CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA THE CONFEDERATE PERIOD

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AS RECEIVED BY THE EXHIBITION PHOTOCOPY COMMITTEE

OF THE

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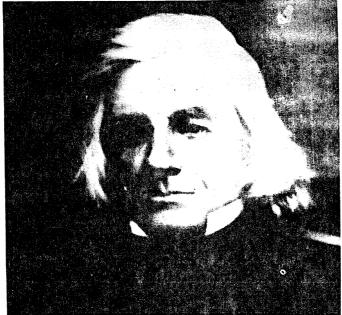
Charleston, South Carolina — The Confederate Period

AND SO IT CAME TO PASS THAT THE LAND WAS DIVIDED

.The date - 20 December 1860. The place - Charleston, South Carolina

South Carolina's seccession ushered in an epoch which is now burned into our national consciousness. As a leader in the great debate over states rights versus national authority, Charleston became the personification of southern nationalism. Long a cultural mecca of the South, and an important economic center, Charleston lay in the well protected setting of a large harbor at the mouth of broad rivers. These historic and geographic facts played a large role in the events to come during the next tumultuous years as armies and navies struggled for possession of this symbol.

Until February 4, 1861, when the Confederacy was organized, South Carolina acted in many ways as an independent state; however, many US Government functions such as the post office continued. It was not until May 31 that the US discontinued postal operations within the Confederacy. Local postmasters then had to devise their own means to signify payment of postage. In Charleston, a variety of handstamps were used at first, and a few months later three distinct types of postmaster's provisionals were issued. After introduction of regular Confederate stamps in late 1861 the use of the provisionals was terminated; however, the use of handstamps never ceased entirely, particularly for soldiers and other military related mail.



Gharleston Postmaster Alfred Huger, originally an Andrew Jackson appointee in 1837, served the Confederacy with equal dedication and resourcefulness throughout the war.

The very word "Charleston" became a rallying cry for both North and South. Names such as Major Anderson, Fort Sumter and Battery Wagner were added to older memories of Sgt Jasper, John C. Calhoun and Nullification. The South was determined to defend the city, and the North was bent upon its seizure for psychological, political, and strategic reasons. Despite repeated Union attacks, the Confederates maintained a tenacious defense, and it was not until February 1865 that Charleston fell by withering on the vine as Sherman moved through the state. By mid-1865 regular US postal operations were fully restored, and the Confederate stamps and all the hopes they symbolized were relegated to the past. The land was reunited once again.

In studying Confederate postal history much emphasis must be placed on the markings since many envelopes are stampless and makeshift devices were often utilized. An early task was reestablishment of the postal system after use of US stamps in the CSA ended on May 31. The Confederate Post Office used what already existed whenever possible, and most of the former US postal employees remained on the job.

At Charleston no completely new town cancels were employed during the war, but some new rate devices were prepared. In his 1959 Confederate States Catalog and Hand-Book, Dietz illustrates seven Charleston town cancels and mentions another; however, in this display cancels are cataloged by the more accurate Welch-Karrer system which is based on a study of the cancels recorded at Charleston from colonial times to 1865.







A-25

A-26

A-26a

The uncommon Type A-25 (Dietz Type 5) is a 28.5mm cancel without year date logo, first used in the 1850s. For some reason it was seldom used either previous to or during the war, although the quality of its strike is usually quite good.

The common 32mm A-26 (Dietz Type 1) cancel with all year logos is first seen in 1857. There was no "2" slug, and after December 31, 1861 only the "186" was used. This is the A-26a cancel (Dietz Types 2 and 3, the difference being the state of deterioration of the device itself). One case of a "3" is recorded in 1863, but none in 1864 or 1865. Late in the war this device became nearly illegible, but it was used up to the end of the Confederate postal system.



MAR MAR STOR

JAN JAN S C.



A-27

A-27a

A-28

AN-18a

Another common type is the A-27 (Dietz Type 4) 26mm double ring device first used in late 1860. Similar ones were used at other post offices. Charleston received a poor quality example, and by March 1861 the outer ring began to fail. In mid-July 1861 a piece broke off above "T" and "O". Others on the left and bottom soon followed. This deteriorated device is A-27a, but Dietz gave it no number.

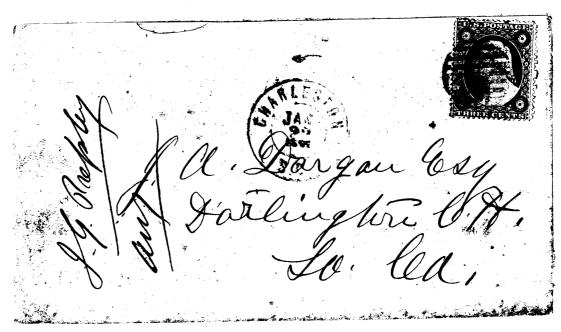
Used after the late summer of 1864, Type A-28 is a reworked A-27 without the year logo. Dietz refers to it but assigned it no number.

The only Charleston town cancel incorporating the word "PAID" used during the war is the 32mm Type AN-18 (Dietz Type 7) dating back to the late 1850s. Type AN-18a is the identical device without the last digit in the year logo. Dietz lists a Type 6 with sans serif letters; however, it was only used prior to the war.

SOUTH CAROLINA AS AN INDEPENDENT STATE * DECEMBER 20, 1860 - FEBRUARY 3, 1861



January 8, 1861; Type A-27 postmark with inverted "8" in date on Series 1857 34 stamp with Type S-17 seven bar, 18mm circular grid first used in 1847.



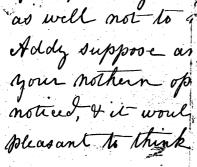
January 22, 1861; Type A-27 postmark; Series 1857 3c stamp and Type S-17 grid.

Republic of South Carolina Charleston Feb. 312/861

Dear Addy,

I hope you will excuse our not answering all of your kind letters ere this, our reason for not doing so was, the because a great many of the letters from the north were opened here, likewise those sent from here to the north too, for the purpose of finding out the correspondent of the chiltrene who took such particular care I pleasure in writing the most palpable hes about the state of things in our so-little understood city of bhaileston, of course it was a very eight and proper proceeding, therefore for that acasm and ours were only pleasant family letters of a friendly nature we thought it just as well not to a

February 6, 1861; Type A-27 postmark & S-17 killer. Letter dated Feb 3, 1861, last day before CSA formation. Writer reflected mood of period with dateline "Republic of SC" and mailed three days later, illustrating the uncertainties of political situation and threat of censorship mentioned by the writer of the letter.

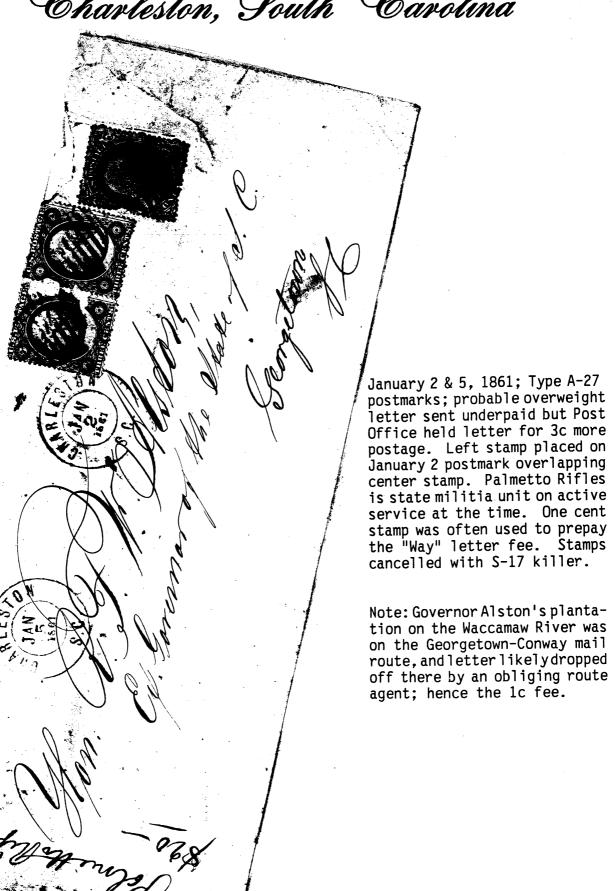


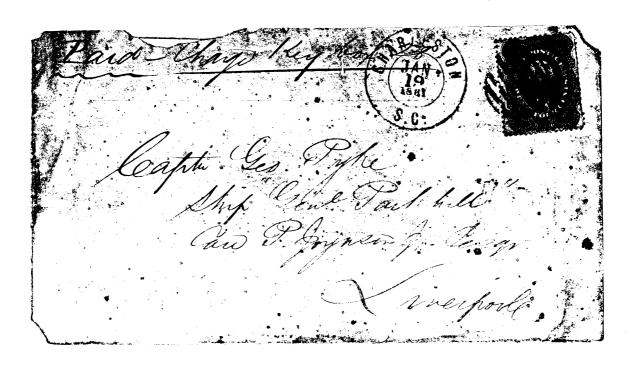


Mr. Adam Seabury Hempstead

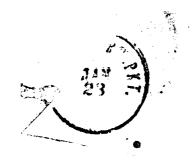
Long Island_ N. G.







January 19, 1861; Type A-27 postmark and S-17 killer on Series 1857 24c stamp fully prepaying single weight rate to England. Sent by firm maintaining charge account with Charleston Post Office to captain of ship <u>Parkhill</u> in Liverpool. Postage set by Treaty at 5c US internal, 16c packet to England, and 3c English internal. Red handstamp "19" applied at New York indicates credit to England for carriage on British packet; departed US Jan 23, arrived Liverpool Feb 5.



British Packet Mark

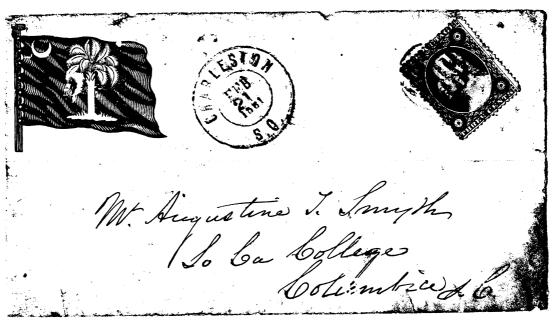


Liverpool Receiving Mark

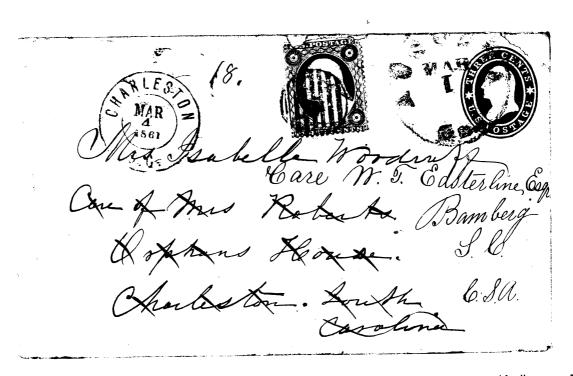
CONFEDERATE USE OF US STAMPS * FEBRUARY 4, 1861 - MAY 31, 1861



May 13, 1861; Type A-27 town cancel on Series 1857 1c stamp; "drop letter" (one mailed at same post office from which delivery was to be made). Note use of the S-17 grid killer had apparently been discontinued by this time.



February 21, 1861; Type A-27 postmark with S-17 grid killer on Series 1857 3c stamp used on a South Carolina Palmetto Flag stamped envelope.

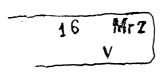


March 1, 1861; letter mailed at Augusta, Georgia, using a "star die" envelope and forwarded from Charleston on March 4 with a Type A-27 postmark on Series 1857 3c stamp to "Bamberg, S.C. C.S.A"



February 25, 1861; Type A-27 postmark and S-17 grid killer on a Series 1857 30c stamp. Only 30c of correct 35c postage to Switzerland was prepaid; permissable by treaty where full prepayment was optional. Departed New York March 2, on NY & Harve Line steamer Fulton, noted on reverse packet marking. Landed Southampton March 13, and passed through England in closed bag. Entered Germany by Prussian Closed Mail, where boxed "AACHEN 13 13 FRANCO" marking applied. Red "12" is US credit for German Postal Union transit fees. The US incorrectly considered it totally prepaid, but as only 30c actually prepaid the correct marking would be a "7". The maroon "2" is two silver groschen (5c) collected by Prussia. On the reverse there are March 16 German transit and Berne March 17 receiving marks.



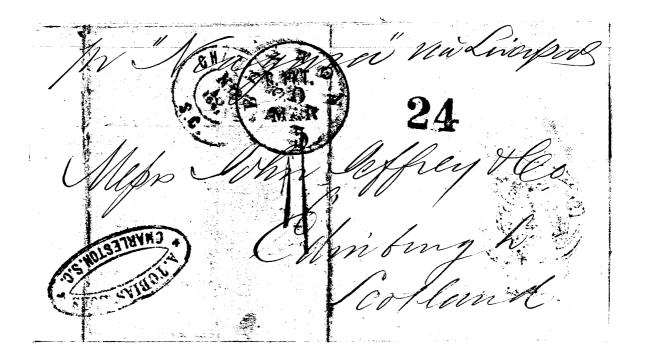




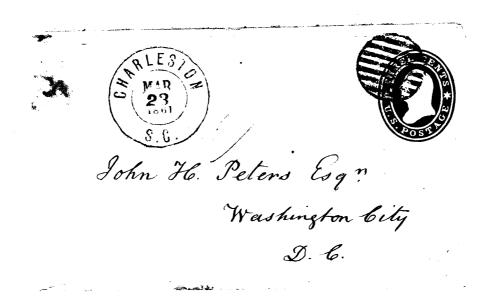
US Packet Marking (Red)

German Transit (Black)

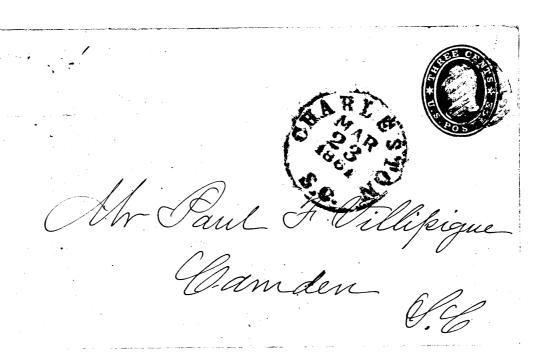
Berne Receiving (Black)



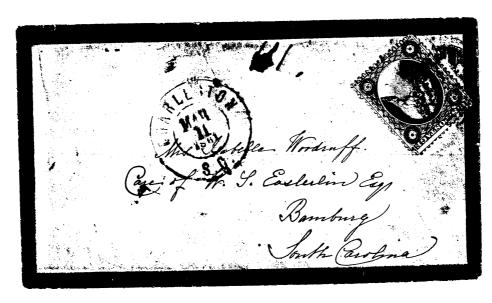
March 15, 1861; commercial mail from Tobias & Sons of Charleston to Scotland. Postmarked with A-27; 24c postage due shown by only recorded example of "24" Charleston rate marking. Handled at Boston on March 20, per the unlisted town "5" postmark for 5c credit to the US. Trans Atlantic passage was aboard Cunard steamer $\underline{\text{Niagara}}$ to Scotland, with stops at Queenstown, Ireland, on April 2, and Liverpool on the 3rd. Edinburgh arrival noted by April 4, 1861 receiving mark.



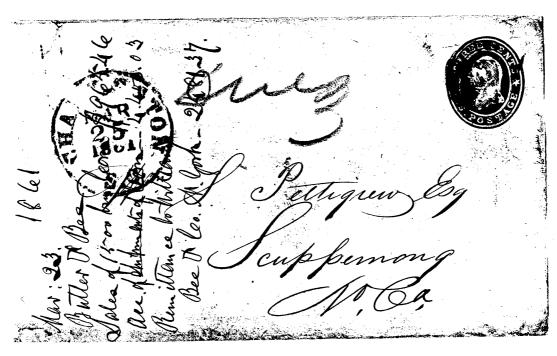
March 23, 1861; Type A-27 postmark showing initial deterioration of the outer circle between the "T" and "O" of Charleston. An S-17 grid killer cancels the Series 1860 "star die" stamped envelope with patent lines.



March 23, 1861; Type A-26 postmark on "star die" envelope without patent lines.

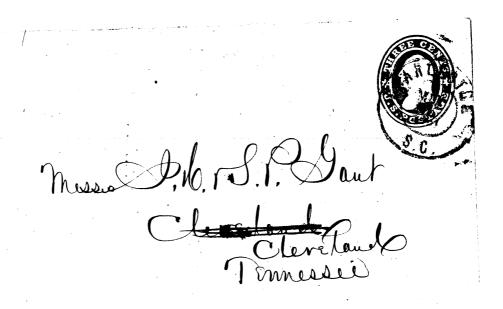


March 11, 1861; Type A-27 postmark on the Series 1857 3c stamp with mourning envelope. Note cancel's outer ring deterioration not yet seen.

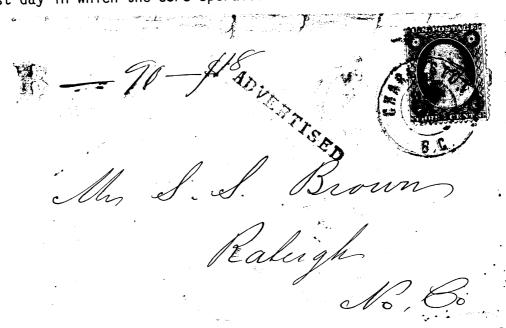


March 25, 1861; Type A-26 postmark and S-17 grid killer. Manuscript "DUE 3" shows letter was overweight when mailed by firm of Butler & Bee, whose colorless embossed advertisement appears on the reverse flap of the "star die" envelope.

THE LAST DAY OF US POSTAL OPERATIONS IN THE CONFEDERACY



May 31, 1861; Type A-27 postmark on 3c "star die" stamped envelope with patent lines on last day in which the USPO operated in the states of the Confederacy.



May 31, 1861; Type A-27 postmark on Series 1857 3c stamp; a money letter likely containing \$18 in currency, hence the red "R" - recorded - Charleston handstamp. As letter was not called for at Raleigh, it was advertised in local press. On October 1, 1861, it was backstamped at Raleigh. This cover shows full operations were maintained at Charleston up to last day.

Tharles ton & le Mune 1st 1861

My Dear to De brockhire

Jevoto a lette to

gon some weeks ago, bud after souling.

and directing the Brockdies (wir was

fust pour a truley) steped into my thing

and informed see you had fone to be.

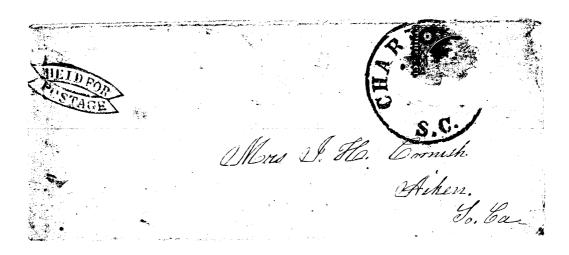




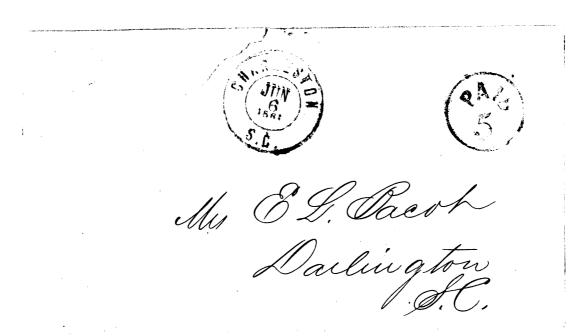
Rev Vog IM Schrickhize Newberry CH, Ob, Ca

May 31, 1861; Type A-27 postmark on Series 1857 3c stamp used on seven star CSA flag patriotic envelope unlisted in Dietz Catalog. As letter is dated June 1, it raises the question of whether Charleston Postmaster Huger authorized some letters with now-invalid US stamps to enter the mails with a May 31 postmark.

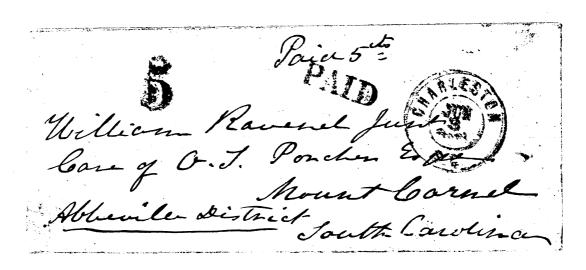
EARLY USE OF HANDSTAMPS TO INDICATE POSTAGE PAID



June 1, 1861; Type A-26 postmark on Series 1857 3c stamp; envelope backstamped by another A-26. This time demonitized stamp was not recognized at Charleston Post Office. "HELD FOR POSTAGE" handstamp shows letter was held for 5c cash payment for CSA postage; US stamp defaced prior to forwarding letter to Aiken.



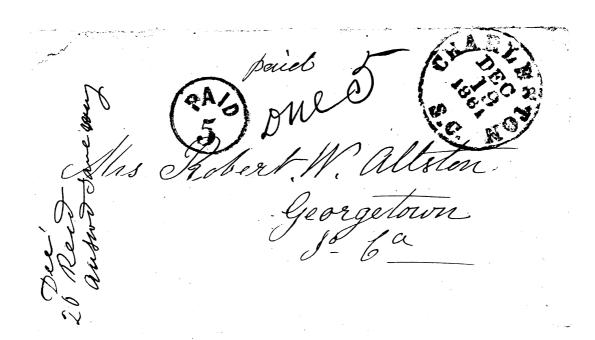
June 6, 1861; Type A-27 postmark and SN-8 5c (Dietz Type II) rate marker shows single weight letter sent to address under 500 miles away by mail route. Prior to introduction of Confederate postage stamps each postmaster was on his own. In Charleston Huger used existing devices, or as in this case quickly arranged for new handstamps for Confederate rates.



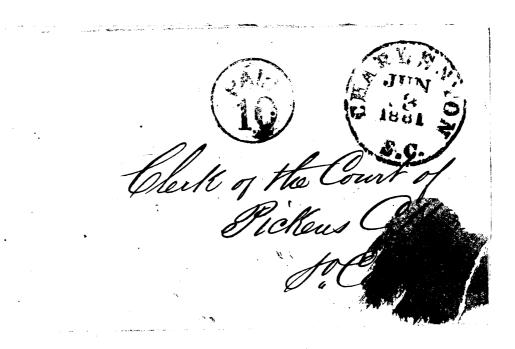
June 3, 1861; Type A-27 postmark. Here, two old devices were put into service to show prepayment of 5c postage for a single weight letter. Note this example reads "5 PAID" using SN-6 and SN-11 handstamps. Dietz lists this as Type III.



June 3, 1861; Type A-26 postmark. Rate markings read "PAID 5", or SN-11/SN-6. Dietz does not differentiate between the two subtypes demonstrated on this page. These are the earliest confirmed usages of these markings in Charleston after commencement of Confederate postal operations.



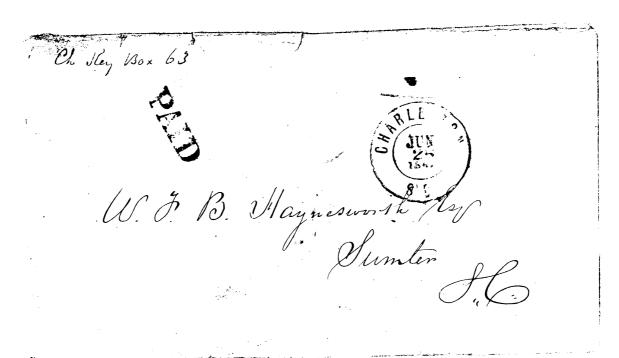
December 19, 1861; Type A-26 postmark and SN-8 (Dietz Type II) "PAID 5". An overweight letter requiring additional 5c postage to nearby Georgetown, S.C.



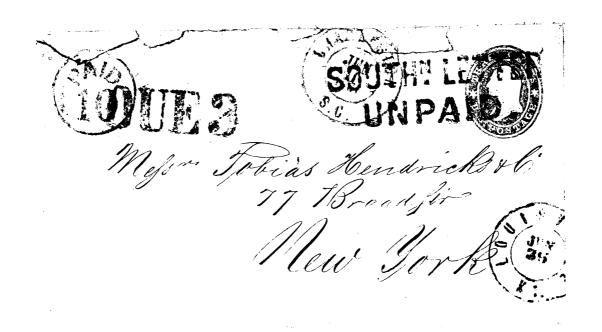
June 3, 1861; Type A-26 postmark and SN-12 "PAID 10". Earliest recorded usage of SN-12 rate device used concurrently with and soon supplanted the individual markings used on much early Charleston mail posted under the new postal system.



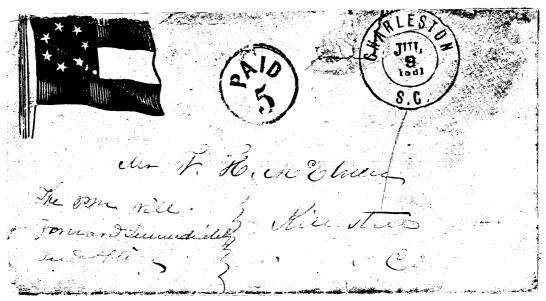
November 7, 1861; Type A-27 postmark (note outer circle is now broken between "T" and "O" of "Charleston") and SN-12 "PAID 10" on single weight letter over 500 miles by mail route from Charleston to Manassas Junction, where Confederate forces were bivouacked that first winter of the War.



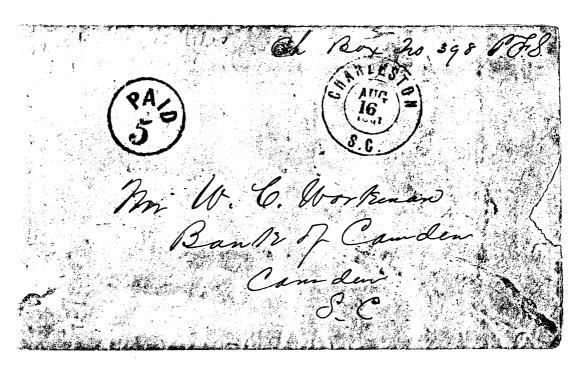
June 25, 1861; Type A-26 postmark and SN-11 "PAID", with manuscript "15" for a triple weight letter to Santee charged to Key Box 63. Charleston used no "15" rate handstamp during the Confederate period. This is also earliest recorded wartime Charleston charge service cover.



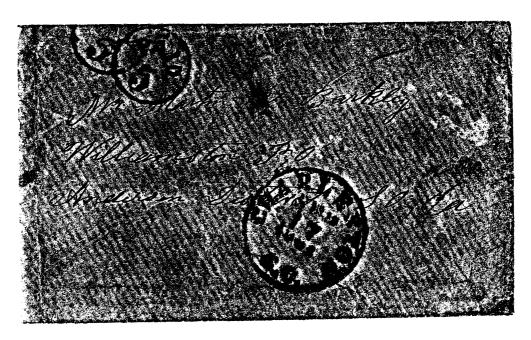
June 11, 1861; Type A-27 postmark and SN-12 "PAID 10" for Confederate postage on single weight letter over 500 miles; forwarded to Louisville on June 25. US Postal operations in the Confederacy terminated May 31, and for a short time in late June and early July some letters for northern addresses were forwarded via Louisville, where they were marked with a "DUE 3" and "SOUTHn. LETTER UNPAID". One of two recorded examples with a Charleston origin. Confederate postage was not recognized in the North and so "star die" stamped envelope was not accepted as it and other current US stamps were invalidated for Southern use on May 31.



July 9, 1861; Type A-27 postmark and SN-8 "PAID 5" on seven star flag patriotic envelope. Note continued deterioration of outer ring of the town cancel, which will soon break off. Especially early in the War use of patriotic stationery and envelopes was very popular.



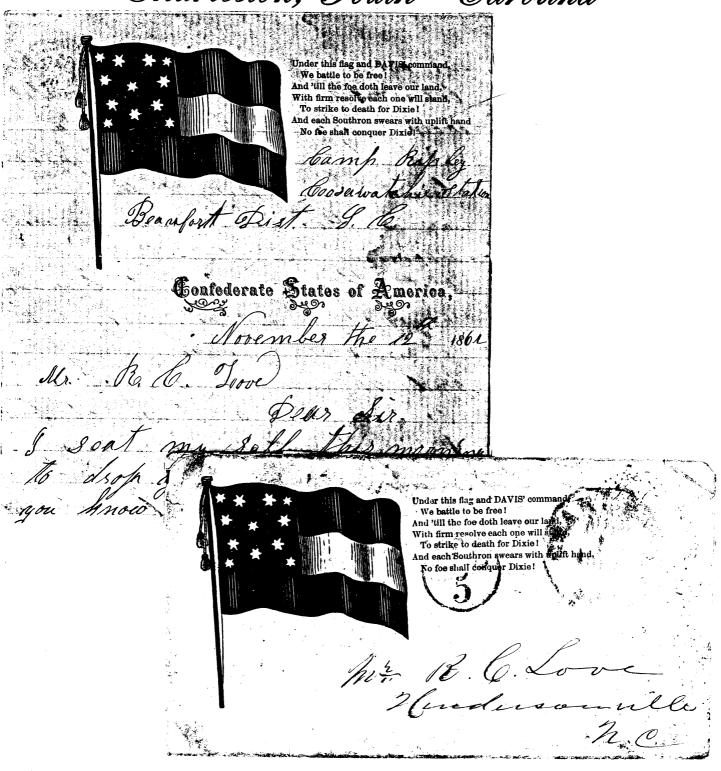
August 16, 1861; Type A-27a postmark and SN-8 "PAID 5". Postmasters allowed certain firms as well as civil and military offices to maintain a charge account against a deposit or with a periodic settlement. Note outer ring of postmark is now broken out.



September 17, 1861; Type A-26 postmark and an SN-8 "PAID 5". Although rate was struck twice, the second strike was applied as it was only partially struck the first time, and more importantly the "PAID" was omitted.



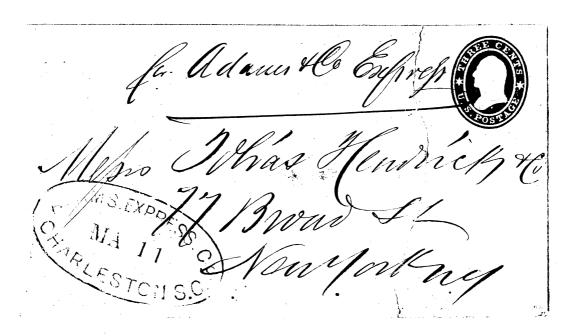
January 12, 1862; Charleston Type A-26a postmark and Type SN-8 "PAID 5". The original postage to Columbia was charged to Charleston Box 48, and forwarding to Manchester, SC on January 14, 1862, incurred an additional 5c postage due.



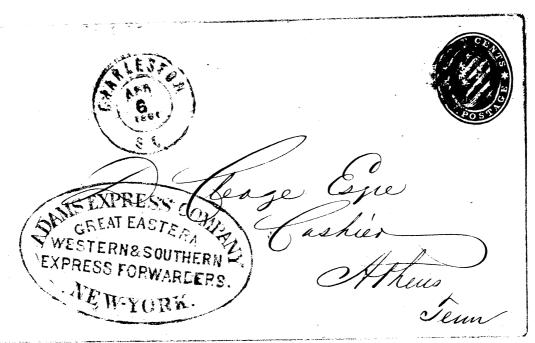
November (?), 1861; Type A-26 postmark and SN-8 "PAID 5" on a twelve star flag patriotic envelope with matching stationery. Letter details fall of Beaufort and nearby sea islands to a Union amphibious attack. Camp Ripley was located at Coosawatchie Station on Charleston & Savannah Railroad, several miles inland from Beaufort; letter carried privately to Charleston, where it entered mails.

PRIVATE EXPRESS COMPANY

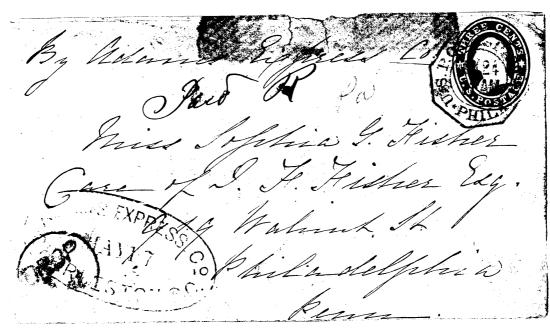
As the uncertainties surrounding the possibility of war grew, the established private express companies were sometimes used to carry valuable or important correspondence. With offices in many cities, including Charleston, the Adams Express Company was the most frequently used. US postal regulations permitted such private means of conveyance but required that in addition to the company's charges, US postage also be paid whether or not the US mails were ever utilized.



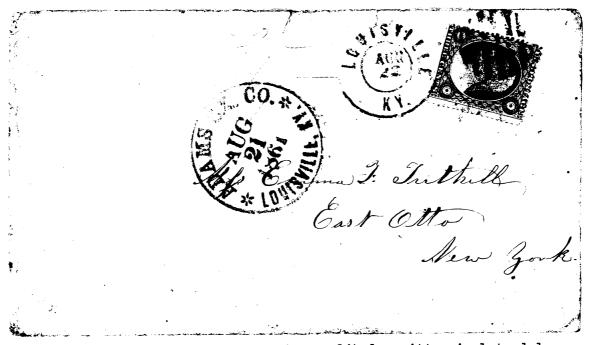
March or May 1861; Adams Express Company's Charleston handstamp indicates letter departed Charleston via company agent direct to a New York City address without resort to US mails. Note additional manuscript notation and uncancelled Star Die US stamped envelope.



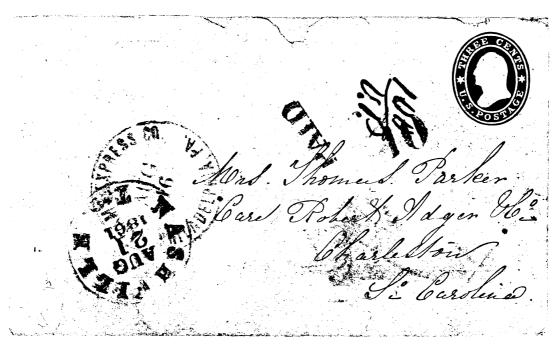
Letter written in New York, probably in late March - early April 1861; carried by Adams Express Co agent into the South by ship and forwarded to Tennessee. It was postmarked in Charleston April 6, 1861, with S-27 postmark and 3c Star Die envelope cancelled by the SN-12 grid.



May 17, 1861; Adams Express Charleston handstamp indicates letter was entrusted to company agent for delivery to Philadelphia, where it was placed in US mails May 24th. This was after the fall of Fort Sumter so letter likely went by rail. Note use of 3c Star Die US envelope was regarded as overpaid per circular black "DROP" handstamp at lower left.

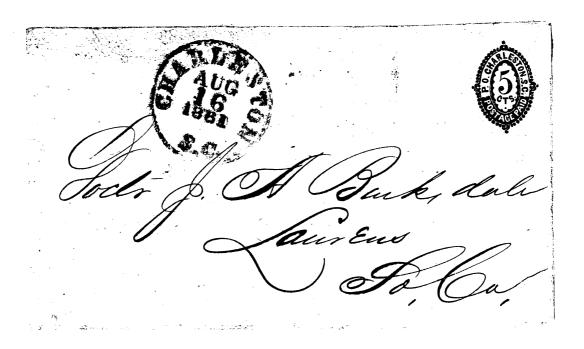


Letter from known Charleston correspondence, likely written in late July - early August, 1861; arrived in Louisville August 21 via Adams Express Co agent. Pencil "2-" shows Adams Express fee. Franked with Series 1857 3c stamp, and put into mails at Louisville August 22nd; late use of private express company service.



Letter accepted by Adams Express Co. in Philadelphia on August 6, 1861; carried overland through the lines to Nashville agent. Left Nashville via Confederate mails August 21, 1861, with 10c Confederate postage paid in cash for carriage to Charleston.

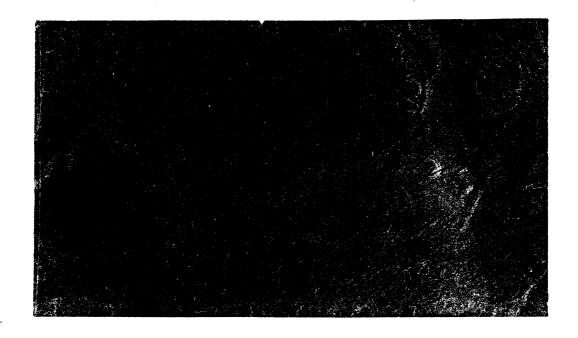
POSTMASTER'S PROVISIONALS - TYPOGRAPHED ENVELOPES



August 16, 1861; Type A-26 postmark. In mid-August 1861, the new provisional stamped envelopes ordered by Postmaster Huger were run off by Walker, Evans & Co. These envelopes, printed on four colors of paper stock, were prepared from woodcut whose design closely resembles the ornamental oval used on provisional adhesive stamps issued a short time afterwards. This is the earliest recorded use of a Charleston provisional.



September 1, 1861; Type A-27a postmark.



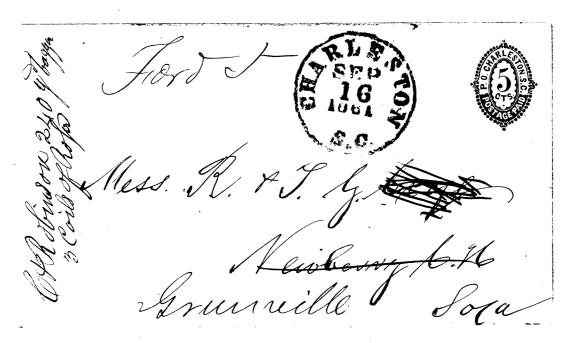
September 5, 1861; Type A-26 postmark.



October 23, 1861; Type A-27a postmark.



October 8, 1861; Type A-27a postmark with manuscript "Due 5" indicating letter was overweight and 5c postage would be collected from addressee.



September 16, 1861; Type A-26 postmark to Newberry Court House. Forwarding to Greenville Court House incurred an additional 5c postage due from addressee.

POSTMASTER'S PROVISIONALS - LITHOGRAPHED STAMPS



Col. Montgomery Moses Sunter Soba

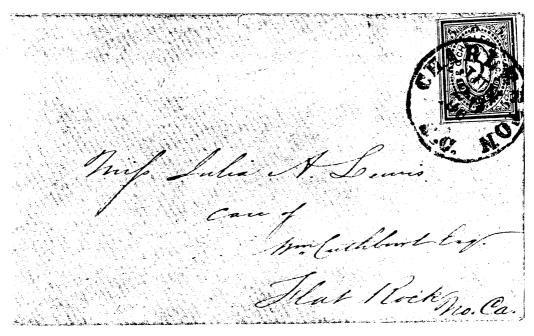
November 4, 1861; Type A-27a postmark. Lithographed stamp was printed on white wove paper by Walker, Evans & Co. of Charleston, per order of Postmaster Huger.



October 16, 1861; Type A-26 postmark on single 5c stamp which was insufficient for long distance letter. Red crayon "DUE 5" done at Charleston, and Lynchburg handstamp restated the 5c assessed on the recipient.



September 14, 1861; "Way Letter" probably put on a train between Charleston and Savannah for delivery to station at Potcotaligo, SC. Likely the 1c way fee was collected in cash upon delivery.



June 20, 1862; Type A-26a postmark. Very late use of provisional just ten days before postage rate increase. Apparently there was a temporary shortage of CSA stamps in Charleston as other June 1862 usages are known.

POSTMASTER'S PROVISIONALS USED OUTSIDE CHARLESTON



August 27, 1863; Charleston handstamp 10c postmaster's provisional, one of two recorded copies. Believed used on letter from soldier at Hardeeville, located on railroad to Savannah. Apparently Charleston provisional was unrecognized by Hardeeville postal authorities, and letter treated as unpaid. The "DUE 10" is a known Hardeeville marking of a type not used at Charleston.

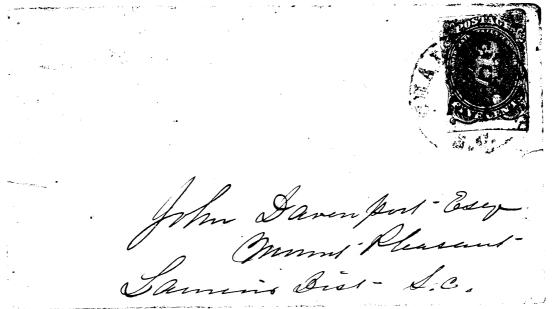


November 19, 1861; one of three recorded copies of Charleston provisional used from Tudor Hall, which was principal Confederate Army camp in Northern Virginia at this time. Use of Charleston provisional was not accepted, and letter rated 10c postage due. As Kingstree is less than 500 miles from Tudor Hall via mail route, the letter was also apparently overweight.

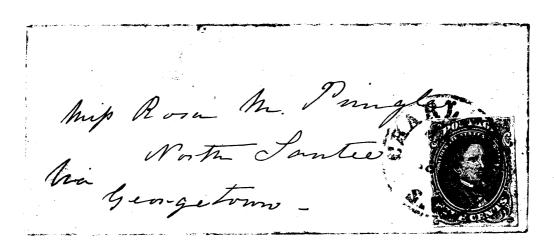
GENERAL ISSUES - LITHOGRAPHS BY HOYER & LUDWIG, RICHMOND, VA

THE FIVE CENTS GREEN

These earliest Confederate general issue stamps featured a portrait of President Davis by Charles Ludwig. They were printed on three stones released between October and December 1861.



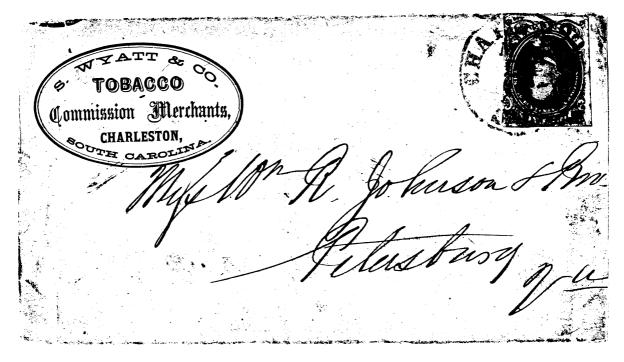
December 30, 1861; Late use of Type A-26 postmark (After 1861 this postmark read "186-". Normal dark green, poorly printed Stone 1 stamp for short distance rate.



January 1, 1862; first day of use of Type A-26a postmark. Stamp is a Stone 1.



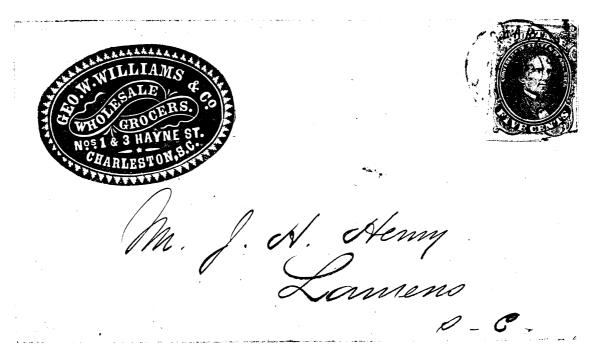
January 3, 1862; Type A-26a postmark on Stone 1 printing. Advertisement on prewar envelope of Charleston Hotel, the city's leading hostelry.



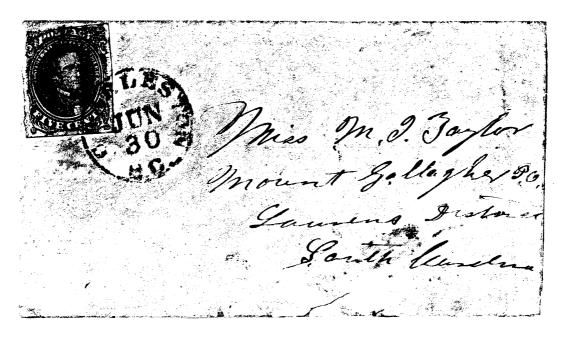
March 21, 1862; Type A-26a postmark on Stone 1 printing. Advertisement on prewar envelope of a leading tobacco merchant.



April 12, 1862; Type A-27a postmark on folded letter. Stamp is "Stone A or B", characterized by clarity of design compared to other printings.



March 3, 1862; Type A-27a postmark on Stone A or B stamp. Advertising envelope is of well known wholesale grocery firm.



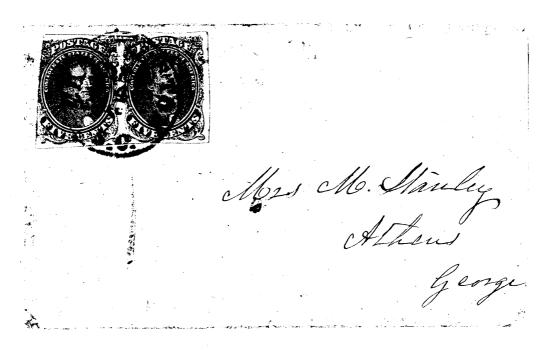
June 30, 1862; Type A-25 postmark on 5c Stone A or B stamp, the last day of the 5c under 500 miles postal rate.



March 10, 1862; Type A-26a postmark on Stone 1 and Stone 2 stamps. Stone 1 is the dark green impression and Stone 2 is typically a poor quality dull green. Shows single letter rate over 500 miles prior to July 1, 1862.



July 31, 1862; Type A-26a postmark on pair of Stone A or B stamps. Envelope made from surveyor's map. Shows single letter rate instituted after June 30, 1862.



December 4, 1862; Type A-26a postmark on slightly darker Stone A or B stamps.

GENERAL ISSUE - LITHOGRAPHS BY HOYER & LUDWIG, RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

THE TEN CENTS BLUE

As part of first general issue series, Hoyer & Ludwig prepared a 10c stamp with Thomas Jefferson portrait by Charles Ludwig for printing in Richmond. They are first known used in early November 1861. Since there was a greater need for 5c stamps, this type saw relatively little use until the postage rates were raised effective July 1, 1862. One transfer stone was prepared; impressions are clear and the color frequently is a dark blue.



July 10, 1862; Typical dark blue Hoyer & Ludwig stamp postmarked with an A-26a.

GENERAL ISSUES - LITHOGRAPHS BY HOYER & LUDWIG

TWO CENTS GREEN

This stamp with portrait of Andrew Jackson by Charles Ludwig was released in March 1862, and was printed on only one stone. Because of its green color it was decided to also switch the then-current 5c stamps to blue and the blue 10c stamps to red.

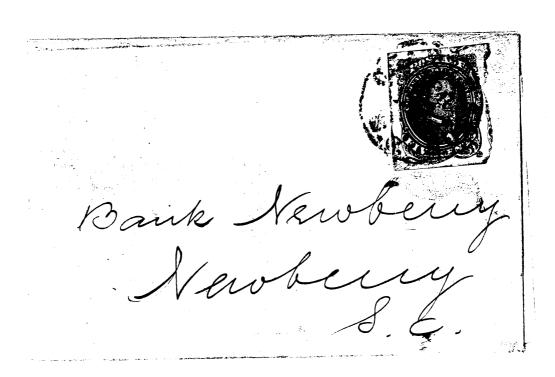


February 25, 1863; Type A-26a postmark on Hoyer & Ludwig 2c stamp paying local delivery or "drop letter" rate. Postage was required even on envelopes marked "Official Business"; the only letters carried free were on Post Office business and even those required the sending official's signature.

GENERAL ISSUE - LITHOGRAPHS BY HOYER & LUDWIG

THE FIVE CENTS BLUE

In March 1862, when the 2c green stamp was released, the color of the 5c and 10c stamps were also scheduled for change to avoid confusion. Only Hoyer & Ludwig printed the 5c blue stamps, initially using the printing stone as used for the 5c green; later a second stone was put into use. Colors range from dark blue on the first printing to a pale milky blue in a later effort.



April 24, 1862; Type A-26a postmark on typically poor impression Stone 2 stamp made from same printing stones used on first issue 5c green stamps.



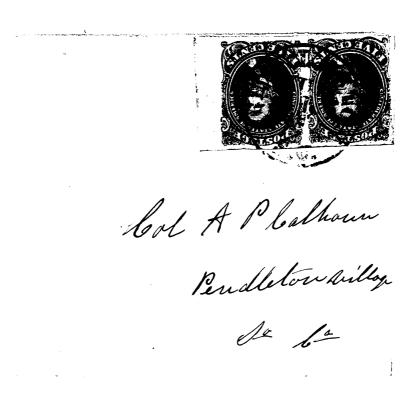
May 4, 1862; Type A-27a postmark on Hoyer & Ludwig Stone 3 printing. Stone 3 impressions are typically clear and sharp.



May 29, 1862; Type A-26a postmark on Stone 2 impression in lighter blue shade; another example of the never-ending quality control problems experienced by all the contractors throughout the war.



May 29, 1862; Type A-26a postmark on pair of light milky blue Stone 2 stamps pay postage on double weight letter sent just before rates increased.

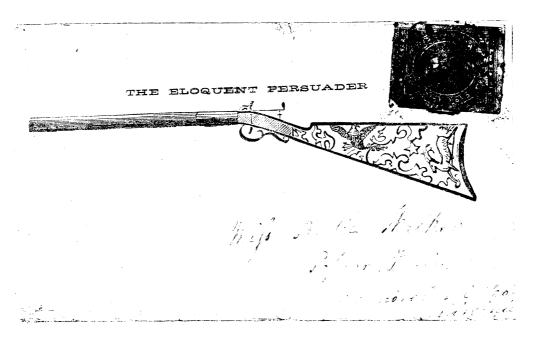


July 11, 1862; Type A-26a postmark on pair of indigo blue, Stone 2 stamps used to pay 10c rate east of Mississippi River after July 1, 1862.

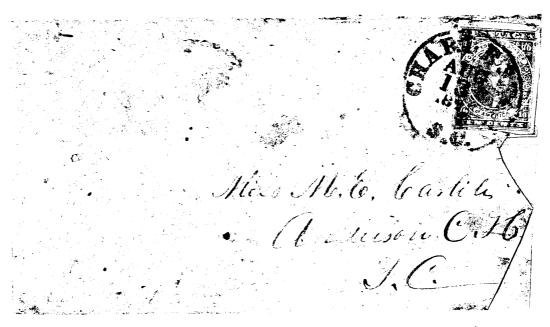
GENERAL ISSUES - LITHOGRAPHS BY HOYER & LUDWIG

THE TEN CENTS ROSE

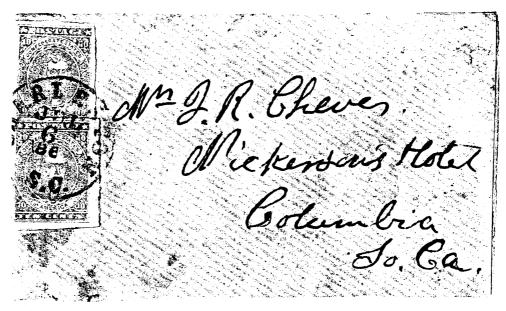
The 10c rose dates to early March 1862, and was to replace the blue stamps by Hoyer & Ludwig and Paterson. It was printed on the same transfer stone as the earlier Hoyer & Ludwig stamps in a range of colors with a poor quality image.



November 21, 1862; Type A-27a postmark. Fortunes of war may result in one side's material falling into the hands of the enemy as in this case of a Union patriotic envelope with an American eagle design on a modern rifle. Finder used a very poorly printed copy of the 10c stamp for postage to Virginia.



August 13, 1862; Type A-26a postmark. In mid-1862 Hoyer & Ludwig rose colored stamps began to supplement the 10c blue stamp - to avoid confusion over the blue color being used for the new 5c stamps. This stamp is typically poorly printed in dull colors.



July 6, 1862; Type A-26a postmark on two 10c stamps covering double weight rate after July 1, 1862.

LITHOGRAPHS BY J.T. PATERSON & CO., AUGUSTA, GEORGIA THE TEN CENTS BLUE

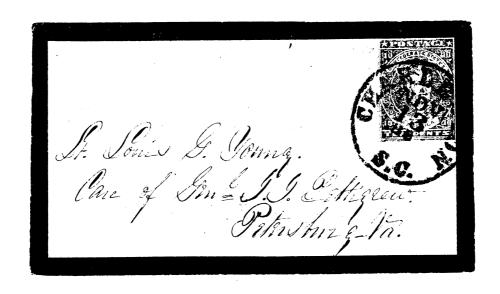
As a general Confederate postal rate increase was passed in April 1862, a large number of 10c stamps would be needed prior to its implementation on July 1, 1862. Hoyer & Ludwig could not meet the demand and J.T. Paterson & Co of Columbia, SC, contracted to print a supplemental order. At least two transfers from the Hoyer & Ludwig stones were made; one is relatively clear while the other, Stone Y, is typically a very poor, blurry impression. Printing was done at a Paterson plant in Augusta, GA. These stamps are first known used in July 1862.



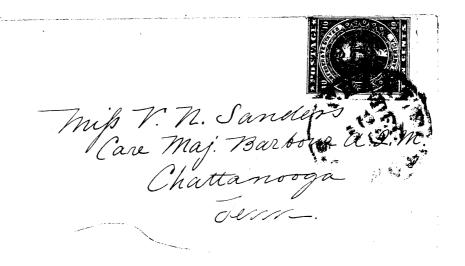
September 20, 1862; Type A-27a postmark. Stamp is a typical dark blue color.



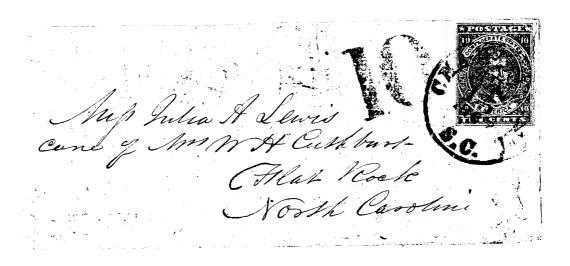
October 10, 1862; Type A-26a postmark on very crudé Stone Y stamp.



November 13, 1862; Type A-26a postmark on Stone Y stamp franking black bordered mourning cover. This progression of Paterson stamps posted over a short period of time shows severe problems experienced in color control even early in the war.



December 22, 1862; Two months later yet another color appeared at Charleston, this time a deep blue stamp with an A-26 postmark.



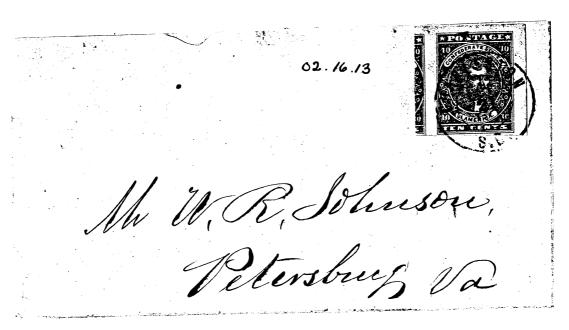
September 15, 1862; Type A-26a postmark. Stone Y stamp partially prepaid cost of double weight letter. Type SN-11 "10" shows amount collected at destination.



September 26, 1862; Type A-27a postmark on pale blue stamp.



October 5, 1862; Type A-27a postmark on dull blue, poorly printed Stone Y stamp.



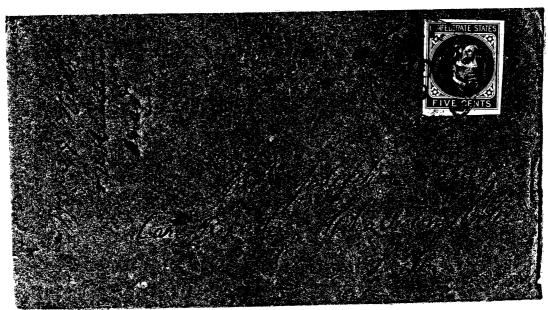
September 21, 1862; Type A-27a postmark on pale blue stamp.



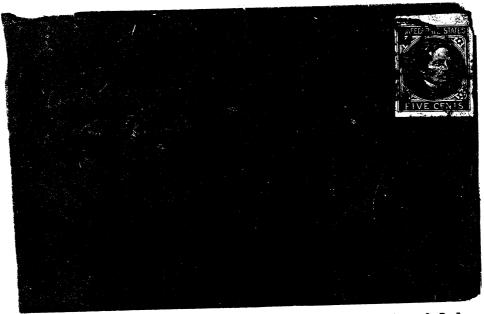
September 24, 1862; Type A-27a postmark on dull blue stamp.



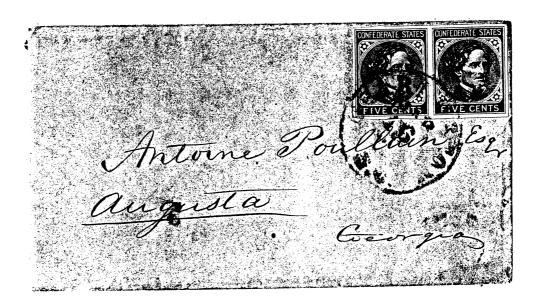
GENERAL ISSUES - TYPOGRAPHED BY DE LA RUE & CO



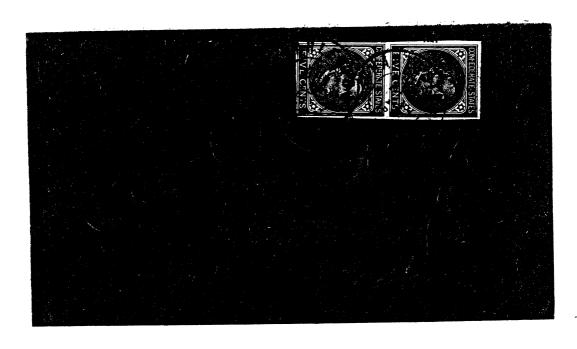
June 9, 1862; Type A-25 postmark on a London printing 5c De La Rue & Co. stamp overpaying 2c rate for "drop letter". The London printing has a clear impression and high quality paper. After running off a number of these stamps in England, the plates and additional paper stock entered Confederacy via blockade runner.



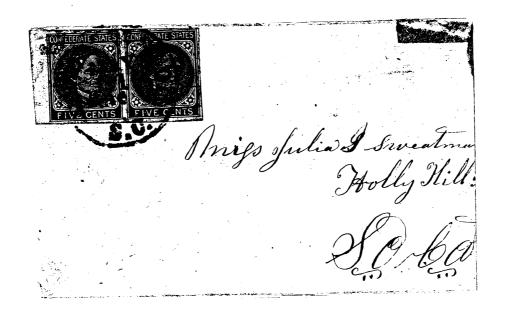
June 26, 1862; Type A-26a postmark on local printing by Archer & Daly of Richmond on imported De La Rue paper. The local printing on imported paper has a poorer impression on the stamp. The "McDaniel Express" ink notation is unlisted.



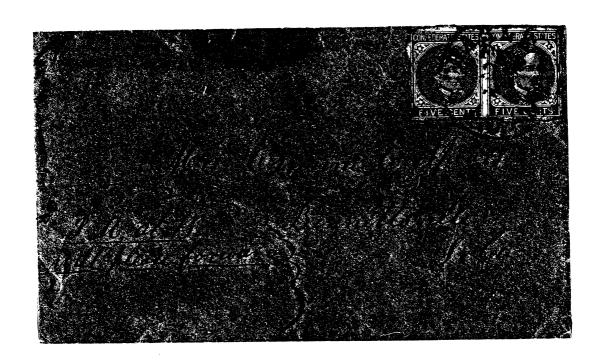
March 16, 1864; Type A-26a postmark on pair of 5c London printing stamps.



April 19, 1863; Type A-27a postmark on stamps printed locally on imported paper.



May 1, 1863; Type A-26a postmark on pair of 5c local printing stamps made on locally produced paper characterized by crude printing on poor quality paper.



February 23, 186 (3 or 4); Type A-26a postmark on pair of local printings made on local paper. Left stamp is the "pop-eye" variety flaw readily seen on left eye of Jefferson Davis between the "C" and "H" in the Charleston postmark.



December 11, 1862; Type A-27a postmark on two pairs of London printing stamps for a double weight letter.

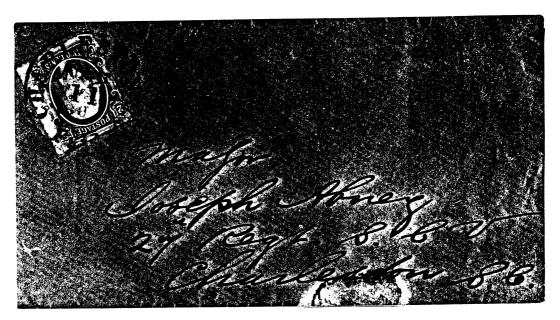


January 10, 186(3); Type A-26a postmarks on three pairs of the local printings on local paper from two sheets of stamps to pay the triple weight rate.

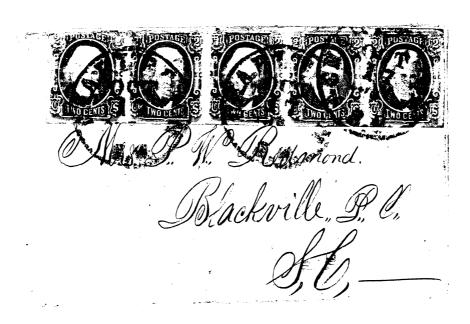
GENERAL ISSUES - LINE ENGRAVED



June 23, 1863; Type A-27a postmark. The so-called "Frameline" stamp with ruled lines around the image was submitted by Archer & Daly to Confederate Post Office as a sample of their printing and engraving abilities. The engraving was done by John Archer on steel and then transferred to copper plates for printing. The small sample run was accepted and sent out to some post offices even before the contract was signed. It is the rarest of the Confederate general issues. Rapid printing plate wear was deemed unsatisfactory, but the design was well received.



November 11, 186(3); Scarce Type AN-18a postmark on 2c drop letter to officer in 27th Regiment, South Carolina Volunteers at Charleston.



October 17, 186(3); Type A-26a postmark; strip of five 2c Andrew Jackson stamps.



May 1, 1863; Type A-26a postmark on Archer & Daly "TEN CENTS" stamp. This type had a very limited run; popular legend is that a supposed resemblance to Abraham Lincoln in the likeness of President Jefferson Davis caused its premature end. The real reason was rapid wear on the copper printing plates.



February 28, 1863; Type A-26 postmark on milky blue first printing stamp. This is only recorded case of A-26 postmark with full year date used after December 31, 1861 - the "3" in year date is quite clear. Note also that date logos are shifted to a 10 to 4 axis instead of the normal horizontal.

GENERAL ISSUES -STEEL PLATE ARCHER & DALY PRINTINGS

The Frameline and TEN CENTS stamps were prepared in modest numbers due to quick wear of the copper printing plates. Due to need for speedy action the Archer & Daly Frameline design was pressed into service after removing the framelines and substituting steel printing plates for the copper. This became the Type I printing. Another engraver at Archer & Daly was Frederick Halpin, who prepared the Type II, closely based on the earlier design. Although the two are similar, they are original engravings. An easy way of differentiating the two is at the corners; Type I corner ornaments are exposed and Type II has additional lines making the ornaments appear to be enclosed. As in earlier stamps, the problem of color control continued as is graphically illustrated on the following pages.



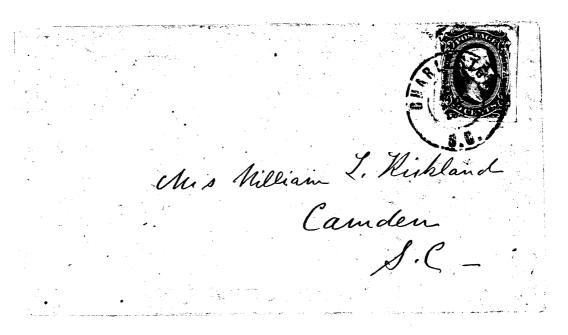




TYPE II.—HALPIN

Stamps from both dies or types were sold at Charleston Post Office, and are likely the most common Confederate issue.

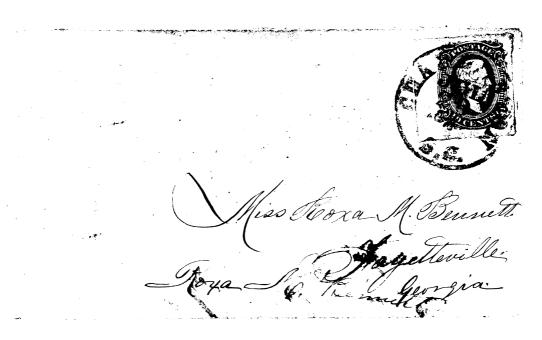
COLOR VARIETIES



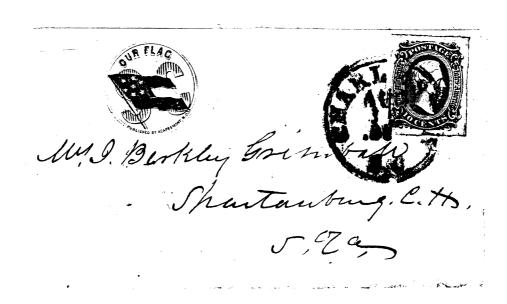
June 4, 1863; Type A-27a postmark on Type II, deep blue stamp by Archer & Daly.



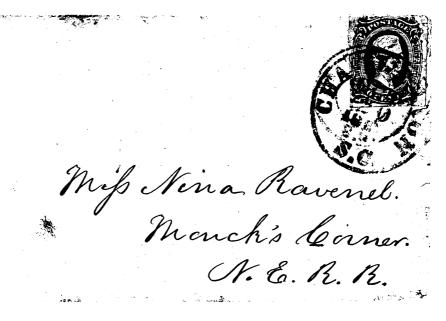
June 8, 1863; Relatively scarce Type A-18a postmark on Type I light blue stamp.



July 29, 1863; Type A-26a postmark on Type I, dull blue sheet margin stamp.



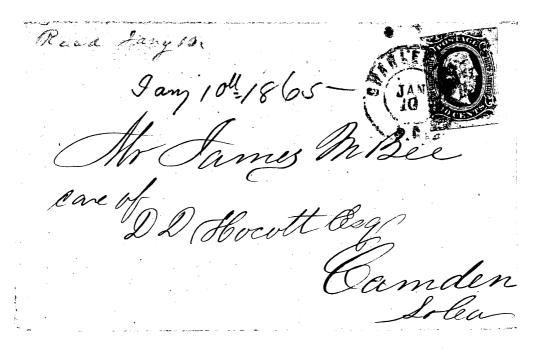
August 12, 1863; Type A-26a postmark on Type I, dull blue stamp. The South Carolina patriotic label was published by firm of Adaprement in New Orleans.



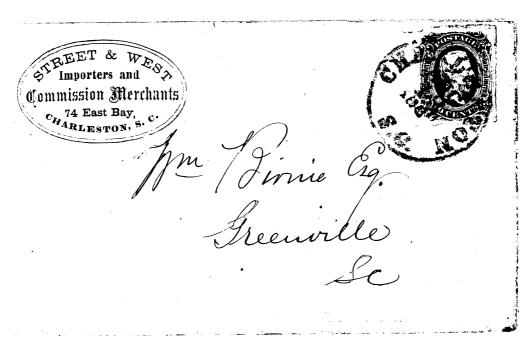
October 20, 1863; Archer & Daly Type I stamp was postmarked twice by A-26a and A-27a devices on same day, and sent via Northeastern Railroad to Monck's Corner.



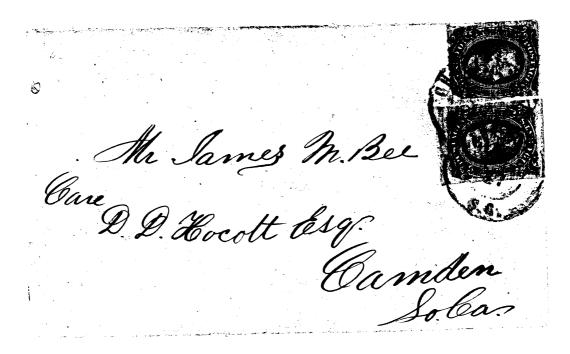
June 24, 1864; Type A-26a postmark on light blue Type II Archer & Daly stamp.



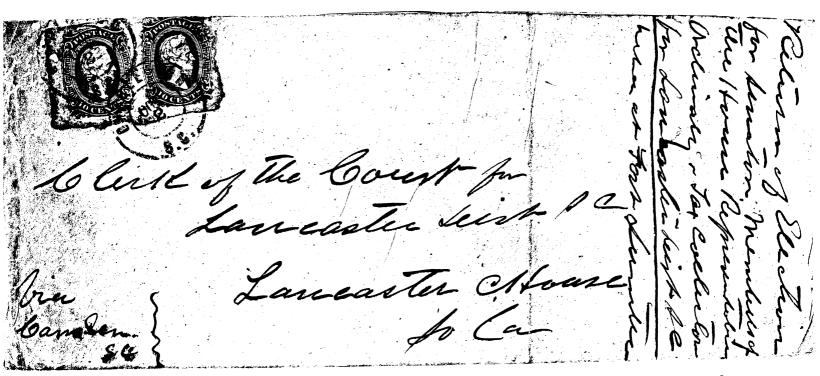
January 10, 1865; Type A-27a postmark on Archer & Daly Type II deep blue stamp.



August 13, 1864; Type A-26a postmark on Archer & Daly Type II steel blue stamp on prewar envelope.



December 17, 1864; Type A-28 postmark on a double weight letter franked by two Archer & Daly Type II stamps.



October 2, 1864; Type A-28 postmark on pair of Type I Archer & Daly stamps for a double weight letter containing election returns from Fort Sumter garrison.

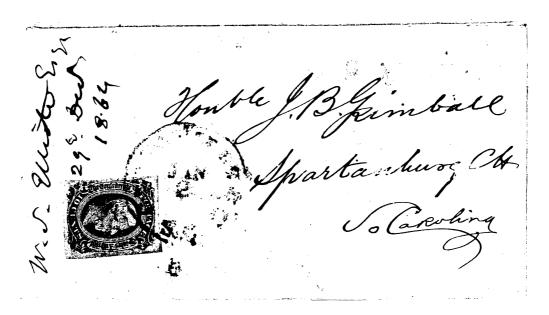


THE KEATINGE & BALL PRINTING

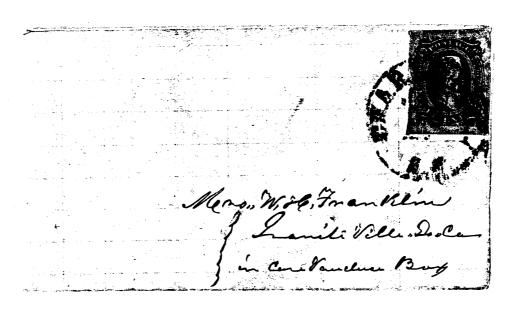
During the Fall of 1864, the Columbia, SC firm of Keatinge & Ball was given an emergency contract to produce stamps using Archer & Daly printing plates brought to South Carolina from Richmond. K&B continued in operation until February 17, 1865, when Columbia fell to General Sherman's army. It is said the plates were thrown in the Congaree River to prevent their capture. The chief characteristic of the K&B stamps is the filled in background of the portrait oval.



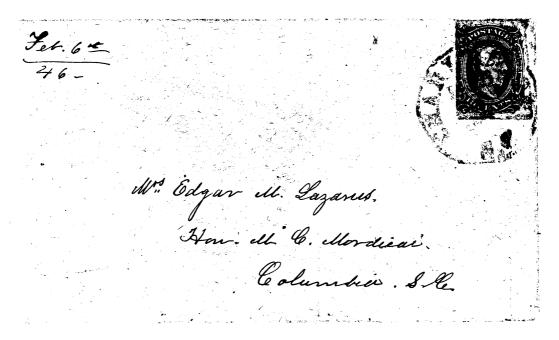
October 4, 1864; Type A-26a postmark on earliest recorded use of K&B stamp on adversity envelope fashioned from insurance company form.



January 2, 1865; Type A-25 postmark on handmade envelope with a "dry printing" of a Type II Keatinge & Ball 10c stamp.



January 26, 1865; Type A-26a postmark on envelope made from ledger sheet with Type I Keatinge & Ball stamp. Address is interesting as Vaucluse was a hamlet located not far from Graniteville; at the time it had no post office of its own.

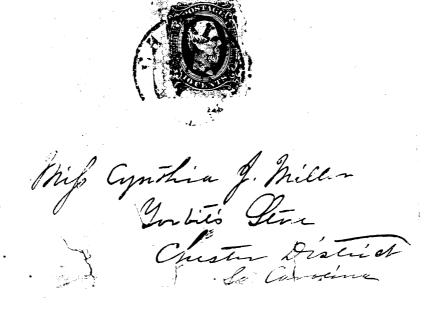


February 6, 1865; Type A-27a postmark on deep blue Keatinge & Ball Type II stamp used shortly before fall of Charleston to Union forces. Note cancel is nearly unreadable by early 1865.

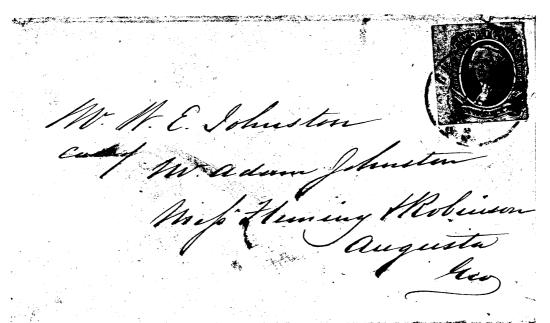


February 16, 1865; Type A-28 postmark on Type II Keatinge & Ball stamp. On the 17th the post office was closed and Charleston was evacuated by the Confederates.

PRIVATELY PERFORATED STAMP



August 1, 1863-64; Type A-25 postmark on the only recorded copy of a privately perforated Archer & Daly Type II 10c stamp used at Charleston. Other privately perforated stamps were used at several cities within the Confederacy.



April 25, (1863-64); Type A-27a postmark on 20c stamp for double weight letter.

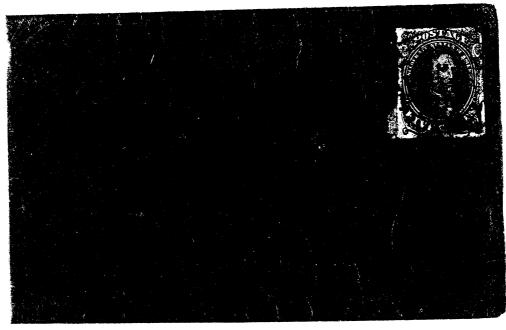


December 1, 1864; Type A-28 postmark with inverted date logo. Though most Archer & Daly 20c stamps were used as small change, they were intended for postal use. A full explanation of this partial cover is not possible, but it appears stamps and SN-12 "PAID 10" show a 50c charge, for a large packet in a pre-war envelope.

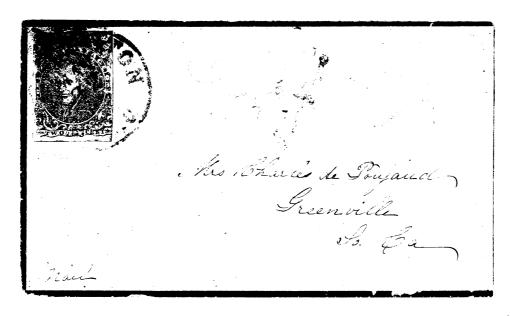
POSTAGE DUE - UNDERPAID LETTERS



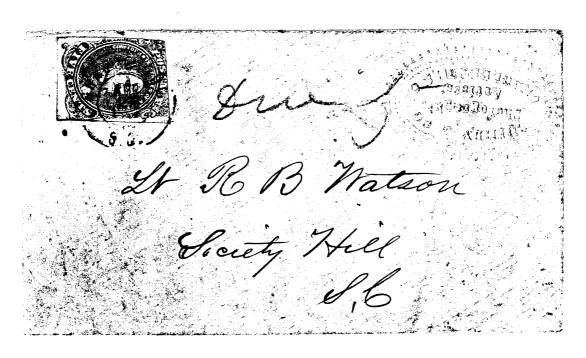
March 7, 1862; Type A-26a postmark on 5c green Hoyer & Ludwig Stone 2 stamp on typical black bordered mourning envelope; underpaid single weight letter sent to New Orleans, over 500 miles away, shown by the SN-6 "5".



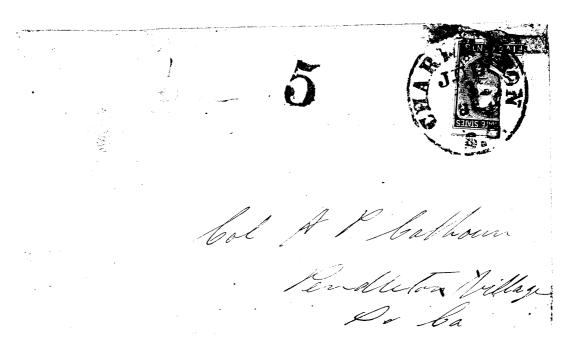
April 14, 1862; Type A-26a postmark on 5c green Hoyer & Ludwig Stone 1 stamp; Rated 5c postage due at Charleston with red crayon "Due 5" for overweight letter addressed to Alexander County, NC.



May 22, 1862; Type A-26a postmark on 2c green Hoyer & Ludwig stamp used in error but underpaying single weight rate on mourning cover to Greenville, SC. Noted "Due 3" in red crayon at Charleston post office. This is an example of why the color of the 5c stamps was changed to blue in early 1862.



April 26, 1862; Type A-27a postmark on 5c green Hoyer & Ludwig Stone 2 stamp; letter rated overweight, and underpayment of 5c noted with red crayon "Due 5".



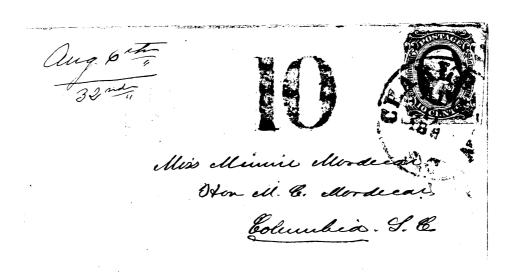
July 1, 1862; Type A-26a postmark on first day of universal 10c postage rate. Five cents De La Rue local print stamp was damaged prior to use, but accepted anyway. Reverse docketing shows it originated at nearby Ft Moultrie. The old type SN-6 "5" was often used on short paid letters as many people tried to pay the old 5c rate. Lacking a handstamp "DUE", a pencil was used instead. The letter, ironically, was likely written prior to July 1; at that time a 5c stamp paid the proper rate for a single weight under 500 miles letter.



July 8, 1862; Type A-27a postmark on underpaid official business letter. Stamp is a De La Rue London print. The SN-6 "5" was supplemented by an ink "5". The postage requirement for included all government offices except the Post Office.

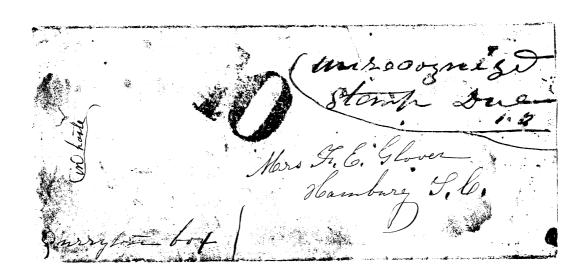


May 4, 1863-64; Type A-26a postmark on 5c De la Rue local printing. Handstamp SN-6 "5" shows underpayment on hand made envelope long after rates changed. The mansucript "5" is emphatic restatement of postage due at Newberry Court House.



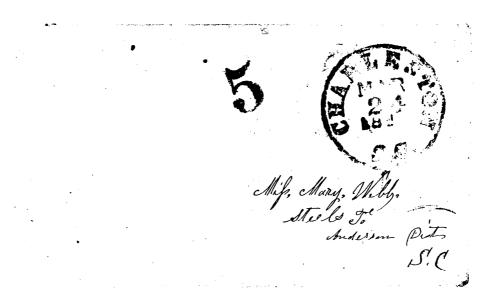
August 6, 1863; Type A-26a postmark. Type II Archer & Daly 10c stamp paid half the cost of double weight letter. The SN-11 "10" shows postage to be collected.

POSTAGE DUE - ILLEGAL STAMP



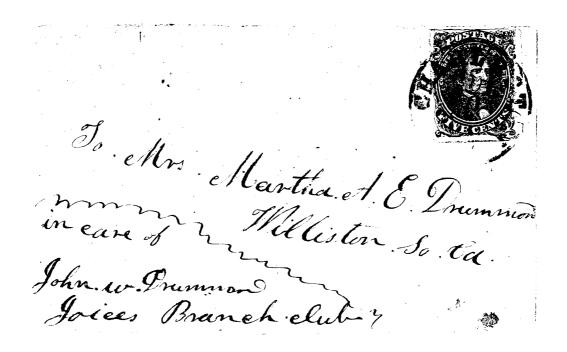
Letter from a soldier dated October 29, 1863, at Adams Run, several miles south of Charleston. Apparently a previously used 10c blue Hoyer & Ludwig stamp was put on the envelope back, but it was not accepted. At Charleston, where military mail was processed, an SN-11 "10" was struck, manuscript notation "Unrecognized Stamp Due 10" written, and most of the offending stamp cut from the envelope.

POSTAGE DUE - UNPAID CIVILIAN LETTER



March 12, 1862; Type A-26a postmark and SN-6 "5" on unpaid civilian letter. Other than Confederate military personnel and legislators no one was permitted to send an unpaid letter. This letter, apparently in a lady's handwriting, was in violation of this regulation. Likely because there was no return address on the envelope it was sent collect by indulgent Charleston Post Office personnel.

UNDERPAID - NO POSTAGE DUE COLLECTED



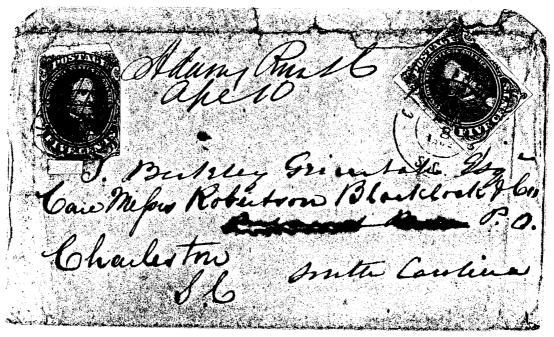
July 10, 1862; Type A-26a postmark on single 5c stamp. Postal rates increased to 10c on July 1, and letter should have been rated 5c postage due.

OVERPAID DROP LETTER

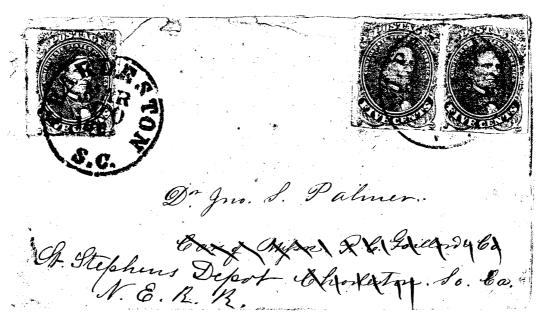


November 17, 1862; Type A-26a postmark on right margin copy of Stone Y, Hoyer & Ludwig 10c stamp overpays 2c local or "drop letter" rate.

FORWARDED - USING STAMPS



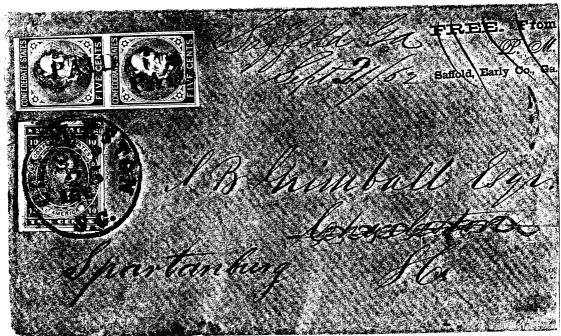
April 8, 1862; Type A-27a Charleston postmark on 5c blue Stone 2 Hoyer & Ludwig stamp to nearby Adams Run. Addressee had returned to Charleston, so letter was returned April 10th, using 5c green Stone 1 Hoyer & Ludwig stamp.



Letter first mailed at Culpepper, VA, at unknown date, with pair of Stone A or B, 5c Hoyer & Ludwig stamps for long distance single weight rate; forwarded from Charleston March 20, 1862, with Stone A or B stamp hit with A-26a device, to St. Stephens Depot on Northeastern Railroad.



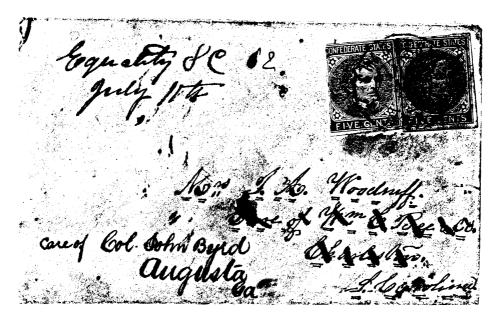
Envelope first used at Columbia, SC, to Prof. Louis Gibbes July 29, 1863, with a De La Rue London print 5c stamp. At Columbia, 5c shortage noted with a pencil "Due 5". At Charleston letter redirected to Anderson, SC, with a 10c Archer & Daly Type II stamp postmarked by A-26a. Likely 5c due was collected in cash at Charleston. This is a so-called "turned cover"; the first usage from Anderson August 26 to Prof. Gibbes' daughter in Charleston.



Letter in a pre-war postmaster's "free" envelope originally mailed September 21, 1862, at Saffold, Georgia, where the pair of De La Rue London print stamps were postmarked with the straight line "PAID"; forwarded September 25, to Spartanburg, with the A-26a Charleston postmark on a 10c blue J.T. Paterson Stone Y stamp.

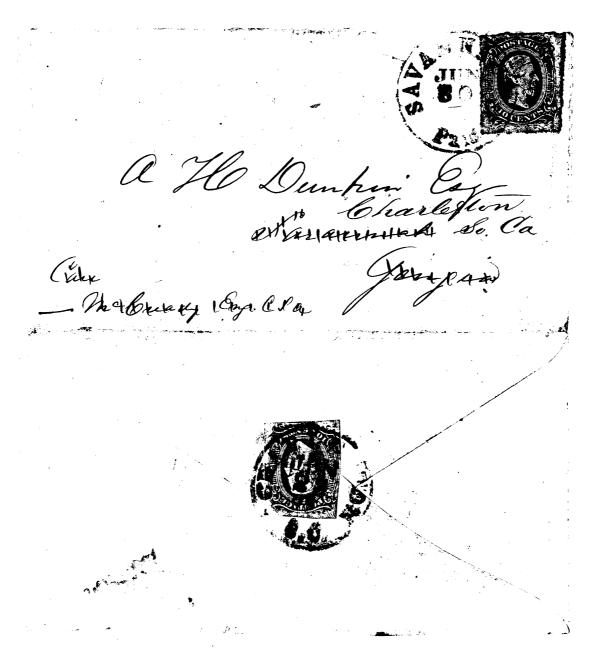


Initially mailed at Cheraw, SC, on February 7, 1863, with a pair of milky blue Stone 2 Hoyer & Ludwig 5c stamps. Forwarded from Charleston on February 9, by agent using a pair of local print De La Rue stamps postmarked with the A-26a. Even though the recipient was apparently attached to General Gist's staff since he was a civilian his forwarded mail required additional postage.



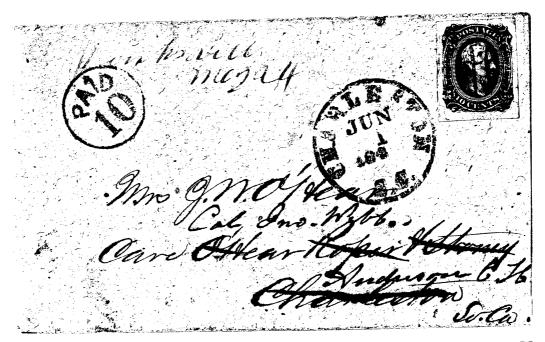
Letter initially mailed at Equality, SC, on July 11, 1863, and forwarded from Charleston to Augusta using two local print De La Rue 5c stamps on July 16th.

Beneath the stamps is a manuscript "Paid 10" applied at Equality.

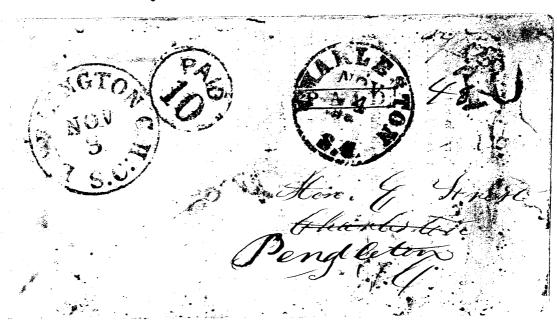


June 28, 1864; Type A-26a Charleston postmark on Archer & Daly Type I stamp to Savannah. Return postage paid on June 30, by the Archer & Daly Type II stamp.

FORWARDED - CHARGES PAID IN CASH



May 24, 1863; Letter originally mailed at Yorkville, SC, where Type II Archer & Daly 10c stamp was pen cancelled. Letter forwarded from Charleston June 1, 1863, with an A-26a, to Anderson Court House, SC; postage paid in cash, shown by the circular SN-12 "PAID 10".



First mailed at Darlington Court House November 3, 1862-63; prepaid 10c cash, per boxed handstamp "PAID" (under Charleston A-26a postmark) and "10" at upper right. Charleston 10c forwarding charge paid in cash on November 4, per SN-12 "PAID 10". "Adversity" envelope made from 1850s engineering proposal form.

FORWARDED - NO CHARGES COLLECTED



March 11, 1863; Type A-26a postmark on Archer & Daly 2c stamp for postage on a drop letter; however, Mr. Smith was in Anderson, and the letter was readdressed to him there. This should have incurred a charge of 10c, but it was apparently not levied. Even if Anderson had informed the post office he would be away, the letter should have been rated 8c additional for normal postage.



Mandanbille Ofor 23/62

Soli Stigm.

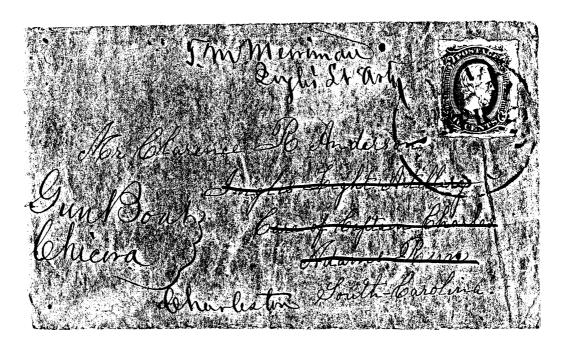
The ant of your Confit
wan Tax, upon that improfitable piece of Sand,
in this Parish, is 78 cts being Recker of fully

Clos. M. Jarry

ack someta, and encircle buckers

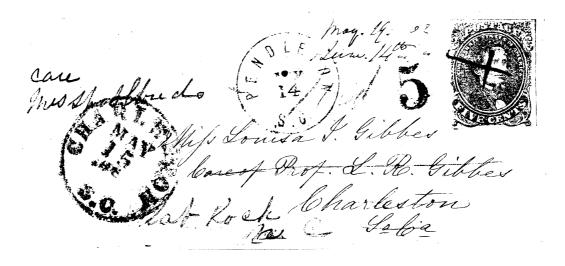
November 25, 1862; November 23, 1862, letter from tax collector in Grahamville informing Petigru of a 78c "Confederate War Tax" on a parcel of land. Carried privately to Charleston by rail, where pair of De La Rue Co. 5c local prints were postmarked by the A-26a. At this point it could be considered an overpaid drop letter. Apparently, Petigru had informed the Post Office he would be in Columbia so letter was readdressed and forwarded at no charge; this may explain the Type A-27a postmark with the same date. If this letter had been treated "by the book" it would have rated 2c for local service and 10c for the forwarding.

FORWARDED - NO CHARGES FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL

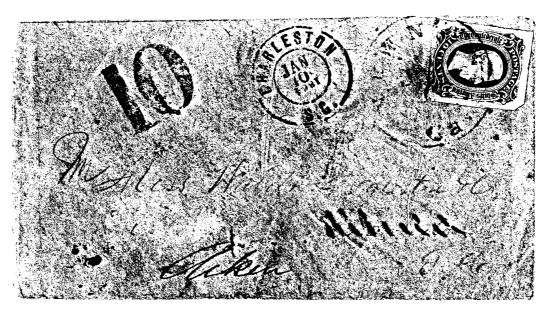


April (1863-64); Letter mailed at Black Mingo, SC, to member of Inglis Light Artillery at Adams Run, just outside of Charleston on the Charleston & Savannah Railroad. Letter forwarded to recipient who had transferred to the Confederate States ironclad gunboat Chicora at Charleston. By Act of July 29, 1861, the Confederate Congress approved forwarding of mail addressed to military personnel free of additional postage. This reform did not apply to civilians.

FORWARDED - RATED POSTAGE DUE



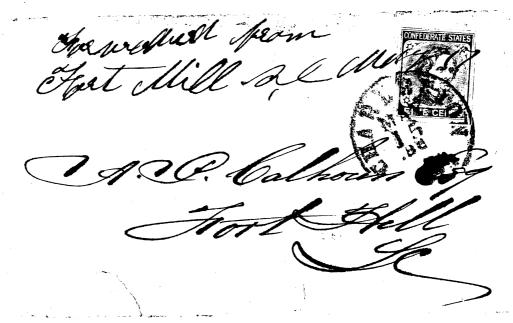
Letter originally mailed at Pendleton on May 14, 1862, where the 5c stamp was pen cancelled. It was forwarded on May 15 with a Charleston A-26a postmark, the red crayon "Fwd" and Sn-6 "5".



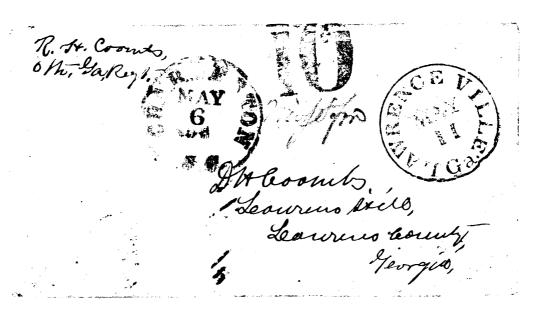
Letter originally mailed in January 1864, from Newman, Georgia, using a Type II Archer & Daly 10c stamp. Forwarded postage due from Charleston to Aiken January 10th, with Type A-27a inverted year date postmark and SN-11 "10".



MISSENT BY POST OFFICE - FORWARDED FREE OF CHARGE



May 12, 1862; Type A-26a postmark. Addressed to Fort Hill, SC, but misdirected to another South Carolina town of Fort Mill, from which it was forwarded on May 17th. As was the rule prior to the War, if the post office delivered a letter to the wrong town no forwarding fees were collected at the ultimate destination.



May 6, 1864; Type A-26a postmark and SN-11 "10" for postage due on soldier's letter from member of the 6th Georgia Regiment at Charleston. Misdirected and forwarded free of charge from Lawrenceville to Laurens Hill, Georgia, May 11th.

ADVERTISED MAIL



Letter entered mail at Greenville, SC, at an undetermined date, and was routed to Charleston via railroad. Apparently the recipient failed to call at the post office, and so its arrival was advertised in a local newspaper. This incurred a 2c charge which was then collected when the letter was finally picked up. The "2" is the well known SN-3 marking used at Charleston. The pencilled "163" was probably the letter's post office file number.

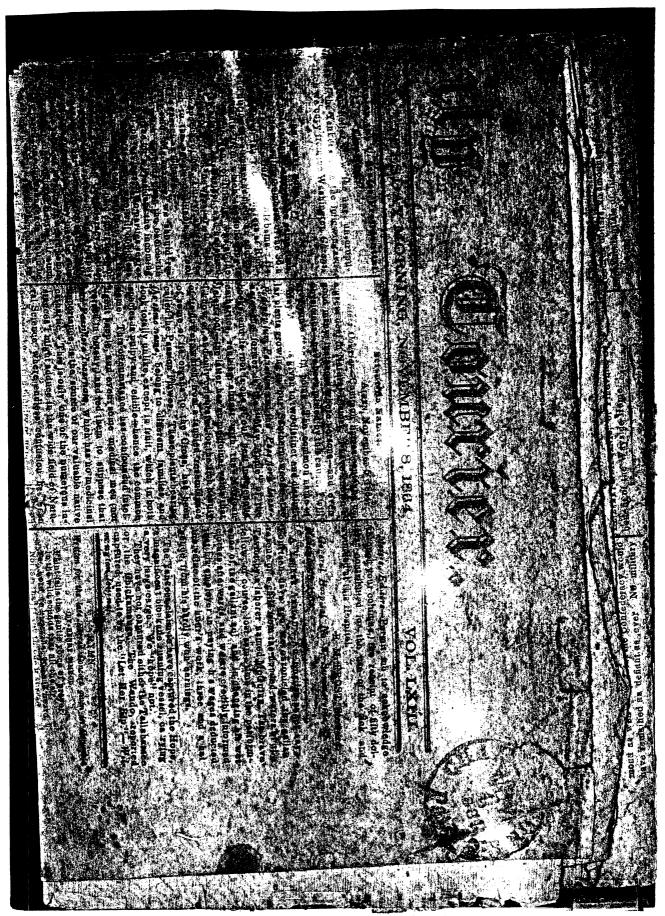
WAY LETTER

The concept of "WAY" letters does not exist today, but dates to colonial times. The definition of a "Way Letter" dates to Postmaster General Habersham (1795-1801) "...such letters as are received by a mail carrier on his way between post offices and which he is to deliver at the first post office he comes to. The word "WAY" is also to be written upon each Way letter." A fee of 1c in addition to normal postage was charged. This normally meant a letter was handed directly to a person holding a mail contract - on horseback, stage, steamer or train, and not to a post office route agent who actually processed mail.

The Confederacy made no specific provision for treatment of Way letters, and so the 1c US Post Office rate in effect on May 31, 1861, was retained.

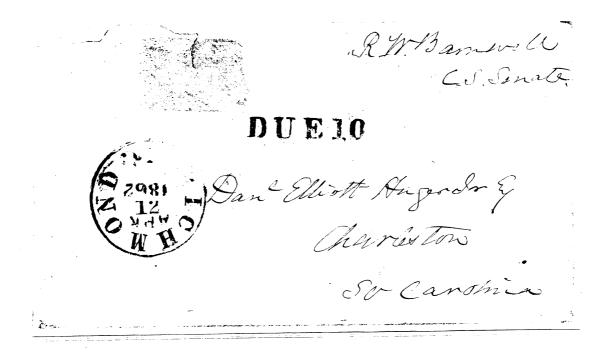


May 29, 1862; Type A-27a postmark on Stone 2 printing of first general issue. Manuscript "Way" shows it was hand carried to Charleston by contract carrier who should have received 1c. From original destination at Georgetown, forwarded to Kingstree (probably via Black River). This should have entailed an additional 5c postage due, but the envelope gives no hint of this.



November 8, 1864; scarce Type A-18a postmark with inverted year date prepaid 2c newspaper rate which remained constant throughout the Civil War.

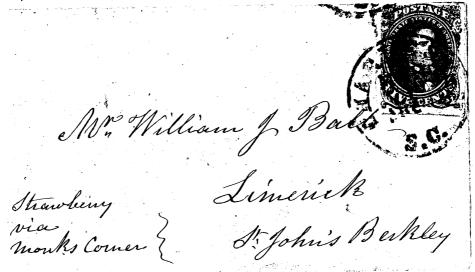
CONFEDERATE CONGRESSIONAL ENDORSEMENT



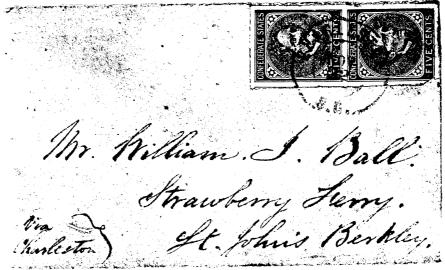
Posted at Richmond on April 21, 1862, and forwarded unpaid to Charleston, where 10c was collected on a long distance letter; endorsed by Robert W. Barnwell, a Confederate States Senator from South Carolina. Other than Confederate military personnel, only legislators could endorse their mail and send it postage due.

ST JOHNS LOCAL POST

After 1801, a private post operated by plantation owners along the upper Cooper River in St Johns Parish ran from Strawberry Ferry and Charleston. In the late 1850s, as the Northeastern Railroad was extended into the area, mail for these planters was left at Strawberry station although there was no post office. One St Johns Post sponsor was Charleston Postmaster Huger. Several Balls belonged, and their correspondence is chief source of covers available for study today. Although various ways of directing such mail are seen on St Johns Post envelopes, Confederate period examples almost always include "Strawberry" in the address.



March 1, 1862; Type A-26a postmark on a 5c first issue stamp to William Ball at his Limerick Plantation. Note routing instruction reads "Strawberry via Monks Corner", a major NERR depot on this section of the railroad.



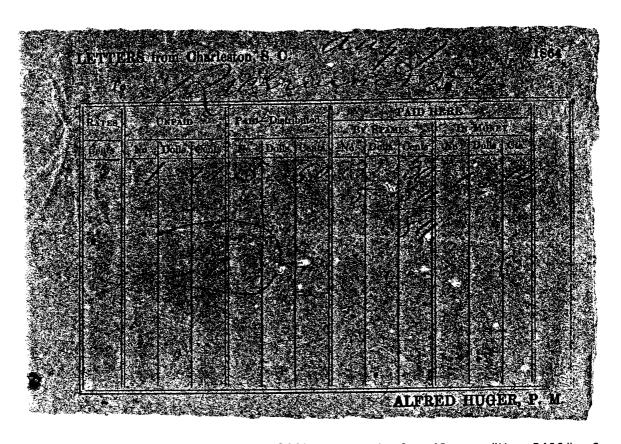
November 22, 1864; Type A-28 postmark on pair of De La Rue local printing 5c stamps to Strawberry Ferry railroad stop. "Via Charleston" routing instruction indicates letter likely originated outside city and was posted by privte agent.

HOME DELIVERY BY CHARLESTON PENNY POST

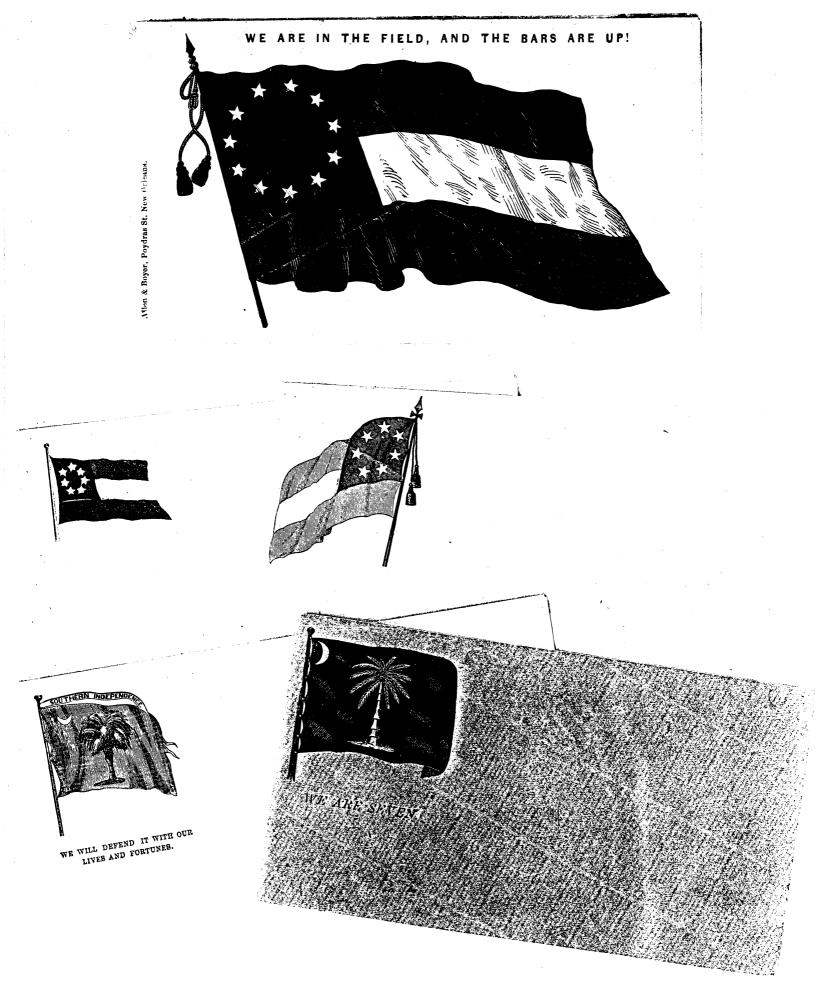
The Penny Post was an official US Post Office service run by several different individuals beginning in 1849; it continued on a reduced scale after hostilities broke out. Although charge per letter delivered during the Confederate period is still unknown, the cost was 2c prior to the war, and it probably continued. Persons outside the city wishing to use the service commonly included a street address or directions and endorsed the envelope for Penny Post service. It is believed patrons could also have made a cash advance and had their names entered on the delivery list.



Letter mailed at Guineys, Virginia, in March (1862-64), with pair of De la Rue local printing 5c stamps; delivered in Charleston via Penny Post carrier to an address on King Street.

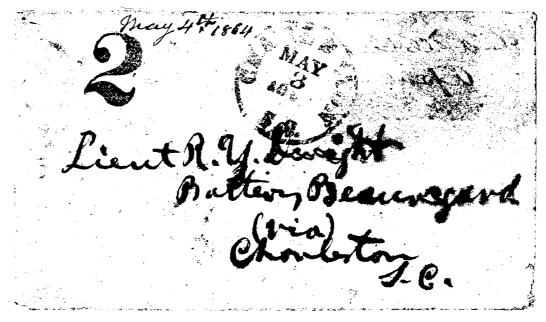


August 7, 1864; a Confederate Post Office record of mail, or "Way Bill", from Charleston to Richmond listing different categories of letters and how the funds were accounted for. Note that Alfred Huger was still Postmaster at Charleston.

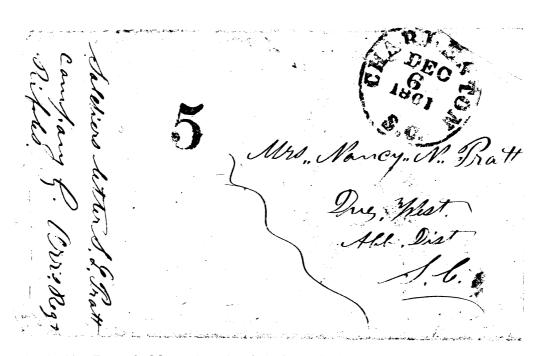


As the Confederacy become more established a multibude of patriotic envelopes come into use. Transcally, many were manufactured in the North.

SOLDIERS' LETTERS - HANDSTAMPED POSTAGE DUE MARKINGS



May 3, 1864; Type A-26a postmark; Type An-3 "2" for postage due on local letter to Battery Beauregard on Sullivan's Island. Soldiers could send letters unpaid, with postage collected on delivery. "Turned cover" franked with Archer & Daly 10c stamp previously used from Castle Cove, Virginia, on April 21.



December 6, 1861; Type A-26 postmark with SN-6 "5" for postage due on letter from soldier in Orr's Regiment, 1st South Carolina Volunteers.

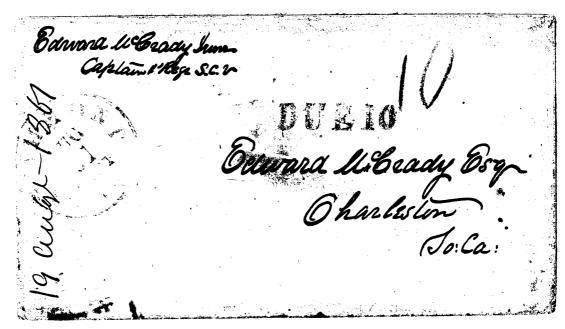


February 13, 1864; Type A-26a postmark with 10c postage due SN-11 marking from soldier in 46th Georgia Volunteer Regiment. Poorly printed local imprint is by W & J Bonitz of Goldsboro, NC, and consists of a nine star Confederate flag with the following patriotic verse:

Bright banner of Freedom with pride I unfurl thee:
Fair Flag of my country with love I be hold thee,
Gleaming above us in freshness and youth,
Emblem of Liberty, Symbol of Truth;
For the Flag of my country in triumph shall wave,
O'er the Southerner's Home and the Southerner's Grave!



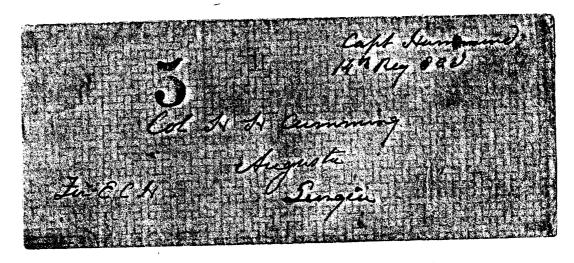
September 25, 1861; Type A-26 postmark on adversity envelope fashioned from page from mathematical table. SN-11 "10" and manuscript "due" shows postage due on a double weight letter sent less than 500 miles. 1861 use of SN-11 is scarce.



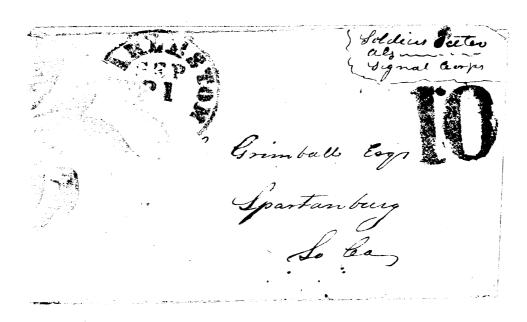
Postage on unpaid soldiers' mail was collected by receiving post office. Thus, Charleston collected 10c for double weight, long distance letter mailed August 1, 1861, at Richmond.



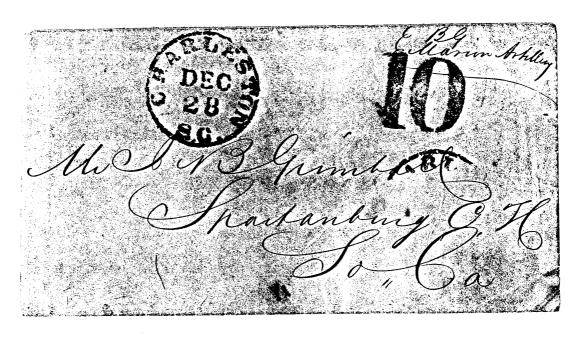
February 8, 1862; Type A-26a postmark; postage due shown by SN-6 "5" on letter from soldier in 17th Regiment, South Carolina Volunteers at Palmetto Camp Croft located outside Charleston.



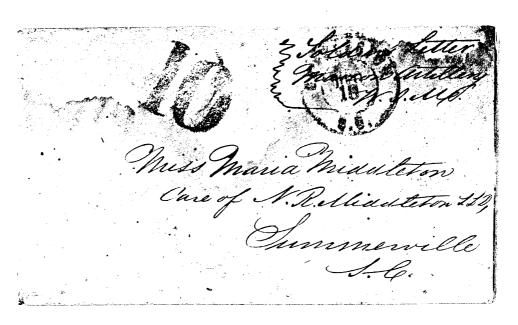
Undated letter mailed prior to July 1, 1862, and postage due of 5c indicated by a SN-5 handstamp. Letter by Captain in 14th Regiment, South Carolina Volunteers to Augusta. Letters from Charleston without a town postmark are very unusual.



September 21, 1864; Type A-26a postmark on envelope made from fancy wallpaper by Signal Corps soldier; postage due shown by SN-11 "10" marking.



December 28, (1862-64); The scarce Type A-25 postmark and SN-11 due marking.

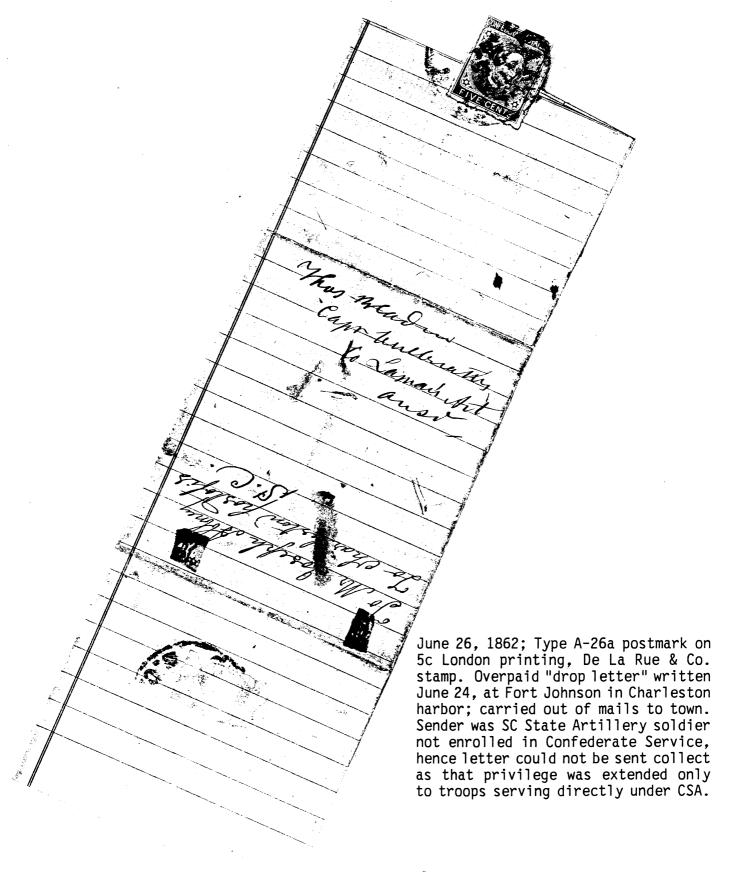


December 18, 1864; Type A-28 postmark and SN-11 "10" shows postage due on letter from soldier in the Marion Artillery.



December 2, 1862; Type A-27a postmark on letter from soldier in "Rebel Troops". Originally rated paid by SN-12 "PAID 10" but corrected to show unpaid postage with an SN-11. Ten cents due restated with small "10" at Savannah post office. Only recorded example of the SN-12/SN-11 marking.

STATE TROOPS - MANDATORY PREPAYMENT

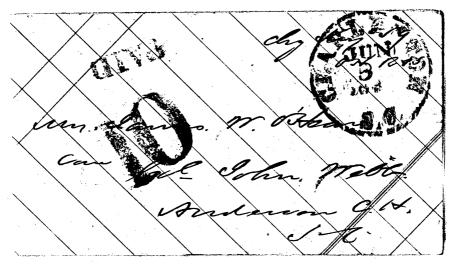


LATER USAGES OF HANDSTAMPED PAIDS

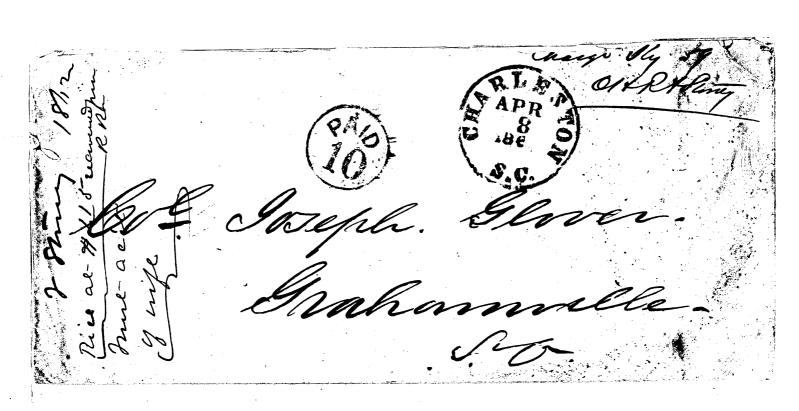
The Confederate Post Office, as the US Post Office did earlier, permitted charge accounts. In these examples, firms, offices or individuals took advantage of this option, and the Post Office clerks handstamped the letters and charged the postage against an advance deposit or standing account. In other cases circulars or newspapers might be handled in this way, or handstamps might have been used during a stamp shortage.



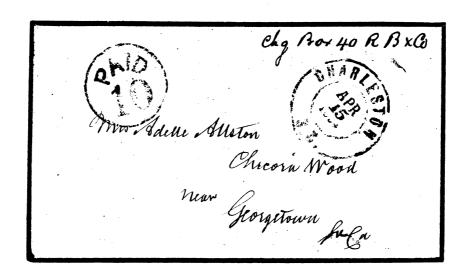
November 26, 1864; Type A-26a postmark and SN-4 "PAID 2" for a drop letter charged to Post Office Box #47.



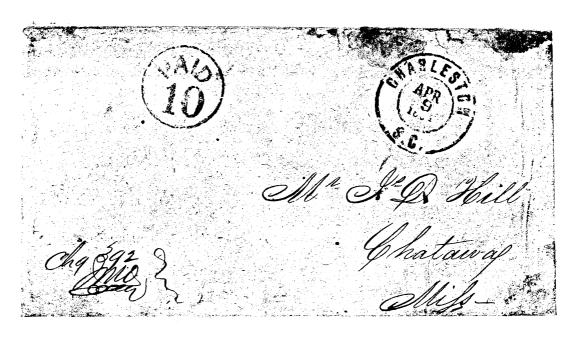
June 3, 186 (3); Type A-26a postmark with 10c single weight postage charged to Post Office Box #59, indicated by S-11 "PAID" and SN-11 "10".



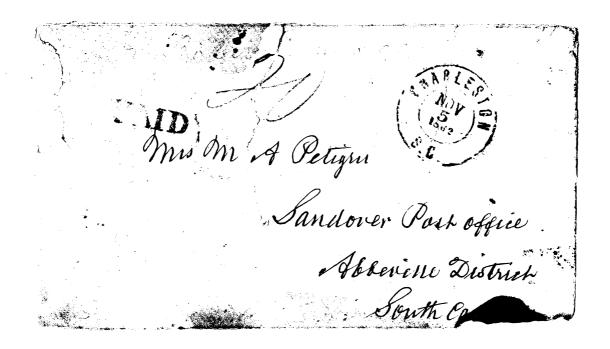
April 8, 1862; Type A-26 postmark and SN-12 "PAID 10" for a double weight letter to Grahamville, SC, located on South Carolina Railroad. Postage also charged to Post Office Box #59.



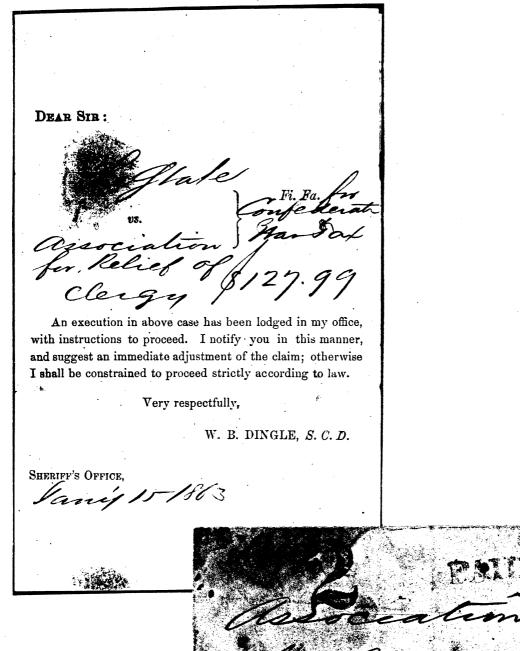
April 15, 1864; Type A-27a postmark and SN-12 "PAID 10". Postal charges to commercial box #40 for this mourning cover.



April 9, 1863; Type A-27a postmark and SN-12 "PAID 10". Postage charged to Box #392. As this was a military account the letter may be presumed to be official business, or was it a case of using a military account for one's personal mail?

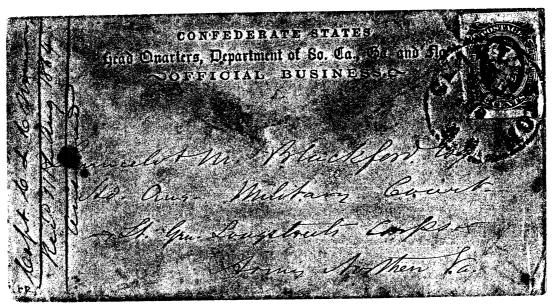


November 5, 1862; Type A-27a postmark with 20c postage for double weight letter charged to individual account indicated by the manuscript "20" and handstamped SN-12 "PAID". This is the only recorded example of this combination of postal markings from Charleston.

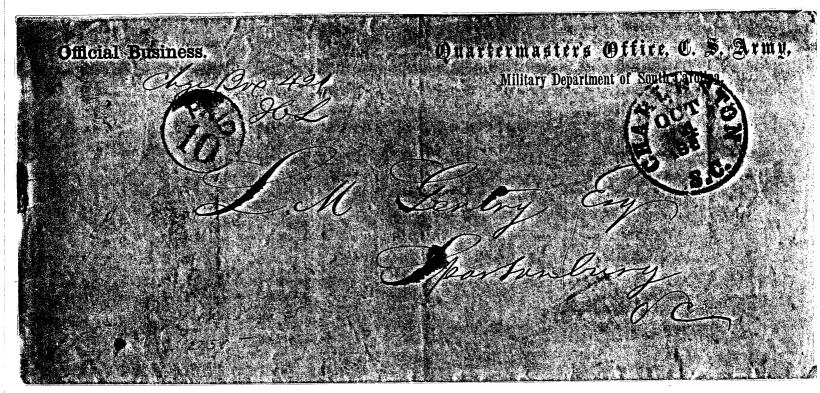


Printed tax notice dated January 15, 1863, from the Charleston Sheriff's Office and addressed to local organization; handstamps SN-3 "2" and S-11 "PAID". This is only recorded copy of this combination of markings.

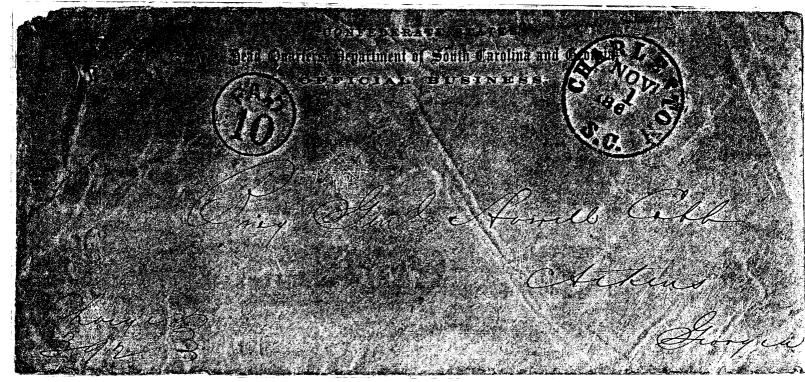
SEMI-OFFICIAL IMPRINTS



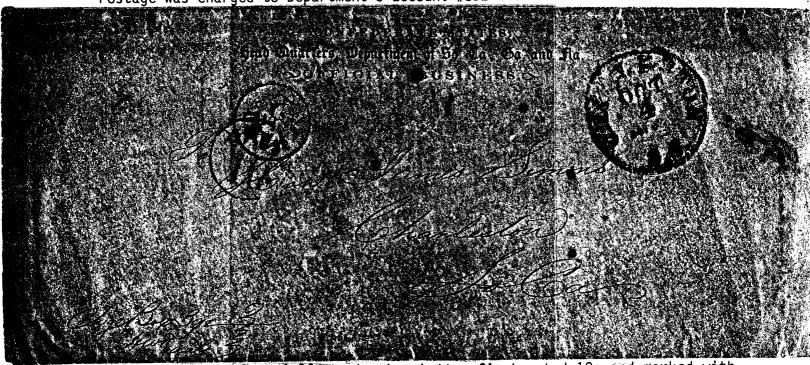
August 6, 1864; Type A-26a postmark on Type I Archer & Daly 10c stamp on Department of South Carolina, Georgia & Florida imprinted envelope.



October 4, 1862; Type A-26a postmark and SN-12 "PAID 10" on a semi-official Military Department of South Carolina imprinted envelope charged to Box 421.



November 1, 1862; Type A-26a postmark with Type SN-12 "PAID 10" on early type semi-official envelope used before reorganization added Florida to Department. Postage was charged to Department's account #392 with Charleston Post Office.



October 4, 1864; Type A-26a postmark. Letter first rated 10c and marked with SN-12 marking but rerated with SN-4 "PAID 2" as drop letter charged to Box #392.

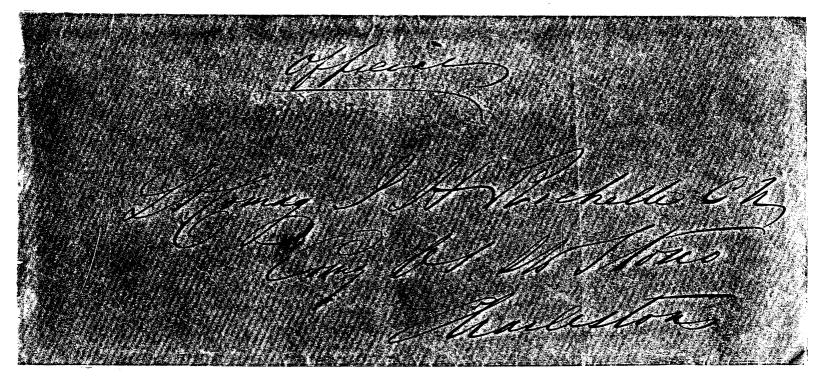
This is the only such combination recorded.

	EEAD QUARTERS.			
	H epartment	of South Carolina.	Georgia and Flor	inst.
	Charleston,	d. f	186	
HEAD QUARTERS, 1st	MILITARY DISTR	ier.		
Department of South Caro	lina, Grozer A Lie	Boy 24	58	
C				. *
Mrs. Laws	ice I.	Keitt		
190	metsville			
	Sint of			
RSR.	Vousu (Jarona		

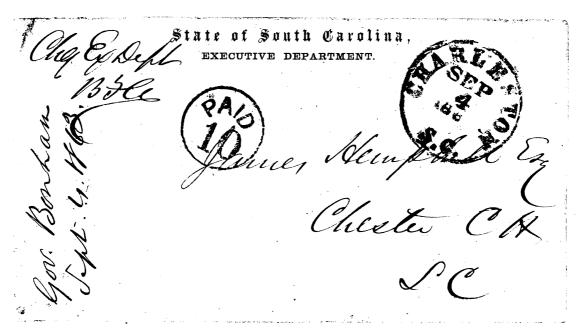
June 3, 1864; Type A-27a postmark and SN-12 "PAID 10" charged to Box 268 on semi-official imprinted envelope (with the words fully spelled out) of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. Addressed to wife of a signer of the Ordinance of Secession, and likely contained a letter of condolence since Keitt was killed in action a few days earlier. The "RSR" and address are in the hand of General R.S. Ripley. Also shown is an example of the imprinted stationery used in Ripley's office.



Official letter delivered out of the mails to Commanding Officer of the ironclad steamer <u>Stono</u>, on Naval Commandant's Office imprinted envelope.



Official letter delivered out of mails to Commanding Officer of the Stono.



September 4, 1863; State level offices also had post office charge accounts. This semi-official envelope endorsed from local office of Governor Bonham was rated 10c by SN-12 "PAID 10" marking and charged to Executive Office's account.



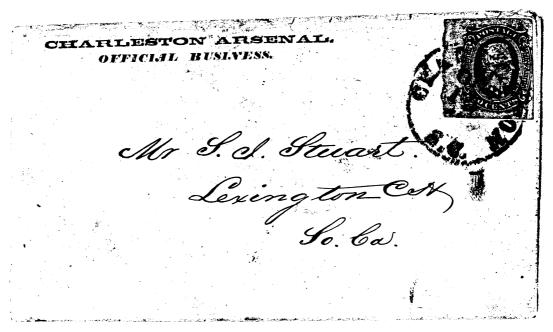
July 7, 186(3); Type A-26a postmark and SN-12 "PAID 10" charged Box #46 account on official business letter from Medical District Office concerning disposition of deceased soldier's effects.

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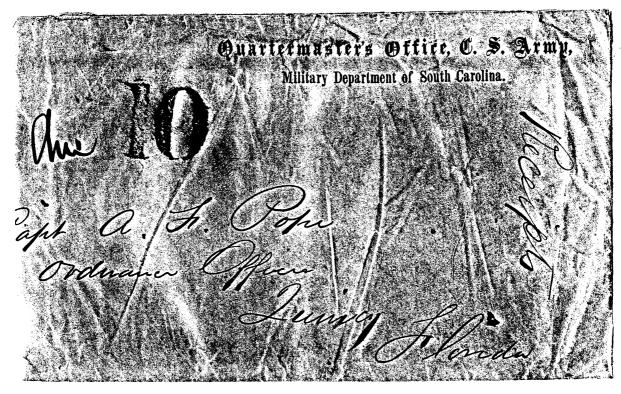
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Letters on Ordnance Bureau semi-Official envelopes docketed March 20, 1861, and April 16 (1861); carried out of the mails to Commanders of the "Late US Arsenal" in the Charleston district of Cannonsboro. The US Arsenal had been taken over by the State prior to this time.



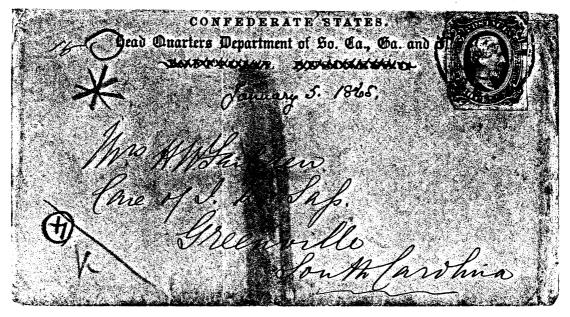
October 15, 1863; Type A-26a postmark on left margin copy Type I Archer & Daly 10c stamp paid postage on unlisted semi-official envelope from the Charleston Arsenal - the former US Arsenal taken over by the South Carolina in early 1861.



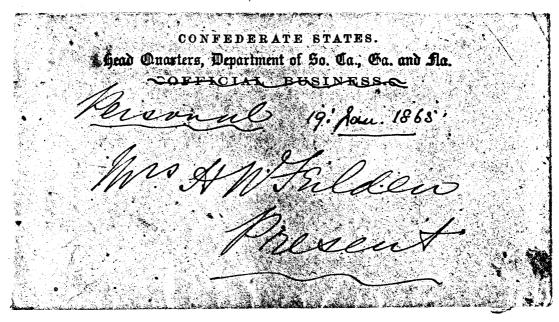
Undated letter with Quartermaster's Office of the Military Department of South Carolina receipts using semi-official envelope. Postage due shown by SN-11 "10".

ADVERSITY USAGES

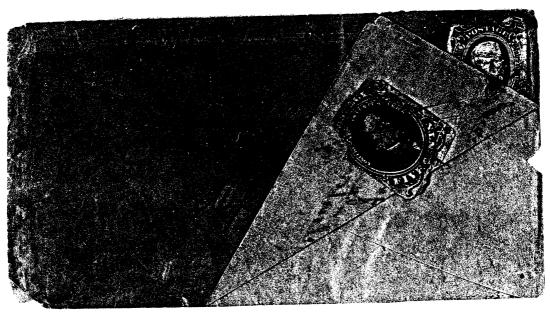
All manner of expedient envelopes were made by the people of the South as the war progressed. Several typical and not-so-typical types are shown here.



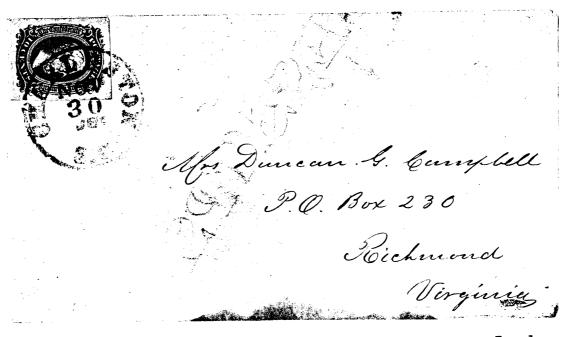
January 7, 1865; Type A-28 postmark on Archer & Daly Type II stamp. Private use of a Dietz Type I semi-official imprinted envelope.



January 19, 1865; Carried out of the mails - private adversity use of Dietz Type I semi-official imprinted envelope. On both the "official business" is deleted.



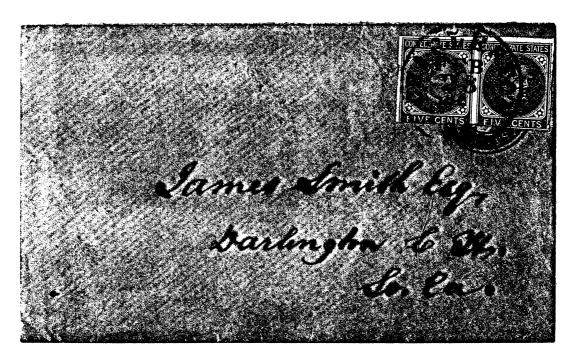
November 13, 1864; Type A-28 postmark on Keatinge & Ball printing of Type II 10c stamp. Envelope used previously with Stone 1, 5c stamp to North Carolina.



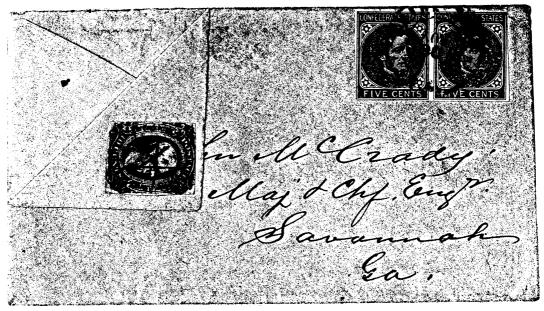
November 30, 186(3); Type A-26a postmark with inverted year date. Envelope made from stationery with the watermark "JESSUP".



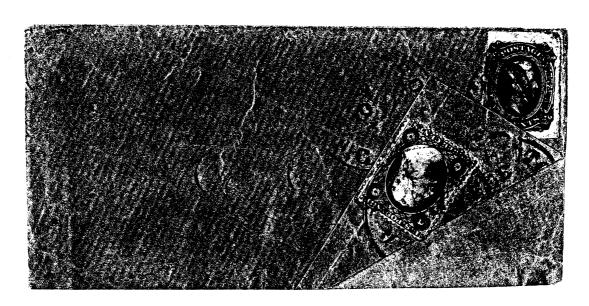
June 19, 1864; Type A-26a postmark. Archer & Daly Type I stamp on a homemade envelope made from fancy wallpaper. June 18 docketing indicates date written.



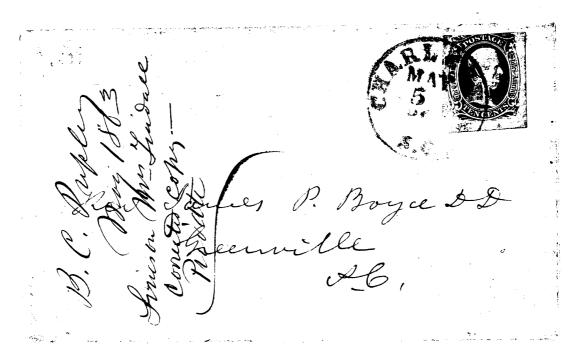
February 23, 1863; Type A-26a postmark on local printing and local paper De La Rue stamps affixed over a pre-war Series 1857 United States stamped envelope.

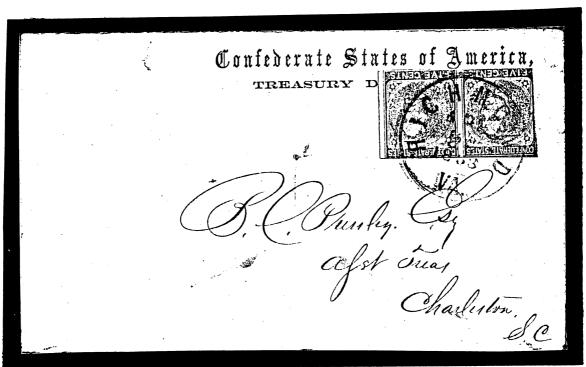


November 30, 1864; Type A-28 postmark with inverted month logo. Pair of De La Rue 5c local prints by Archer & Daly on local paper. Envelope used previously and "turned" - original usage has pen cancelled Type II Archer & Daly 10c stamp.



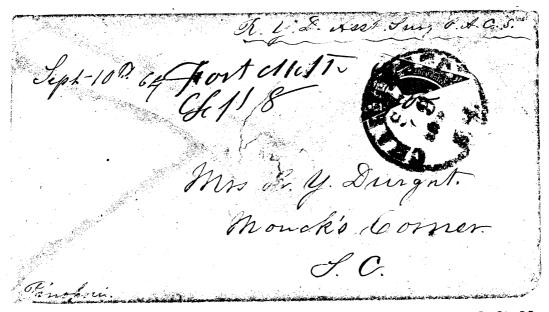
Charleston was not the only city where used pre-war envelopes were pressed into service. On envelope first used in February 1860, from Charleston, the mailer in Anderson, SC, reused this envelope for a letter to Lincolnton, NC.



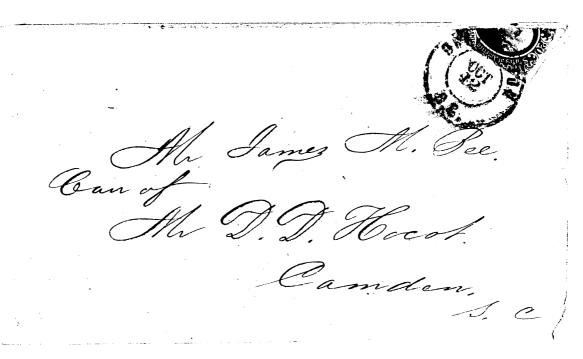


May 5, 1863; Type A-26a postmark on Archer & Daly steel blue "TEN CENTS" stamp. Envelope first used at Richmond April 28, 1863, with pair of De La Rue 5c stamps printed locally by Archer & Daly. Semi-official envelope was also printed by De La Rue for Confederate Treasury Department.

Due to periodic shortages of 10c stamps and an oversupply of the seldom used 20c issue several Confederate post offices chose to bisecting supplies of 20c stamps.

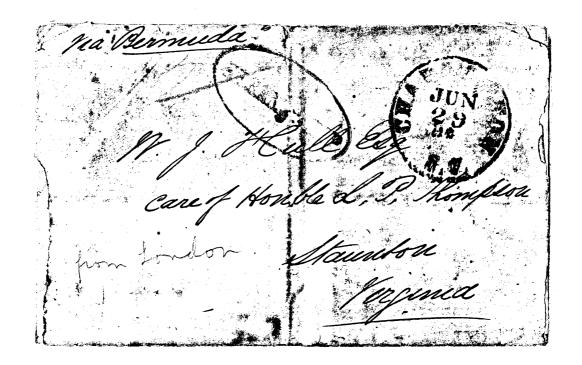


September 9, 1864; Type A-26a postmark. Archer & Daly 20c lower left 20c bisect for single rate. Envelope used previously September 8, at Fort Motte, SC, whose partially visible manuscript "Paid 10" is at the "9" of date.

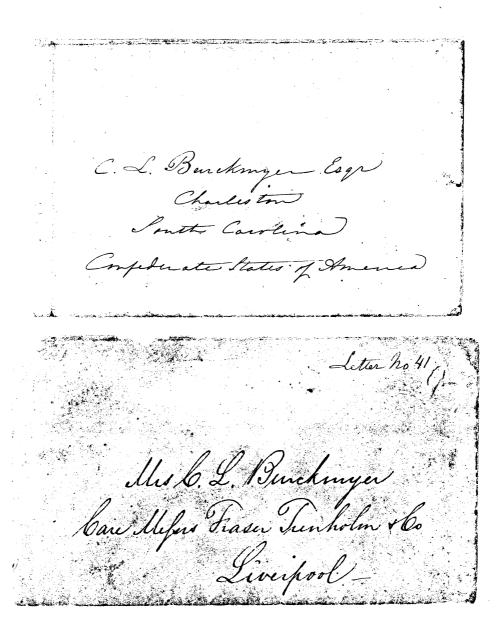


October 12, 1864; Type A-28 postmark on an upper right quadrant 20c bisect.

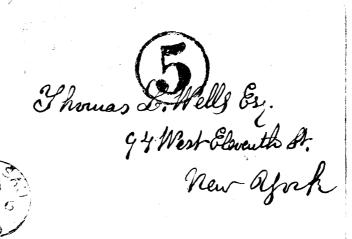
THROUGH THE UNION BLOCKADE



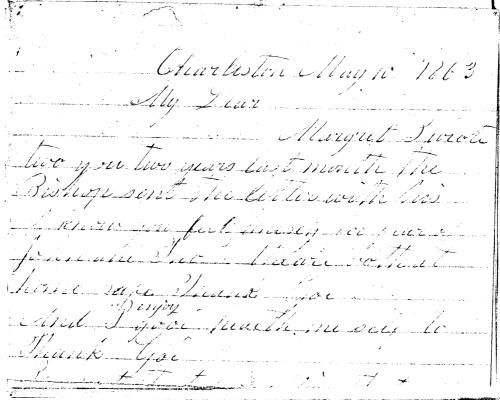
June 29, 1864; Type A-26a postmark on letter originating in London, England, and forwarded into the Confederacy via British island colony of Bermuda. There had earlier been a blockade runner by that same name, but by the time of this letter it had been captured. The Type S-7 "STEAM-SHIP" oval handstamp and crayon "12" were applied at Charleston to show 10c Confederate postage and 2c fee for ship's captain were due upon delivery in Virginia.

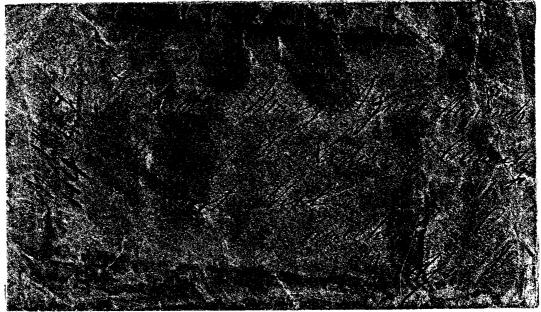


Two examples from famous Burckmyer correspondence show incoming and outbound letters which evaded blockade but never entered postal channels, instead being delivered directly to agents on either end; first envelope contains two letters written in Paris, France, on December 25, 1863, and January 9, 1864. They were forwarded privately to England where the agents, Fraser, Trenholm & Co. arranged their delivery to Charleston through the Federal blockade. The second envelope contains a letter written in Greenville, SC, on November 16, 1864, which left shortly thereafter on outbound Fraser, Trenholm & Co operated blockade runner.

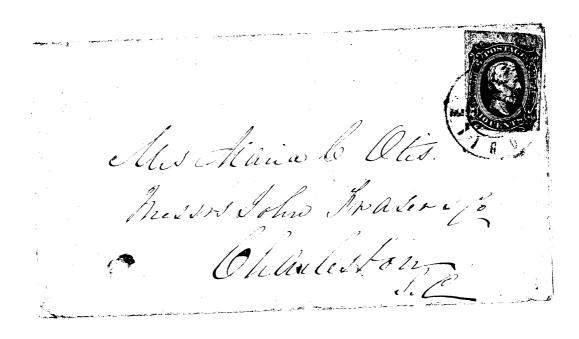


Letter written at Charleston December 1, 1863; carried to Nassau, Bahamas on outbound blockade runner which arrived safely. Placed in local mails January 6, 1864. From Nassau it was carried to New York on British steamer and marked (due) "5" upon arrival at an unknown date. As was typical on such letters its southern origin was concealed.

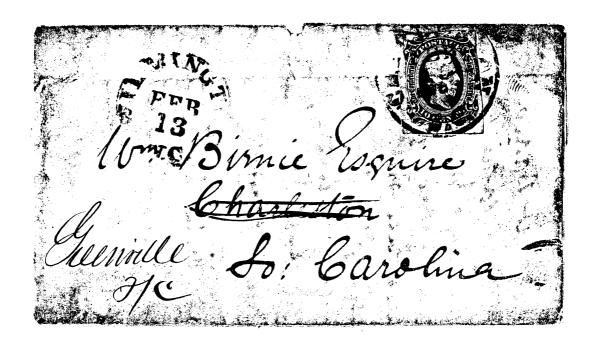




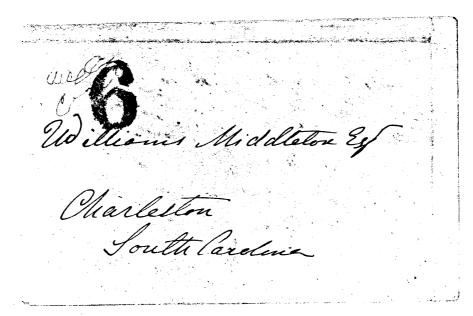
Letter written May 10, 1863, in Charleston by Catherine Hancock to her daughter, spending the war in a New York convent. Letter says it was to be carried and delivered by passenger on outbound blockader – thus avoiding both sides' postal system. Sadly for writer, it was on a ship intercepted by the US Navy, and was evidence in Federal Prize Court, whose log numbers are at left. "H.F." is Henry Flanders, Commissioner of Prize Court in Philadelphia. Hand carrying letters was quite common and letter describes a way to get mail to Charleston using good offices of a kind gentleman of that city, thereby avoiding less reliable mails.

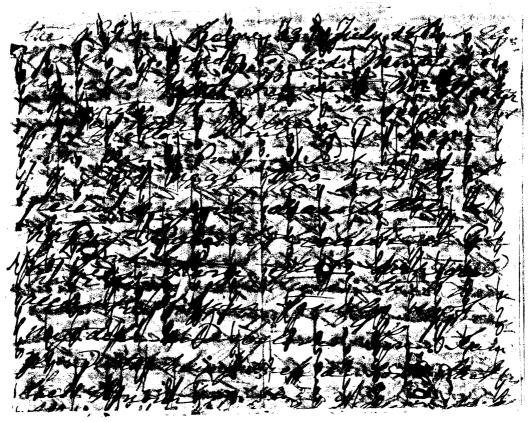


Reverse docketing indicates letter originated in New York City April 12, 1864; carried to Havana, Cuba, for forwarding into Confederacy via Fraser, Trenholm special agent and Confederate Consul Charles J. Helm. As other Fraser, Trenholm agents kept quantities of Confederate stamps on hand, likely the Type 10c stamp was affixed to envelope by Helm prior to placing it on either the <u>Denbigh</u> which ran the blockade into Mobile April 30, 1864, or the <u>Mary</u>, arriving at an unknown date in March 1864. Docketing states letter was received at Charleston May 8, 1864, after undergoing examination at Mobile by "Thomas Cox, Asst Adj Gen" per a May 1863 military requirement that "masters of vessels and persons from abroad, bringing letters addressed to persons in the Confederate States, must deliver them at these HQ" (for examination prior to entering the mails). The date it actually entered the mails is unknown as Mobile postmark is undated. Scarcity of blockade run mail into Mobile is attested by the relatively few vessels that entered during the war - 36 small vessels but 114 larger ones into Charleston and 286 at Wilmington.

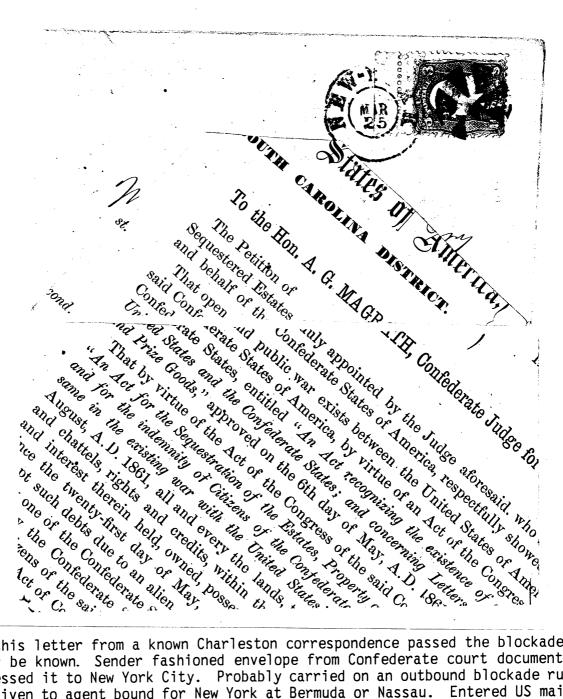


Letter written in England, January 14, 1864; sent into Confederacy via "Nassau on the monthly mails" according to letter. The mail on which it travelled was likely made up at Fraser, Trenholm office in Liverpool and put in a closed bag on Cunarder destined for New York; transferred there unopened to British steamer heading to Bermuda or Nassau, where it was placed aboard a blockade runner. It entered Wilmington February 12, and was postmarked February 13. It should have been rated 12c postage due, but apparently was not rated before being sent to Charleston, where it was readdressed to Greenville, SC, and Type II Archer & Daly 10c stamp struck by A-26a postmark February 15th. The Scottish built Caledonia was captured May 30, 1864, while entering Wilmington. The addressee Bernie was a Charleston lawyer. This mail was on her one successful recorded blockade run.

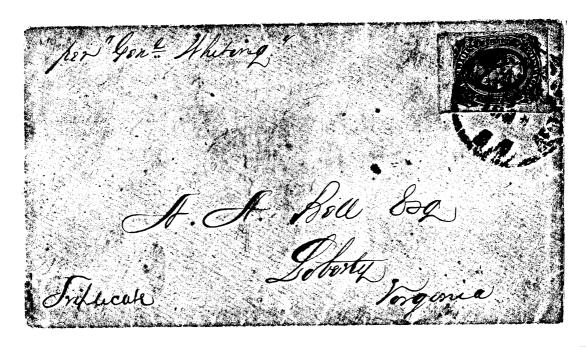




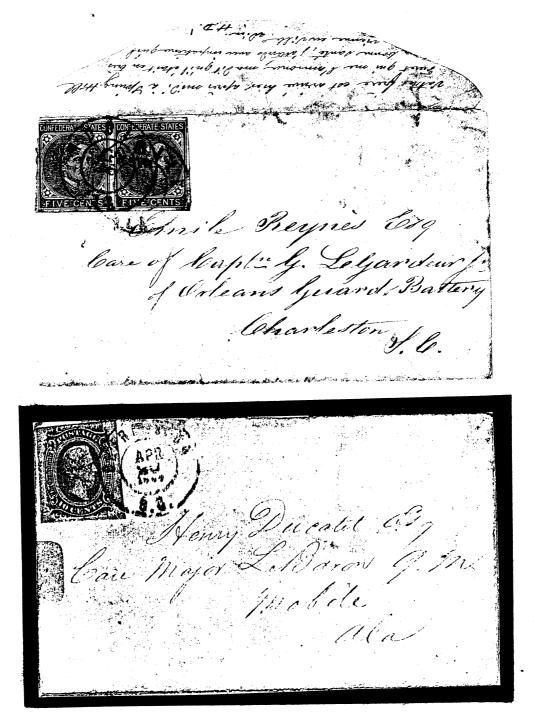
Letter datelined Rome, Italy, July 31, 1864, and entered Charleston by blockade runner. The handstamp "6" shows Confederate postage on private ship letter for delivery in the port of entry, a carryover from 1799 US postage rate for similar letters never repealed by the Confederates.



How this letter from a known Charleston correspondence passed the blockade may never be known. Sender fashioned envelope from Confederate court document and addressed it to New York City. Probably carried on an outbound blockade runner and given to agent bound for New York at Bermuda or Nassau. Entered US mail in New York March 25 (probably 1864) as shown by street address indicating it was subject to free home delivery, a practice that began in 1863.



August 3, (1864); letter entered Confederate postal system at Charleston. Type A-26a postmark on Archer & Daly Type II 10c stamp, which was likely affixed to envelope by writer or agent at city of origin. Letter is a triplicate copy due to danger in running the blockade; the others likely were put on other ships. Correct postage was 12c, with extra 2c a fee for ship's captain. Why it was not so rated is unknown. The General Whiting was operated by Consolidated Steamship Co., a privately owned company, between April 1864 - January 1865. It successfully made several trips between Nassau and Charleston, with the final outbound trip on December 23, 1864.



April 20, 1864; Type A-27a postmark on Type I Archer & Daly 10c stamp addressed to Mobile, Alabama. Envelope used again April 26 with a pair of 5c local print De La Rue stamps, and addressed to member of Orleans Guard Battery at Charleston. Likely sent via "Louisiana Relief Committee" which smuggled letters in and out of New Orleans after it fell to Federals April 24, 1862.



Letter carried out of Confederate mails and put in US mail at Port Royal without disclosing contents or Charleston origin. There is no evidence of censorship. Stamp postmarked May 2, 1862, at Port Royal, and rated 5c due as underpaid ship letter at New York May 19th. Port Royal was occupied in late 1861 by US fleet and was under military occupation throughout the war. As letter does not appear to weigh over an ounce the reason for "due" is unknown. As there is no evidence 5c was actually collected perhaps the "5" is a clerk's error. There is also no evidence a 3c New York to Maine forwarding fee was assessed. Perhaps a contact in Port Royal area knew the family and readdressed it before putting it in the mails as there is no sign of handling at Portland. Letter outlines the way this letter was handled in the South "If you desire to write.., use tissue paper and a small light envelope sealed & directed to her and then enclose it in another envelope sealed and directed to me. This may be enclosed to my wife at No 3 Hoyt St, Brooklyn who understands the complications of the mode of sending it."

PRISONER OF WAR MAIL

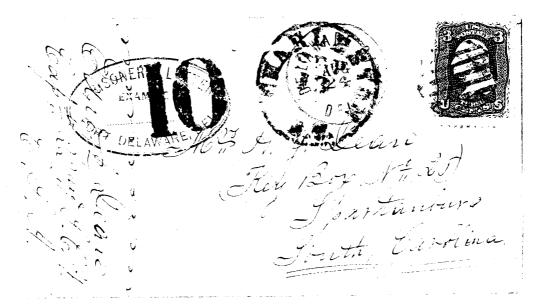
(SOUTHERN POWS IN FEDERAL CUSTODY)



Confederate POW letter from Ft Delaware entered US mails at Delaware City October 22, 1863-64, after examination by Federal authorities. Sent by flag of truce to Fortress Monroe exchange point, and Confederate mails to Charleston. Franked by Archer & Daly 10c and US Series 1861 3c stamps; latter cancelled by US four ring killer and Richmond postmark. Strict adherence to rules meant using two envelopes - the outer franked by US and the inner by Confederate stamps. The US authorities were careful not to cancel the Confederate stamp.



Letter apparently followed "normal" procedures as there is only a Confederate stamp and Charleston A-26a October 20, 1864 postmark. Flag of Truce and Fort Delaware notations indicate it was written September 22, 1864. An outer envelope with US postage was likely used, but discarded before it entered the Confederate mails. The letter "H" was likely made by Federal examiner at Port Royal, SC.

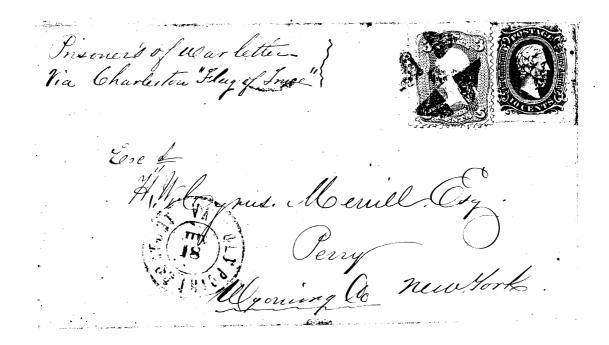


August 24, 1863, at Delaware City. Examined and handstamped by federal prison authorities before routing it by ship to Federal HQ of the South at Hilton Head, and from thence via flag of truce at Charleston harbor. No Confederate stamps were available so 10c due noted when it entered mails at Charleston on September 13th with an A-26a postmark and SN-11 "10".



November 29, 1864, at Delaware City. Letter carried by ship to exchange point at Fortress Monroe, and thence into Confederate mails at Richmond, where "DUE 10" handstamp applied. Postage due was collected at Charleston post office.

FEDERAL POWS IN THE SOUTH



Union POW cover from Camp Sumter at Andersonville, Georgia. Annotated "Excd H.W." (Henry Wirz, the infamous camp commandant). Franked with Archer & Daly Type I 10c and US Series 1861 3c stamps. Both were necessary as neither side recognized their opponent's stamps. Forwarded to Charleston, passed by flag of truce into Union lines and placed in US mail at Old Point Comfort June 18, 1864.



October 4, 1864; letter written by of the "600" Union officer POWs at "Military Prison, Charleston, S.C." (Roper Hospital). Confederate authorities examined and released it to the US military via flag of truce. Reexamined by authority of "W.L. Bennett, Lt Col & Agt Ex" and placed into US mails at Port Royal, SC, November 13, 1864. Rated 3c due for unpaid soldier's letter. No Confederate postage required as it never entered CSA mail system.



January 8, 1865; from LT W.E. Johnson, one of the "600" Confederate officer POWs brought to Union lines outside Charleston on Folly Island in retaliation for a similar action by the Confederates, who placed Union officer prisoners inside the city within artillery range. Union censor marks visible under Charleston Type A-28 postmark. Delivered via flag of truce and rated 10c postage due for unpaid soldier's letter with SN-11 "10".

THROUGH THE LINES BY FLAG OF TRUCE



Under strict rules, letters were permitted to pass "through-the-lines." They were subject to examination, addressed via Fortress Monroe, and endorsed "Per flag of truce." Usually enclosed in an outer envelope with postage of sending side, the inner envelope had a stamp of the receiving side or was sent postage due. Often only one envelope with both stamps was used. Occasionally, through-the-lines letters were forwarded by other routes, particularly in areas far from Fortress Monroe or, as in this case, at war's end when procedures were in a state of flux. This letter was mailed at Confederate controlled Edgefield, SC, on April 20, 1865, and sent down the Savannah River to Savannah as indicated on routing instructions. When it cleared the Agent of Exchange for examination and entered the US mails June 12 at Savannah, the war was over. Since the southern rail system was totally disrupted by the last months of the conflict, the letter must have reached Charleston by ship.

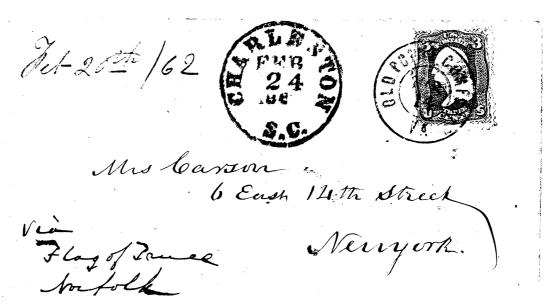
The Charleston Lo
This Alley Troydon

Browns Mills

Randolph county

Moth Carolina

October 30, 1864; Type A-26a postmark on Archer & Daly 10c stamp. The flag of truce notation indicates the letter was written within a Union occupied area, most likely by a civilian since no military address or indication of origin was used. The outer envelope was likely discarded before it was turned over to the Confederates. The "Ex H" is recorded on military origin prisoner of war letters and it probably was noted on the envelope at Hilton Head.



February 24, 1862; Type A-26a postmark on a flag of truce letter written on 20th at Willington, SC, by young man to his mother in New York. Outer envelope with Confederate postage was likely discarded at Charleston; reason for Charleston postmark is unknown. Letter followed the usual route via Norfolk; received by Federal authorities at Old Point Comfort, VA, and entered US mails March 14th.

FEDERAL OCCUPATION AND RESUMPTION OF THE MAILS

Charleston was evacuated the night of February 17-18, 1865, and the first Union soldiers arrived on the 18th. Among the occupiers was a Colonel A.H. Markland, Special Agent of the Post Office Department and Superintendent of Mails, US Army. The reopened Charleston Courier announced on February 22 that communications had been reestablished "with the whole world" and that the Post Office would "be in complete working order in a short time."

THE POSTOFFICE.

THE UNITED STATES MAIL WILL LEAVE Charleston regularly after this date for all points within the military lines. The Postoffice, for the present, will be located in the Building on the SOUTH-WEST CORNER OF KING AND GEORGE STREETS.

A. H MARKLAND,

Special Agent Postoffice Department and Superintendent Mails United States Army. February 22

This notice appeared daily in the Courier between February 22 and March 22, 1865.

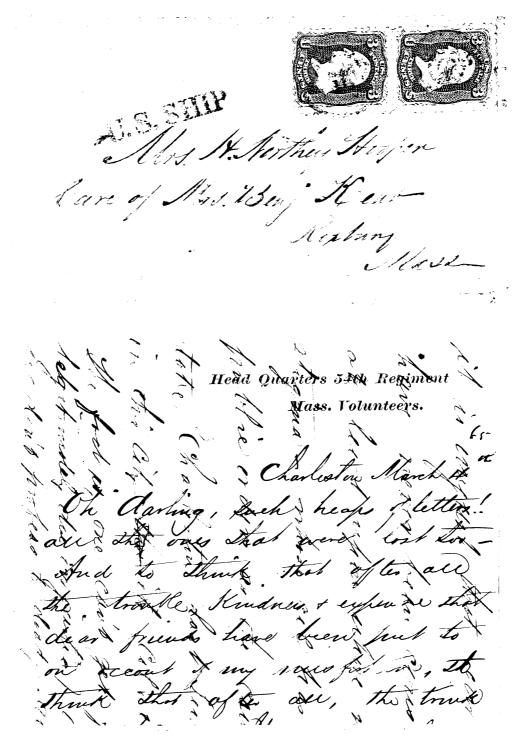


The reestablished US Post Office in Charleston used this device as its standard postmark for nearly a decade following the war.

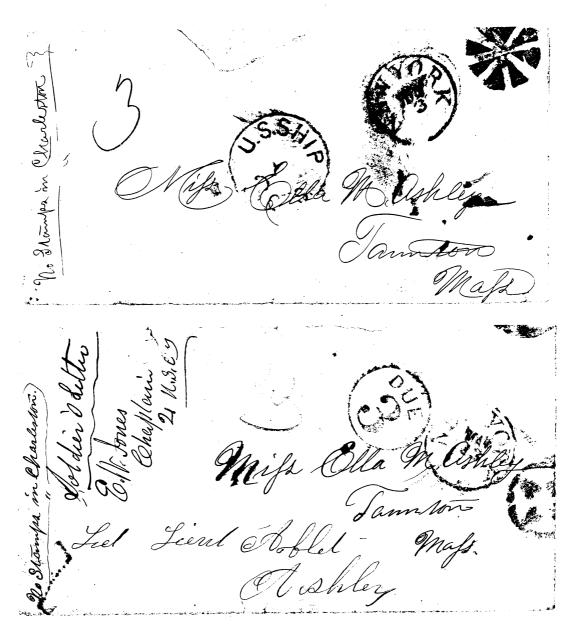
The first mention in the <u>Courier</u> of incoming mail appeared April 19th, announcing passage of steamer <u>Fulton</u> bound for Hilton Head and carrying mail for Charleston.

However, other ships must have carried mail too.

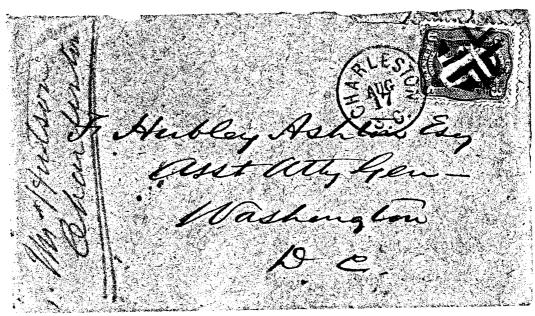
While Colonel Markland was titular chief of Charleston postal operations, J.D. Martin is mentioned in subsequent <u>Couriers</u> as Superintendent. Large amounts of outgoing mail soon passed via Charleston, as shown by early May reference to 15 bushels forwarded by steamers. J.C. Beckman, who served from 1859, held post office keys and delivered them to Stanley G. Trott (named PM by US Government). Trott made Beckman Asst' PM, and he stayed on the job until his death in 1890.



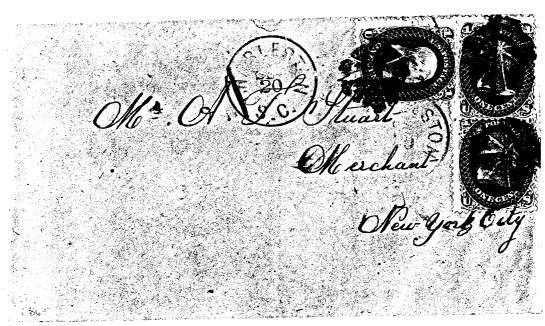
March 4, 1865; After Charleston's evacuation on February 18, 1865 Union forces occupied the city. Since the war still raged in Virginia, land transportation northward was not yet possible. This letter, by an officer in the 54th Massachusetts Volunteers, was put into the US mails at Philadelphia on March 16th.



Two letters mailed in Charleston by two different people at almost the same time, yet each shows different Post Office markings and treatment. One was clearly sent North via a US Navy vessel and entered the US mails in New York City, May 3, 1865. No censorship markings are evident. The "U.S. SHIP 3 cts" and pencil "3" indicate postage on for a single weight soldier's letter. The second, likely from Miss Ashley's brother, 2LT Ashley, was censored by a Chaplain Jones of the 21st US Colored Infantry. It too was likely put on a ship bound for New York, and entered the mails May 13th. Postage due shown by pencil "3" and handstamp. Note both covers are endorsed "No Stamps in Charleston".



August 17, 1865; the new 23mm postmark introduced with reestablishment of full US postal operations in Charleston. The handmade killer incorporates a fancy crossroads design popular at the time. A Series 1861 3c stamp covered single weight domestic postage.



September 20, 1865; Series 1861 1c stamps postmarked by eight segmented killer.

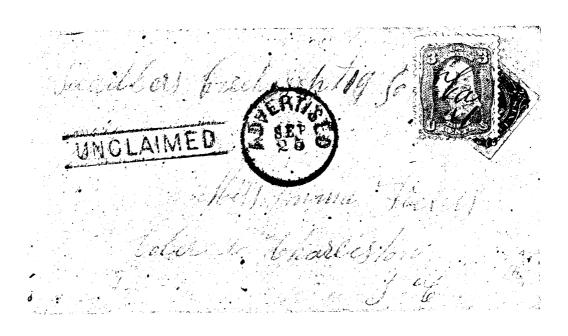


Letter written in Abbeville, SC, on August 26, 1865. The writer complains "there is no mail agent... the letters never leave the post office." Letter received in Charleston at unknown date and recipient notified of arrival of unpaid letter. At that time "HELD FOR POSTAGE" marking was applied. Apparently recipient paid the 3c and the letter was delivered on September 25th.



September 14, 1865; business letter carried to New York on private ship "out of the mails" and handled by A.P. Pillot & Son (Forwarders). Sailed for France in sealed bag on North German Lloyd steamer America, which held a US mail contract, September 23rd. Arrived at Southhampton October 4th and Paris the 6th. Rated per French Treaty at 8 decimes collected from recipient on single weight letter; New York 9c postmark is US debit for US domestic and ocean carriage.

AFTER THE WAR - MIXED FRANKING



September 19, 1865; Manuscript postmark from Saddler's Creek Sept 19 So Ca", and addressed to "Miss -?- Fields / Colored / Charleston / SC". Apparently an initial attempt was made to use a no longer valid Confederate 10c Hoyer & Ludwig Type II stamp. Upon refusal at the US post office, a 3c Series 1861 stamp was placed over the Confederate issue. Letter was received at Charleston, but not called for. The September 29 Charleston Courier carried a M.S. Fields in its Women's List of Letters Remaining in the Post Office, but it was still not picked up. Letter backstamped with Charleston postmark on October 25th as well as an "UNCLAIMED" marking and returned to sender.