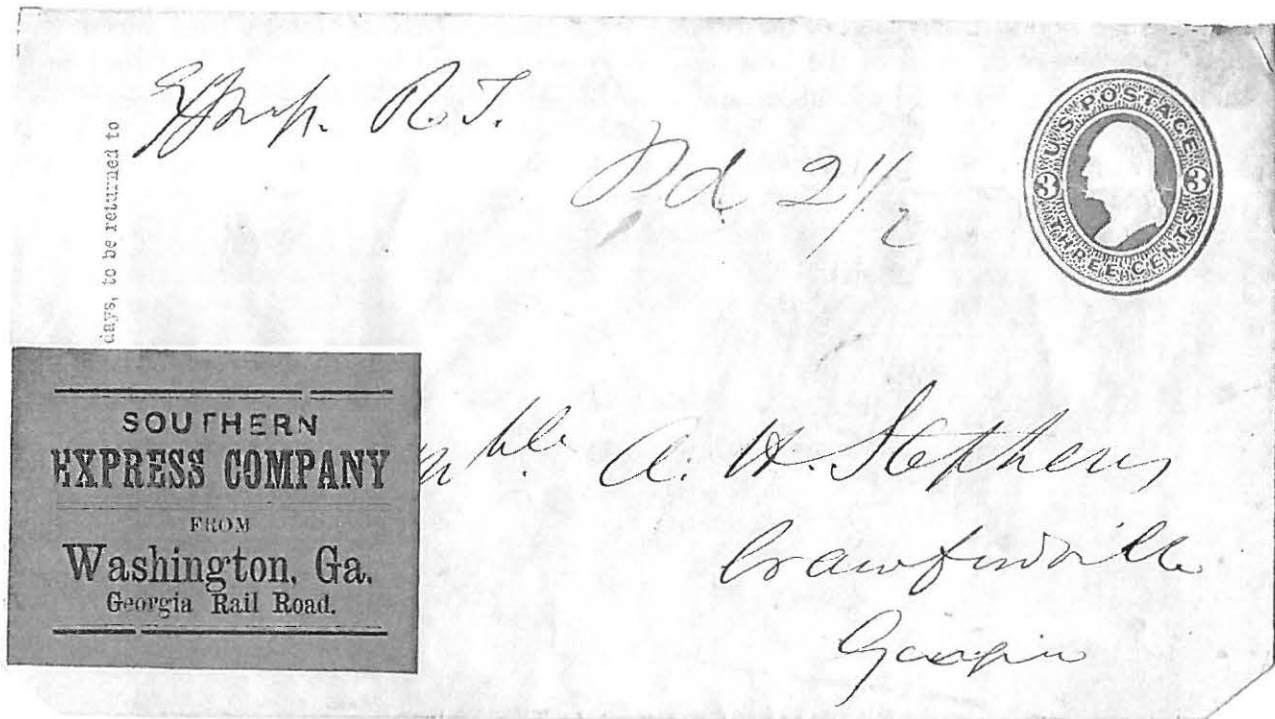
Volume 20, Number 1

Spring 2012

Whole Number 79

Journal of the Georgia Postal History Society

American Philatelic Society Affiliate No. 224



Southern Express Company cover from Washington, GA to Crawfordville, December 30, 1871.
Label originated on reverse of cover.

Story on page 2.

Articles for publication may be submitted in the form of typed manuscripts or, preferably, on disk or via email. The editor should be contacted before transmission.

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<<http://www.stampclubs.com/gphs/index.htm>>

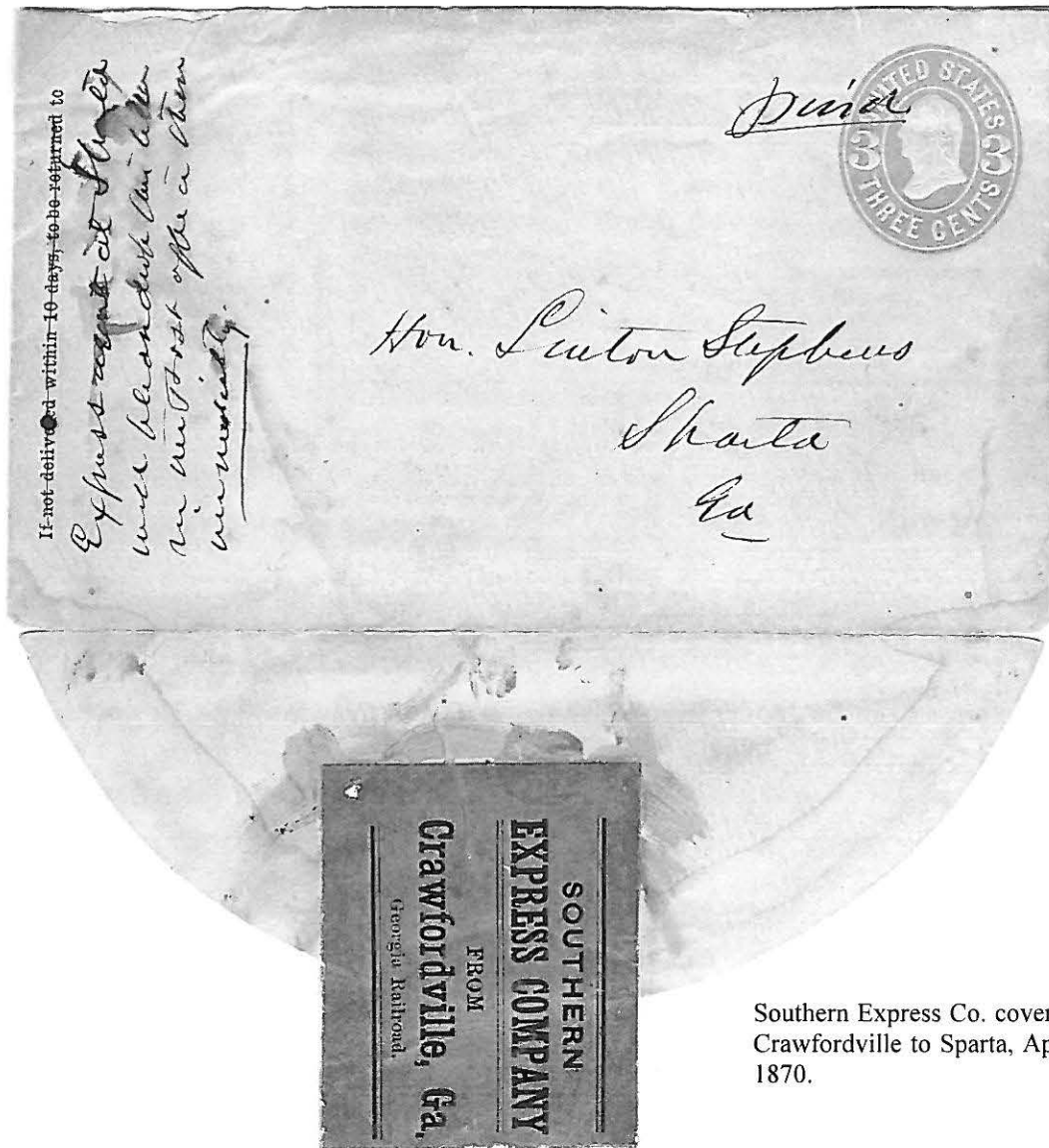
Southern Express Company - Post War

Douglas N. Clark

The Southern Express Company in the confederacy, in particular the history of its formation as a renaming of the Southern Division of the Adams Express Company at the start of the War, is dealt with in detail in the book by Walske and Trepel.

ed safety for transmission of money or other valuable goods, still obtained during the reconstruction. Frank Crown's book on the turbulent decade paints a vivid picture of the very early days after the surrender of the south. At that time, the Southern Express Company was recommended over the post office for the transmission of letters.

Postwar letters carried by private express companies (except for railroad business letters) were required by the U.S. Post Office to be contained in postal stationery envelopes. This was a



Southern Express Co. cover, from Crawfordville to Sparta, April 16, 1870.

The company continued to operate after the war. The reasons for its use to convey letters during the war: deterioration of the postal service and add-

change, for express companies in the south, from the situation during the war, when post office franking with adhesive stamps or postage paid in

cash were acceptable, as stamped envelopes were obtainable in only a few towns (with postal stationery provisionals). During the war, covers used to send money were identifiable, as the sender could avoid the requirement of postage franking by docking the envelope as a money letter. After the war, this exception no longer obtained, so such notations are rarely seen. So it is not always easy to tell why Southern Express was used in preference to the mail in the postwar days.

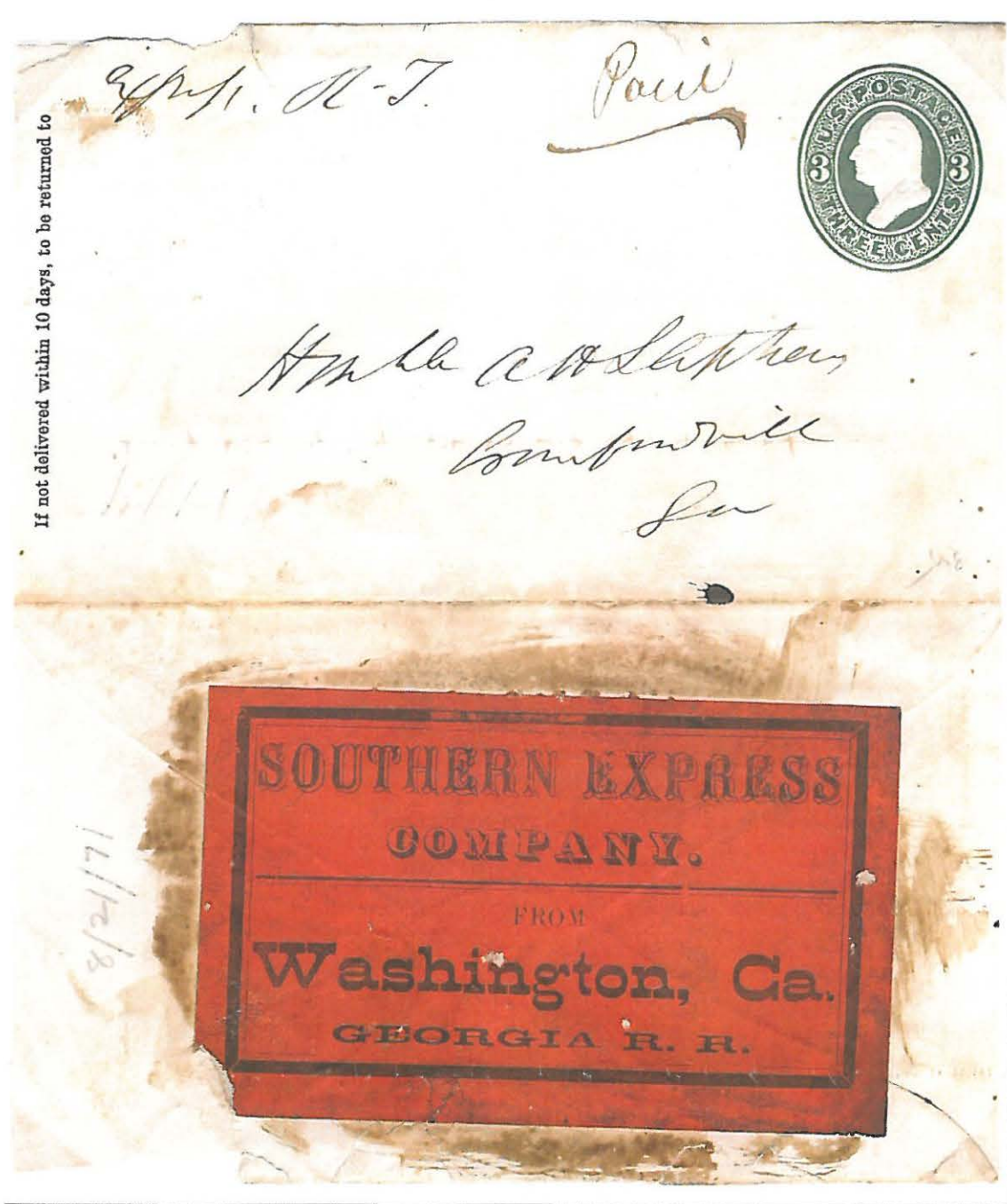
Walske and Trepel illustrate a number of Southern Express covers sent during the war and I wrote about one in the Summer 2011 *Post Roads*.

Confederate uses are not plentiful but exist from a handful of Georgia towns. Southern Express Company letters, postwar, typically bear company labels. B.H. Mosher's book lists eight Georgia town names appearing on labels

- Athens (3 types)
- Augusta
- Crawfordville
- Maxey's
- Newnan
- Savannah
- Sparta (3 types)
- Tunnel Hill



Front and back of Sparta cover with Southern Express Co. label, docketed April 17, 1872.



Southern Express Co. Washington, GA label, August 21, 1871.

Mosher also notes that “Many .. labels were issued with other city/town names printed on them.”

Shown here are Southern Express Co. covers with the Crawfordville and Sparta labels (pages

2 and 3) and also two Washington, GA labels on cover not listed in Masher’s book (pages 1 and above).



Maxey's Southern Express Company label. Date and usage not known.

The Sparta cover bears the usual express company franking "Paid 2/-" meaning two bits (25¢). The Crawfordville cover has only "Paid" without an amount, but bears the sender's notation "Express agent at Sparta will please hand this letter in the Post Office w others immediately."

Inexplicably the first cover with a Washington label has "Pd 2½." Perhaps this is just a slip of the express agent's pen? The single postal franking (3¢) implies that it was not overweight.

A fourth label, off cover, is from the Maxey's office. The tiny town of Maxey's (population less than 357 in 1880) is located on the Athens branch of the Georgia Railroad.

All of the covers shown here are addressed to (or are from) Alexander H. Stephens and almost all the Georgia offices listed by Mosher are in the general vicinity of Stephens' home of Crawfordville. This makes one wonder if former Vice President Stephens' frequent use of the Southern Express affected the establishment of offices (supplied with printed labels) in the proximity of

his home. Or did every railroad depot have a Southern Express office with its supply of printed labels? Possibly the sample we are just seeing is skewed by the large quantity of the Stephens correspondence available to collectors.

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“A Recorded Message from Your Man in Service” Unique Atlanta Postal History

Steve Swain

One of my specialty stamp collections is U.S. fractional postage, sometimes referred to as “partial cent” stamps: the 1922 ½¢ Nathan Hale, the 1932 1½¢ George Washington, the ½¢ Franklin, 1½¢ Martha Washington and 4½¢ White House of the 1938 “Prexies” issue, and so on. I collect mint singles, precancels, covers, post cards, etc. Whatever meets the “partial cent” criteria.

Several years ago, I was rummaging through some boxes containing photographs, maga-

zines, post cards and envelopes in an antique store on St. Simons Island, GA, hoping to discover some additions to my collection and I came across a first-rate item. An oddly sized envelope, franked with a 1½¢ Martha Washington, caught my eye and I quickly pulled it from the box. But, as I was to learn, this piece provided more than just another fine example of fractional postage. It was a unique slice of World War II memorabilia and Atlanta postal history.

The item I purchased, shown in Figure 1, was mailed in 1943 from Washington, D.C., by Pvt. (Private) J.H. Smith, Ft. Geo. G. Meade, Maryland to Mrs. J.H. Smith, 443 3RD St. N.W., Atlanta, GA. The 1½¢ Martha Washington stamp satisfied the third class matter rate at the time.

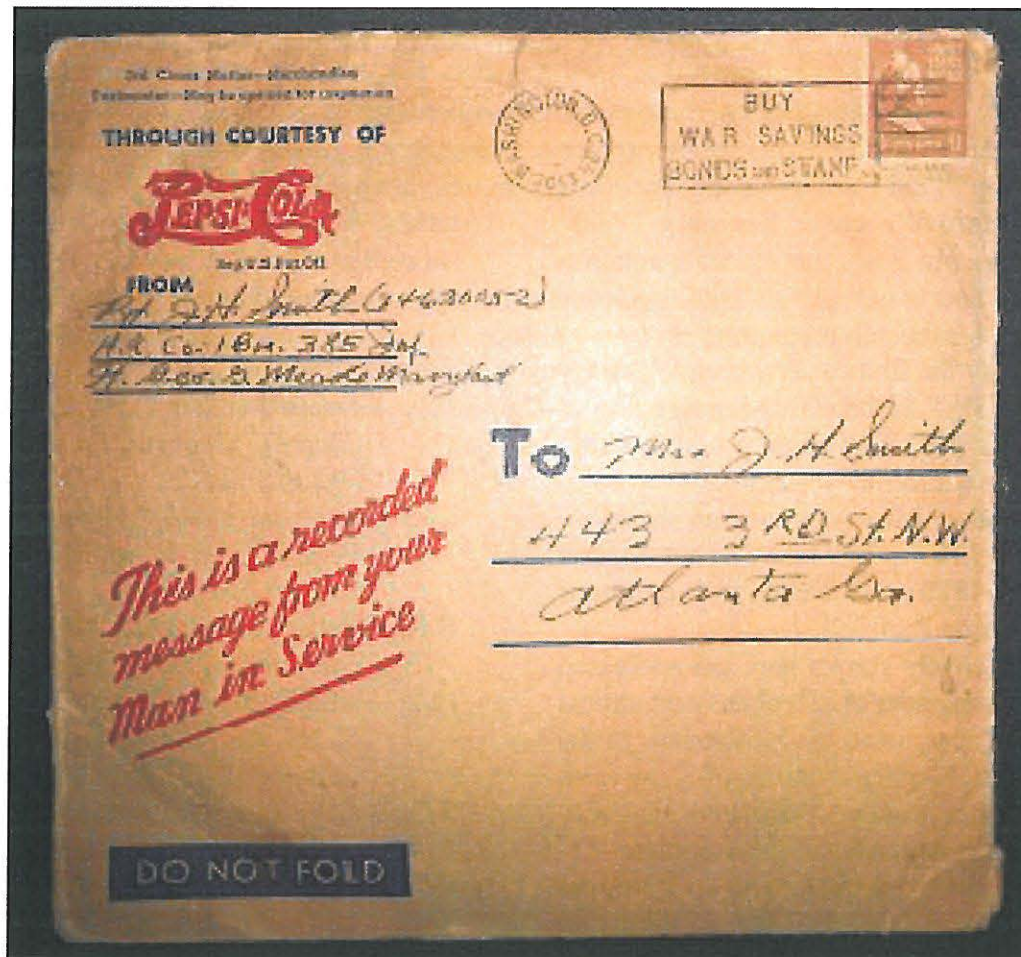


Figure 1



Figure 2

The distinctive nature of this piece was that it contained a 6½-inch, 78 RPM. phonograph record. See Figure 2.

As stated on the envelope, the disk had “a recorded message from your Man in Service.” We can only assume that Pvt. Smith was the son of Mrs. J.H. Smith, the “Man in Service” mailing a recording of his voice to his Atlanta home.

A bit of research on the “Through Courtesy of Pepsi-Cola” notation on the envelope revealed that during World War II, the Pepsi-Cola Company operated three canteens, or centers, around the country: one in New York City’s Times Square, one in Washington, D.C. and one in San Francisco, CA. The centers had low cost sandwich bars with free Pepsi and also offered shaves, showers and a lounge with reading and writing facilities, all at no cost to service men and women. It was at these canteens that millions of service men and women recorded audio letters during the war years courtesy of Pepsi-Cola.

And, representatives of the Pepsi-Cola company brought a portable disc recorder to selected U.S. training centers where young soldiers were being prepared for the Second World War. The “recorded message from your Man in Service”

could also be created while in training.

The personal recorded message on the disks was introduced with, “Dear friend, just this minute completed recording the voice of your man in service. You will be happy to know that he is thinking of you and greatly enjoyed sending you this personal message. Cordially Pepsi.

Like most recordable disks, the surfaces of the Pepsi records were made from acetate. But given a cost control strategy by Pepsi, the records were not “professionally” created. Instead, they were made of cardboard with a thin veneer of acetate. Over the years, the paper absorbed moisture causing it to swell and crack the acetate coating, rendering most of the disks difficult, if not impossible, to play.

But if you would like to listen to a disk that has survived the test of time, visit www.youtube.com and search for “Your Man in Service acetate recordings” where you will locate several somewhat scratchy, but reasonably clear, recordings.

A little slice of World War II memorabilia and Atlanta postal history brought to you courtesy of the Pepsi-Cola company.

Post Script

There was no Winter Georgia Post Roads did not publish a winter 2012 issue, due to lack of submitted material and the editor's general lack of time. Members desiring more frequent issues or growing tired of Oglethorpe County, might consider submitting an article. Your editor can produce an issue rather quickly when material is at hand. Writing articles takes a little longer.

GPHS 2012 Meeting The Georgia Postal History Society meets annually at the Southeastern Stamp Show in the Atlanta area. This year Southeast Stamp Show was held jointly with the winter APS "AmeriStamp Expo.," which became the AmeriStamp & Southeastern Stamp Expo. Our society held a meeting and enjoyed an interesting presentation by our Vice President Ed Jackson. The power point

presentation included images of Confederate stamps and covers and other stamps with subjects related to the War, on this, the 150th anniversary of its second year.

At AmeriStamp & Southeastern Stamp Expo, we learned that Southeastern Stamp Show is back on track for 2013, with a new date and a new venue. The show will be held January 25-27 at the Hilton Atlanta Northeast, 5993 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, Norcross GA 30092. For up to date news about the show, keep an eye on the Southeast Federation web site

<www.stampclubs.com>.

And while you are there, check out our Society's site. From the Federation home page, just go to Clubs, then Philatelic Societies and there you will find the GPHS.

Application for Membership

Georgia Postal History Society

I HEREBY APPLY FOR ADMISSION TO MEMBERSHIP IN THE GEORGIA POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY.
DUES OF \$5.00 IN U.S. FUNDS ARE SUBMITTED HEREWITH.

NAME (Print).....

ADDRESS (Print).....

Collecting Interests.....

Other Club Affiliations.....

Signature.....

References (preferably philatelic)

1. Name.....

Address.....

2. Name.....

Address.....

GPHS welcomes everyone to membership. References are really not required (we hope you are not a low life).

Send membership application to
Jim McDevitt, Secretary
3561 Country Court N.
Mobile AL 36619

Georgia Post Roads

Volume 20, Number 2

Summer 2012

Whole Number 80

Journal of the Georgia Postal History Society

American Philatelic Society Affiliate No. 224



Southern Express Company label from Flowery Branch,
Story on page 3.

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The Trail of Tears as Recalled by U.S. Stamps and Postal History

Ed Jackson

One of the saddest events in U.S. history was the forced removal of Cherokee Indians from Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, and North Carolina in 1838 – an event widely known as the “Trail of Tears.”

Before looking at philatelic ties to the Trail of Tears, this article will briefly examine the history why this tragic episode in American history happened.

Background to the Trail of Tears

Until 1802, Georgia stretched westward to the Mississippi River. Over 90 percent of its land, however, was occupied by Indians—principally Cherokee, Creek (also known as Muscogee), Seminole, Choctaw, and Chickasaw. After Georgia transferred its western lands to the U.S. government, whites increasingly demanded that the Indians give up their lands and move west. However, in an effort to hold on to their native lands, the five major Indian tribes increasingly adopted many characteristics of white culture, leading to them being known as the “Five Civilized Tribes.”

In the eyes of many white Americans, the most “civilized” of all the Indian tribes were the Cherokees. Whites considered the Cherokees to be advanced far beyond other tribal groups because they had adopted so much of the white culture. Missionaries were allowed to operate churches and schools, and many Cherokees accepted Christianity. A surprising number of Cherokee leaders were educated, spoke English, dressed like whites, and even owned slaves. They lived in houses and made a living from farming or operating stores, mills, taverns, inns, and ferries. Some were even lawyers and teachers.

Despite the Cherokees’ success in cultivating white culture, most whites rejected the idea that Indians could live alongside whites. Also, Geor-

gia’s political leaders refused to accept the idea of a Cherokee “nation” existing within the boundaries of the state. In 1828, the Georgia General Assembly passed an act extending the laws of the state and the authority of its courts over the Cherokees.

Cherokee efforts to retain their homelands received a fatal blow after gold was discovered on the eastern boundary of the Cherokee Nation in 1828. Thousands of gold seekers poured into north Georgia in the nation’s first gold rush. U.S. troops were sent in to drive miners off Indian lands, but Georgia officials protested federal interference in state affairs.

The Beginning of the End

Under previous presidents, the U.S. government had recognized the right of the Cherokees to form a nation within states of the union. But after he took office in March 1829, Pres. Andrew Jackson asked Congress to pass an Indian removal bill, giving him more power in Indian matters. Though he once had claimed to be the Indians’ friend, Jackson now was convinced that the Cherokees had to leave Georgia and other states and resettle west of the Mississippi River.

As of June 1830, Georgia claimed that there no longer was a Cherokee Nation. Rather, all territory occupied by the Cherokees in Georgia was now be considered under the control of state officials. Despite the protestations of Cherokee leaders, Georgia began surveying Cherokee lands and prepared to distribute these lands to whites in a great land lottery in 1832. After the lottery, many white winners began crossing into the Cherokee Nation to claim their newly won bounty—even though Cherokees were still living on the land.

While most Cherokees followed Chief John Ross in refusing to give up their lands and move west, another group under the leadership of Major Ridge, his son John, Elias Boundinot, Stand Watie, and others, believed their cause was lost and that it was better for their people to move west. In 1835, the Ridge faction signed a treaty with the United States at New Echota, the Cherokee capital located near present-day Calhoun, Ga. Under the terms of this treaty, they agreed to give up all Cher-

okee lands in Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, and North Carolina and move west in return for \$5 million. However, the majority of the Cherokee Nation, led by John Ross, opposed the treaty.

In June 1837, U.S. commissioners called a meeting of leaders of the Ridge faction at New Echota for the purpose of negotiating for a fall emigration of Cherokees to the west. Meanwhile, Chief John Ross called for Cherokees opposing emigration to meet at Red Clay, just over the Georgia line in Tennessee to plan their course of action.

Though some Cherokees voluntarily migrated to the west, the vast majority refused. President Andrew Jackson decided that the Cherokees had to go and ordered U.S. Army troops, under Gen. Winfield Scott, to begin rounding up Cherokees. Wooden stockades were built to house the Indians until they could be sent west.

Although Gen. Scott ordered his men to treat the Cherokees humanely, many of his men did not. One Georgia soldier wrote many years later, "I fought through the Civil War, and have seen men shot to pieces and slaughtered by thousands, but the Cherokee removal was the cruelest work I ever knew."

Some Cherokees were sent west by river, but most marched on foot in the dead of winter. Exposed to bitter cold and disease, thousands of men, women, and children died. The Cherokees' suffering was so great that the route they took became forever known as the "Trail of Tears."

Philatelic Items Related to the Trail of Tears

a. Stamps. Despite its prominent place in American history, no U.S. stamps have been released that commemorate the Trail of Tears. However, a total of four stamps and one postal card have a Cherokee tie. Three of the four stamps, plus the postal card, also have an association with the Trail of Tears.



1937 adhesive, Scott #786



1948 adhesive Scott #972



1995 adhesive #29751



1980 adhesive
Scott #1859

The first of these is part of the ten-stamp Army-Navy series issued in 1937. The 2-cent stamp (Scott 786) shows Andrew Jackson (who ordered the removal of the Cherokees) and Gen. Winfield Scott (who carried out the Trail of Tears).

The second stamp with a tie to Cherokee removal was a 3-cent stamp issued in 1948 commemorating the centennial of the "Five Civilized Tribes" in Oklahoma (Scott 972). All of the five tribes noted on the stamp once were located in the boundaries of pre-1802 Georgia, and two of the tribes—Muscogee (Creek) and Cherokee—had existed in post-1802 Georgia. All five tribes had been removed from their ancestral homes to the Indian territory in what would become Oklahoma.

The third stamp with a tie to the Trail of Tears was a 32-cent stamp issued in 1995 that recognizes Cherokee Stand Watie (Scott 29751). Watie was a Confederate general during the Civil War. But back in 1835, he had been a member of the Ridge faction that had signed the Treaty of New Echota. He was one of the few leaders in the treaty faction that was not later assassinated by Cherokees for their action.

The Stand Watie stamp design was also used for the 20-cent indicium on a 1995 postal card (UX 211).

The final U.S. stamp with a Cherokee tie was a 1980 19-cent stamp showing Sequoyah, inventor of the Cherokee syllabary (Scott 1859). The issue was part of the Great Americans series of definitive stamps. However, though a Cherokee, Sequoyah had no association with the Trail of Tears.

b. Postal History. Historians have referenced a number of letters and memorials written by Cherokee leaders prior to the Trail of Tears, and several by U.S. soldiers who participated in the

(Continued on page 6)

Southern Express Company - Post War—Redux

Letter to the Editor

Re the “Southern Express Company - Post War” article by Douglas Clark in the Spring 2012 issue of *Georgia Post Roads*. This is an excellent article but it contains two long standing myths about Confederate postal history.

Myth 1 – Express companies were authorized to carry mail **in the Confederacy**. This is only partially true. Under the Act of 15 March 1861 express companies were permitted to carry mail provided the proper Confederate postage was paid. Many times express companies failed to pay the required postage. This abuse became so bad Postmaster General Reagan requested a change in the law. The Act of 19 April 1862 revoked that section of the earlier act that allowed express companies to carry mail. It was replaced by a provision that reinstated the US 1859 Postal Laws and Regulations that governed the carriage of mail by express companies. Under these laws and regulations express companies were allowed to carry mail provided it was in a stamped envelope (postal stationary). Since the Confederate Post Office Department did not have stamped envelopes express companies were effectively prohibited from carrying mail. This legal maneuver is confirmed in Post-master General Reagan’s Report to the President dated May 2, 1864. Although it was illegal for express companies to carry mail starting 1 June 1862 it did not completely stop the practice. This is evidenced by express covers dated after this date.

Myth 2 – Money letters could be sent post free **in the Confederacy**. The Act of 23 February 1861 states that “every single sealed letter” was to be charged letter postage. There was no exception for money letters. In fact the term is not even used in this or subsequent legislation. The same act provided for the carriage of “money packages” at double the letter rate. This provision was amended by the Act of 13 May 1861

which reduced the rate on money packages to that charged for letters.

Francis J. Crown, Jr.

Editor’s Note: The author’s assertions about mail carried by express companies and free postage on money letters came from the reference *Special Mail Routes of the American Civil War: A Guide to Across-the-Lines Postal History*, by S.C. Walske and S.R. Trepel. In a recent conversation with the editor, Scott Trepel conceded Frank Crown’s points about the postal legislation in the Confederacy, but pointed out that many examples of mail carried by express companies are recorded.

Additional Listings

B.H. Mosher, author of *Catalog of Private Express Labels and Stamps*, the key reference on the Southern Express Company postwar labels, has been kind enough to submit illustrations of three newly discovered examples from Georgia towns, shown below and on cover page 1.



Rare Georgia Cover Combination Highlights Scott CSA #10 "Frame Line" Issue

Steve Swain

Arguably the rarest and most expensive of the CSA issues is the 10¢ Jefferson Davis "Frame Line." Scott CSA #10. An example of this issue shown to the right in Figure 1.

As all experienced Confederate collectors know, this issue is referred to as the Frame Line to distinguish it specifically from Scott CSA #11, Type 1, which has essentially the same design without the bordering frames. The lines framing the portrait of Jefferson Davis on the #10 stamp were intended to be guidelines for making transfers of the stamp's image from the engraved steel plate to the copper plate used for the final printing.

What better way to fully understand and appreciate the distinctive nature of the CSA #10



Figure 1.
CSA #10 Frame Line Issue.

An exceptional and certainly a very rarely seen combination usage of CSA #11 with the Frame Line issue is the cover shown in Figure 2. Addressed to the Vice President at Crawfordville, Taliaferro Co., Geo., the two issues are tied by the Milledgeville, Ga., CDS (with a second strike of the same CDS at the left). The combination usage satisfied the double rate at the time.

Seen in Figure 3, the full 4-margin CSA #11 (on the left side of the pair) very clearly illustrates the distinctive difference with the Frame Line issue on the right.



Figure 3
Magnified Cover Combination.

The CSA #10 is also a 4-margin example with a full frame line on the right. The CSA #11 stamp overlaps the left side of the frame line stamp and only a very small part of the line at the left can be seen above the overlap, prompting a speculation that a full frame line may also exist beneath the overlap.

Given the the relative scarcity of the Frame Line issue itself and the rare combination of the CSA #11 and #10, the Georgia cover commands a current selling price of \$4,500 (per John Kimbrough's Confederate stamps and covers web site).

Searches through multiple auction sites and Confederate postal history sites did not reveal a cover similar to the Georgia combination cover. This

Georgia postal history rarity may truly be rarer than first assumed.



Figure 2.
CSA #11 and CSA #10 Georgia Cover Combination.

Frame Line than to see it on cover paired with a CSA #11?

(Continued from page 3)

Trail of Tears. Additionally, there are some letters associated with the Cherokee land lottery. All are stampless covers, since postage stamps had not yet been invented. Since the content of such letters is so important to historians, collectors of postal history have few opportunities to obtain Trail of Tears items.

Obviously, postal history items with a tie to the Trail of Tears do exist. However, I have only come across one item, which I was fortunate enough to add to my collection.

In June 1837, U.S. commissioners called a meeting of Cherokee leaders of the Ridge faction at New Echota to negotiate for a fall emigration of Cherokees to the west. Meanwhile, Chief John Ross called for Cherokees opposed to emigration to meet at Red Clay, a tribal meeting place in Tennessee just north of the Georgia state line.

In light of the fact that most Cherokees planned to resist voluntarily leaving their homeland, U.S. Army troops were stationed at New Echota in Georgia. One of the soldier was A.S. Senoir. I haven't been able to find anything his first name, his rank, or anything else about him. But on July 15, 1837, he sent a letter to Maj. William B. Senoir (who I assume was his father) in Lenoir, Tennessee.

The address side of the cover shows it addressed to "Maj. William B. Senoir, Post Master,

Lenoir, E. Tenn." There is no reference to postage due or paid, and only the notation "Mail," but the letter was entitled to be sent free, since it was addressed to a postmaster. Finally, there is the notation, "New Echota Ga, July 15" and some squiggly lines, a typical manuscript postmark.

In his letter, Senoir talks about the arrival of cattle (apparently purchased to either feed the Cherokees or his fellow soldiers), John Ross's plan to hold a council at Red Clay, and the local army commander's plan to stop Ross unless notified otherwise by the War Department. A portion of the letter reads:

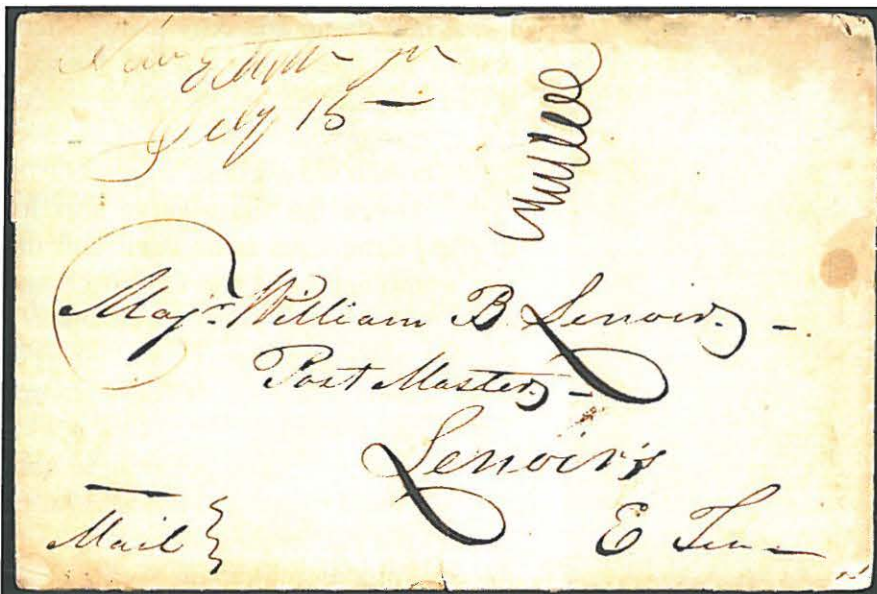
"... Avery got here last Monday with 51 head of cattle, pretty good beef, cost pretty high, & are pretty troublesome... It is very healthy here at this time. The Commissioners have adjourned until the 1st Monday in September & also the Committee. John Ross has a Council appointed at Red Clay 31st Inst. Col. Lindsay says he shall not hold it unless gets orders from the War department not to interfere. Should he hold a Council it will put a check to the little spirit of emigration that exists among them.

"I know nothing more about Avery's prospects of continuing here than when I wrote from the Agency. As yet he has had not time to learn any thing of the business that would devole [sic] on him, but hope he will be at leisure in a few days, as he has an indian employed to attend to his cattle,

which I am in hopes will relieve [sic] him of much further trouble after he gets the cattle all together - which we may do to day. Have made way with four small ones.

"A triweekly Mail commences to day by this place to Spring Place - it will shortly be carried on stages... "

The Spring Place referred to was an important Cherokee stop on the Federal Road that cut through the Cherokee Nation, connecting Augusta with Ross's Landing on the Tennessee River (which today is Chattanooga). It is unclear how much mail was carried to and from the Cherokee Nation, but there were a number of missionaries in the Nation—and correspondence would have been important to them.



1837 cover with (manuscript) postmark of New Echota. Sent free to postmaster.

New Echota Ga 15th July 1837.

Dear Sir

Your 4th was rec^d last Saturday -
 Avery got here last Monday with 51 head of cattle, pretty
 good beef, coat, pretty high, & are pretty team-blossoms &c.

It is very healthy here at this time - The Commission-
 -ers have adjourned until the 1st Monday in September,
 & also the Committee - John Peep has a Council
 appointed at Red Clay 31st Inst. - Col. Lindsey says he
 shall not hold it, unless he gets orders from the War
 department not to interfere - Should be told a
 Council it will put a check to the little spirit of
 emigration that exists among them -

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 be at leisure in a few days, as he has an Indian
 employed to attend to his cattle, which I am in hopes
 will relieve him of much further trouble after he gets
 the cattle all together - which we may do to day -
 Have made way with four small ones -

A tri weekly Mail, commences to day by this place
 to Spring Place - It will shortly be carried on stages -

Will brother Thomas be good enough to get Mr
 Ferguson to make a neat, strong box, with a Lock &
 lid, of dimensions just sufficient to contain my Rifle,
 (when taken out of the stock) and the accoutrements, ^{shot pouch &c.} and
 have it adapted to packing snugly? - I think he will.
 (It will be best to have it lined with flannel or some-
 thing else) - And if he hears nothing more from me
 by the time it is ready, start it by the stage to this place.

If there should be no chance of sending the key, it could
 be tacked to the box secretly some how -

I am aware that it will put you to some trouble, &
 that it will cost me something - but it is much the
 safest way of transportation - If I should not want her
 sent here, I will to Calhoun, & then back again, when I
 get out of the service - & then - I don't know where,
 maybe, to divers, places, as I shall probably keep her as
 long as I have any use for a gun -

All I can say on the subject of goods, is, I am sorry

Post Script

Dues appeal

Approximately 6 months ago, our Secretary, Jim Mc Devitt, sent out dues notices. The response was not heartening. The Society cannot afford to print and distribute *Georgia Post Roads* without the financial support of the membership.

Kindly send your annual dues to our Treasurer, Nancy Clark, at Post Office Box 427, Marstons Mills, MA 02648 before October 15 if you wish to continue to be considered a responsible member of the Society.

Five dollars for four issues does not seem too onerous a fee.

Application for Membership

Georgia Postal History Society

I HEREBY APPLY FOR ADMISSION TO MEMBERSHIP IN THE GEORGIA POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY.
DUES OF \$5.00 IN U.S. FUNDS ARE SUBMITTED HEREWITH.

NAME (Print).....

ADDRESS (Print).....

Collecting Interests.....

Other Club Affiliations.....

Signature.....

References (preferably philatelic)

1. Name.....

Address.....

2. Name.....

Address.....

GPHS welcomes everyone to membership. References are really not required (we hope you are not a low life).

Send membership application to
Jim McDevitt, Secretary
3561 Country Court N.
Mobile AL 36619

Georgia Post Roads

Volume 20, Number 3

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Journal of the Georgia Postal History Society

American Philatelic Society Affiliate No. 224



Postmark of Lawton [station] #12 A.& G.R.R.
Story on page 2

Articles for publication may be submitted in the form of typed manuscripts or, preferably, on disk or via email. The editor should be contacted before transmission.

Douglas N. Clark, Editor
P.O. Box 427
Marstons Mills MA 02648
<dnc@math.uGa.edu>

Georgia Postal History Society membership is open to everyone with an interest in philately related to the state of Georgia. Dues are \$5 per year. Contact:

Jim McDevitt, Secretary
3561 Country Ct. N.
Mobile AL 36619

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The Society's web site is
<<http://www.stampclubs.com/gphs/index.htm>>

Lawton, Clinch County, Georgia

Douglas N. Clark

Lawton was in the southeastern part of the state, on the Atlantic & Gulf Railroad, right where the line to Columbus, Florida branches off. A map from an 1866 edition of *Appletons' Illustrated Railway Guide*, shows this (see below).

Helbock's *United States Post Offices* (Volume 8) states that Lawton had a post office from 1860 to 1874. Kenneth Krakow's *Georgia Place Names* states that the town "was known as Station 12 when the railroad first came through;" and he states that the earliest name was Suwanoochee (1858), changed to Lawton until 1874, when it was changed to Dupont. I am grateful for this reference to Frank Crown, who tells me that his post office records show establishment in 1860, and change to Suwanoochee the same year. Richard E. Small's book *The Post Offices of Georgia, 1864-1900*, shows Dupont's post office established in 1874. Helbock does not list a Dupont, Georgia.

Another reference, which I trust, is John Kay's *Directory of Route Agent Routes*, because I knew Kay's personal research in post office records. Kay listed Lawton & Albany (route) Agt. Replaced by Dupont & Albany on January 20, 1875.

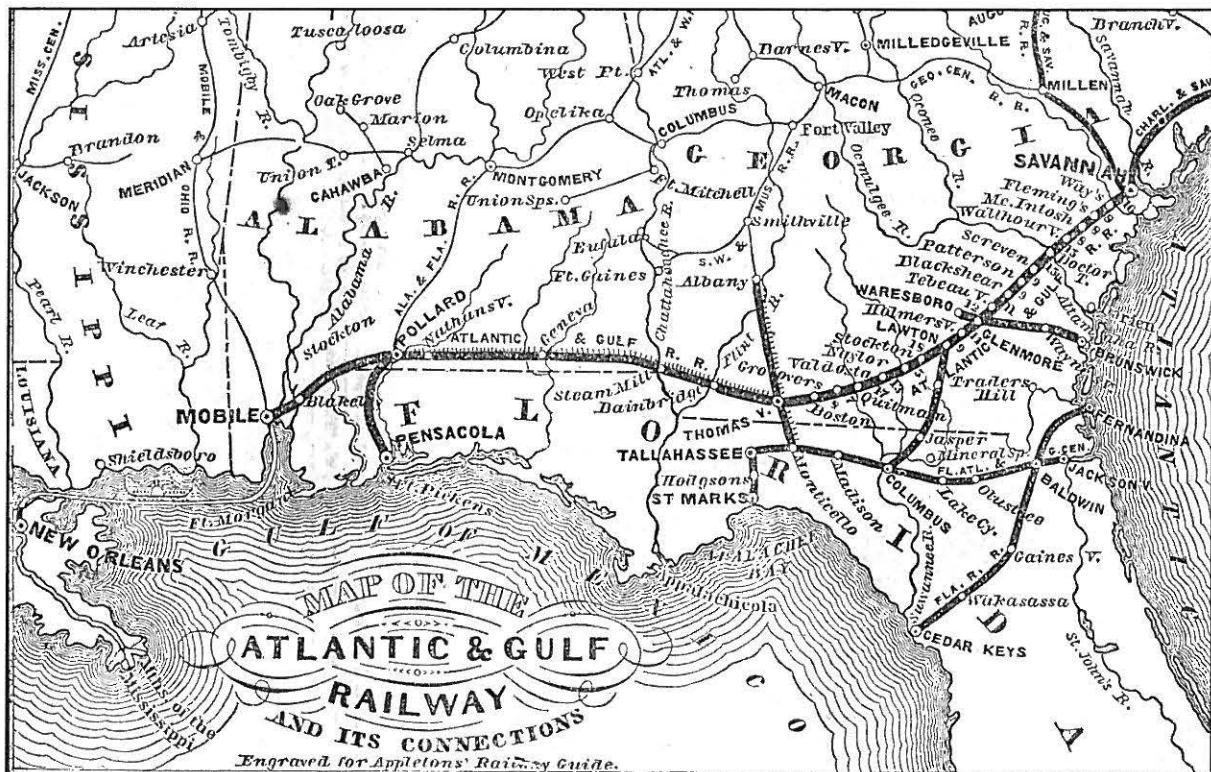
So Lawton and Dupont must be different towns, right? But the length of the Lawton & Albany route was 127 miles whereas the length of the Dupont & Albany was 126! Dupont and Lawton must have been *approximately* the same town.

The Lawton cover shown on page 1 is rather interesting because it actually bears a Lawton station agent postmark, reading "Lawton #12, A.& G.R.[R.]" and dated April 8, 1872.

Handstamped markings of station agents are well known, especially during the Confederacy, but the exact definition of a station agent, including the associated duties, do not appear in the postal laws and postal historians do not know their precise relationship to railway mail. One possibility is that the station agent markings were applied by local postmasters who happened to work in the depots or to have access to the railroad's ticket dater. Elliott Perry is supposed to have suggested that they be referred to as "ticket office town cancellations."

However, the Lawton station agent postmark, being in manuscript, can hardly be the result of a borrowed postmarking device. Whoever applied it must have had a reason for including the railroad data with the town name and date.

I do not know whether other town postmarks are known from Lawton in Clinch County.



Augusta, Georgia CSA #13c Bisects

Steve Swain

Issued June 1, 1863, the Archer & Daley 20-cent George Washington, CSA #13 (Figure 1), was typically used to pay the 20-cent overweight double letter rate. Pairs are also known paying the 40-cent Trans-Mississippi rate.



Figure 1
20-Cent Washington, CSA #13

Interestingly, a primary objective for the issuance of the stamp was for use as small change given the hoarding of all coinage during the early years of the American Civil War.

When supplies of the regular 10-cent stamps were exhausted or requisitions for 10-cent stamps were delayed by the war, postmasters in a number of Confederate cities bisected their CSA #13s and sold these as 10-cent stamps.

Ironically, individual Post Office patrons were discouraged from bisecting a 20-cent stamp as evidenced by the following notice in the *Richmond Daily Examiner* of April 24, 1863:

"POSTAGE STAMPS. From ignorance or other causes, a number of letters have been put in the post office boxes with halves of the twenty cent stamps attached to them for postage.

"These letters go to the Dead Letter Office.

The stamps, of course, cannot be divided to represent different denominations, and the public are requested to take notice of this, to save their mail matter from the Dead Letter Office."

Despite this public warning, many postal patrons continued to send letters using bisects, and very few were relegated to the Dead Letter Office.

During the early part of October 1864, the Augusta, Georgia, Post Office depleted its inventory of 10-cent stamps and for about one week Postmaster James M. Smythe bisected the 20-cent stamps he had on hand and readily sold them to Augusta patrons.

Assuming Postmaster Smythe's actions sanctioned an acceptable policy, Augusta residents did not hesitate to bisect and use 20-cent stamps they already had in their possession.

But in spite of the apparent pervasive use of the bisected CSA #13, only a very few diagonally-halved bisect examples from Augusta, Georgia, survived the war. Some estimates are not more than eight. No horizontal cut examples are recorded from Augusta.

Presented below are seven of the known diagonally bisected examples from Augusta.

Mrs. Albert Smith Cover

To "Mrs. Albert Smith, Care Lieut Col. A. J. Smith, Chief of Pay Department, Macon, Georgia", the cover in Figure 2 has a CSA #13c (bisect) tied by an "AUGUSTA Ga./OCT 6" [1864] CDS.



Confederate military records show that Lieut. Col. A. J. Smith was assigned on May 6, 1862 as Chief in the pay department to General Braxton Bragg's Army of the Mississippi forces headquartered in Corinth, Miss.

Mrs. Octavia M. Read Cover

Also tied by an "Augusta, Ga./Oct. 6" [1864] CDS, Figure 3 shows a bisected CSA #13c on a cover to Charlotte, N.C. Several years ago, this cover sold at auction for \$4,500.

Research did not reveal any information about Octavia Read, Charlotte, or a spouse or son serving in the Confederate army.

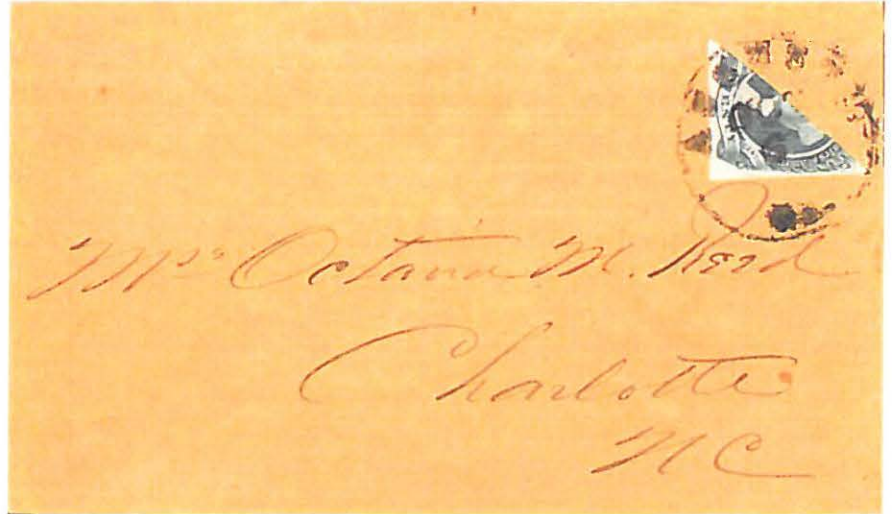


Figure 3
To Mrs. Octavia M. Read, Charlotte, NC

Adversity Covers to Danville, Va.

Figures 4 and 5 show homemade paper adversity covers, both to Danville, Va., tied by an

"Augusta, Ga./Oct. _" [1864] CDS. A more precise date for the mailing of the Figure 4 cover is revealed by the Oct. 7, 1864 business letter enclosure. Both covers have C.S.A certificates.



Figure 5
Danville, VA adversity cover.

Figure 4
Danville, VA adversity cover.



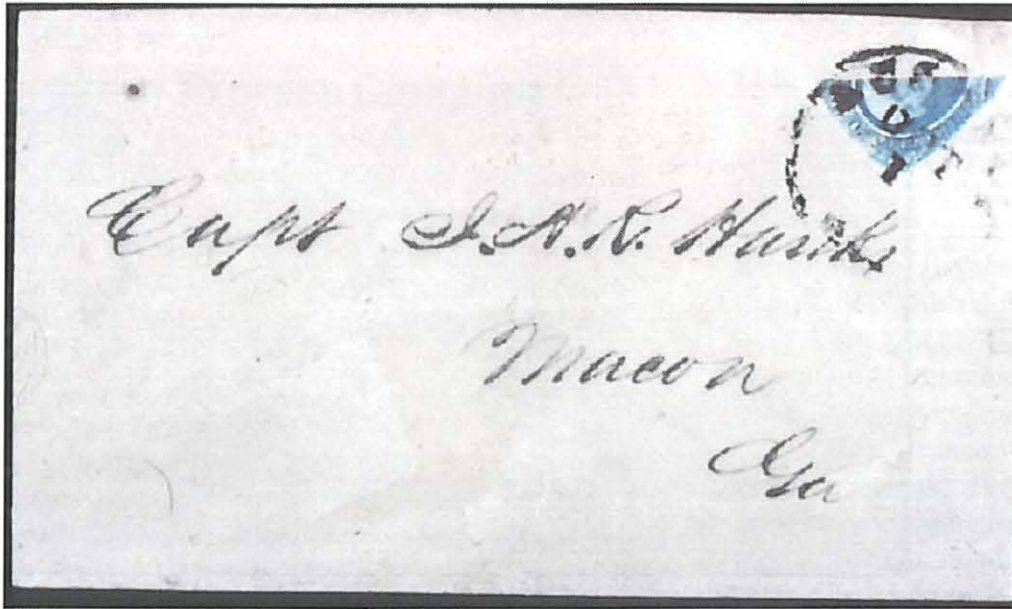


Figure 6
Capt J.A.R. Hanks Cover - 1

Capt. J.A.R. Hanks Covers – 1, 2 and 3

Three mailings to Capt. J.A.R. Hanks, Macon, Ga, were sent by the same person, as evidenced by the handwriting on the front of each cover. All three covers, Figures 6, 7 and 8, were franked with a bisected CSA #13c tied by an "AUGUSTA Ga./OCT 1" [1864] CDS.

Enlisted on 7/19/1861 as an Assistant Quartermaster, J.A.R. Hanks was commissioned into Field & Staff, 22nd Regiment, Georgia Infantry.

The 22nd Regiment, Georgia Infantry, was formed at Big Shanty, Georgia, in September, 1861, with men from Schley, Glascock, Bartow,

Lincoln, Washington, Dawson, and Henry counties.

Sent to Virginia, the unit first served in the Department of the Peninsula, then was assigned to General A.R. Wright's and Sorrel's Brigade, Army of Northern Virginia. It participated in the difficult campaigns of the army from the Seven Days' Battles to Cold Harbor, endured the hardships of the Petersburg trenches south of the James River, and saw action around Appomattox.

J.A.R. Hanks resigned due to disability on 6/17/1862. His correspondence is well known to Confederate students.

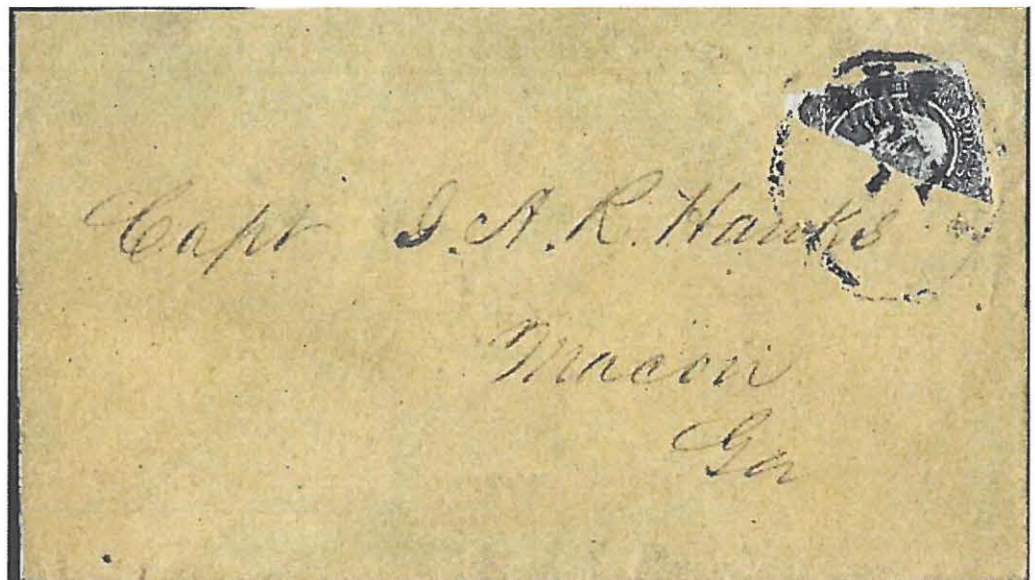


Figure 7
Capt J.A.R. Hanks Cover - 2

The Final Word? Southern Express Company

Scott Trepel has provided a further reference to clarify the situation of the Southern Express Company versus the Confederate Post Office Department. The following is a summary, by your editor, of an article originally appearing in *The Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, Volume 19, July 1915 - April 1916., pp.243 *et seq.* and available on the web site <http://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph101067/m1/264/>

From the beginning, express companies violated the monopoly rights of the Confederate postal service. The worst offender was the Southern Express Co. The first set of laws for the new post office department prohibited "express and other chartered companies" from carrying letters unless prepaid by being enclosed in stamped envelopes of the Confederacy. [Act of Feb. 23, 1861].

Of course there were no stamped envelopes or stamps of the Confederacy in at that time. So the CSA congress amended the law to "make it lawful for the postmaster-General to allow express and other chartered companies to carry letters, and all mail matter "of every description, whether the same be enclosed in stamped envelopes or prepaid in stamps or money." The mail matter, with money for postage, was to be turned over to a postmaster

to be stamped paid. The postage to be paid had to be prepaid at the regular postal rates from the place where received by the company to its destination. [Act of March 3, 1861].

The Postmaster-General complained that the Southern Express Company "had perpetrated numerous frauds upon the revenues of the [post office] Department." The fraud being revealed by special investigation [PMG's Report, Feb. 28, 1862].

The Company's payments to the post offices at Savannah, Charleston, Columbia and Wilmington had decreased from about \$200 each per month to sums ranging from \$1.30 to five and ten cents, according to Reagan.

There was difficulty bringing prosecution against the Company, as requested by the Postmaster-General, for various reasons. All Reagan could do was to reinstate the requirement that Southern Express Company letters carried by the mails, be franked with stamps. This was passed by the congress on April 19, 1862. Effectively, the original U.S. law as all that still obtained.

Despite all efforts by Postmaster-general Reagan, the Southern Express Company continued to accept letters to be carried by railroads over mail routes, in violation of the law.

FaceBook of the map, from the web site

<http://georgiainfo.galileo.usg.edu/histcountymaps/gilmer1910map.htm>

A 1915 map on this same web-site also shows Snider although this does not prove the existence of a post office in that year.

Any member having further information about the town or its post office may communicate it to the editor.

