

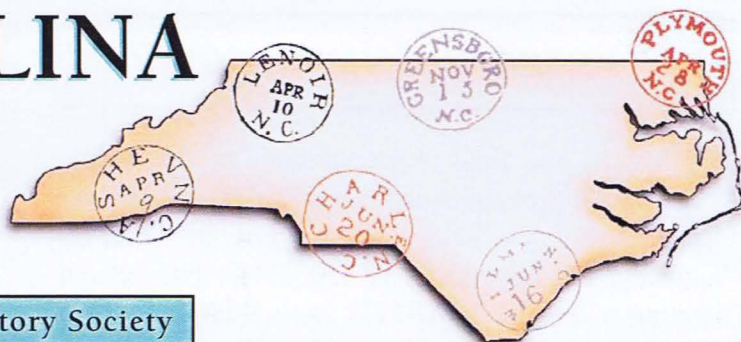
NORTH CAROLINA POSTAL HISTORIAN

The Journal of North Carolina Postal History Society

Volume 25, No. 3

Summer 2006

Whole 95



THIS ISSUE IS A
SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO
VERNON S. STROUPE
AND HIS CONTRIBUTION
TO PHILATELY,
INCLUDING
EXAMPLES OF HIS
EXTENSIVE
NORTH CAROLINA
RESEARCH AND
COLLECTION.

NORTH CAROLINA POSTAL HISTORY

Wilmington
Post Office 1769 to present

New Hanover County
*Formed in 1729
from Craven*

3¢ Postal Stationery Issue of 1870 - 71
Type 14 cds of 1870's
2 Dec (1870's)

All-over Advertising Cover:
Willard Brothers
Wholesale Grocers and Commission Merchants
Nos. 29, 30, & 31 North Water Street
Wilmington, N.C.

One of the many pages from Vernon's unexhibited collection.
Virtually no one has ever seen them until now.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is the final announcement of the annual meeting of the *North Carolina Postal History Society* (NCPHS), which will be held on Saturday, 29 July 2005, at 2:00 PM. The annual meeting will be at CHARPEX again this year, which is held in the Charlotte Mecklenburg Senior Citizens Center, 2225 Tyvola Road, Charlotte, NC (Exit 5 off I-77). The NCPHS Board of Directors will meet at 1:00 PM before the annual meeting. At 2:30 PM Chief Judge John Hotchner will give a talk. I hope you will plan to join us at the annual meeting. This is one of the few opportunities that we have to meet with each other as society members.

In the last issue I made a brief announcement in my President's Message of the availability of new postmark catalog information for the first few North Carolina counties on the National Postal Museum web site. Since that time I have provided two additional counties to the museum and an update of the first four counties as additional markings information has become available. To date, the first six counties have been completed (the "A" counties alphabetically) and are available on the web site. Information about all the 19th and 20th century postmarks that have been reported for each county is available for free to any person who wishes to download the Adobe pdf files. Most of the new markings are color scans from actual covers. This information has added to the information from the original catalog pub-

lished by the *North Carolina Postal History Society* in the late 1990s. The original postmarks were in black and white, all tracings made by Vernon Stroupe. The new catalog project is accessible through the National Postal Museum web site and their State Postal History Registry, via the North Carolina page. All you have to do is go to <http://www.postalmuseum.si.edu/statepostalhistory/northcarolina.html> and select the county you wish to see from those listed at the bottom of the page. The pdf file will open on your computer. By right clicking you can download the file to your computer for easier viewing or for print out. The new catalog information is a major update to the original catalog. The first six counties have produced 419 postal markings not in the original catalog. As an indication of how much still needs to be discovered, of the 446 post offices listed in the first six counties, postmarks are known from only 245 post offices, just over half of them.

As a special tribute to **Vernon Stroupe**, our recently departed editor of the *North Carolina Postal Historian*, this issue is devoted entirely to him and his work on North Carolina postal history. A number of pages from collection with his write-ups of covers are illustrated.

As always, I welcome your comments and suggestions for improving the society. Please feel free to call me at home (336-545-0175), send me an email message, or write to me. Both my email address and my mailing address appear in this journal.

Dick Winter



North Carolina Postal Historian

The North Carolina Postal Historian is the official journal of the North Carolina Postal History Society. It is published quarterly in January, April, July and October.

Membership in the Society is \$15 per year. Applications for membership may be obtained from the Treasurer. Submissions for the Postal Historian or inquiries may be addressed to the editors.

Library of Congress #ISSN 1054-9158.

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Since early childhood, Vernon had an unquenchable thirst for philatelic knowledge. This desire and willingness to share with others has added much to the hobby. On March 21, 2006, Vernon lost his battle with leukemia which he had fought for over two years.

A native of Asheville, North Carolina, he was a member of the First Baptist Church where he served as a life deacon. He wrote the history of the church. He attended Davidson College and Asheville-Biltmore College, now UNC Asheville, and completed two years of photographic trade school at the Archer School of Photographic Arts in California. He joined the U.S. Air Corps in 1944 and was transferred to the U.S. Marine Corps. He served until 1946.

After military service, Vernon returned to California and began his profession within the photographic industry where he worked from 1949 to 1974. During this time, he pursued his philatelic interest as a general U.S. collector until he discovered Perfin in the early 1960's. He assembled quite a large collection of Perfins. Just before he moved back to North Carolina in 1974, he purchased a collection of North Carolina postal history. This would set the stage for his passion over the next 32 years.

Vernon began his second career as a furniture representative taking over his father's furniture sales district covering

North Carolina, South Carolina and later Virginia. His travels with this career allowed him to do considerable research on the postal history of North Carolina. In February 1982 he became one of the 17 founding members of the North Carolina Postal History Society. He would later serve as president of the organization. In 1989 he

became the co-editor of the *N.C. Postal History Journal*. Throughout his tenure he produced 64 issues. He was working on the last issue when he was taken to the hospital for the last time.

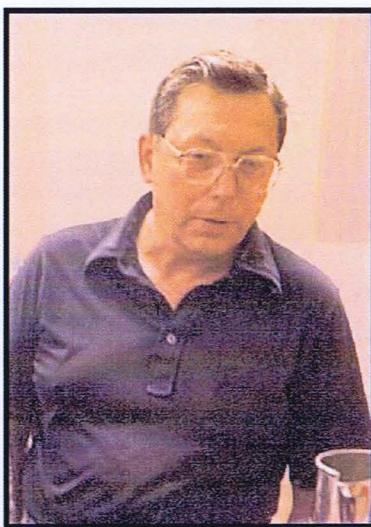
As chief editor of the four volume **"Post Offices and Postmasters of North Carolina"** published in 1996, Vernon became the foremost authority of North Carolina postal history. No other states published

work can compare to the thoroughness in this work.

Vernon was a member of the APS Perfin Society and the Confederate Stamp Alliance as well as other state and local philatelic organizations.

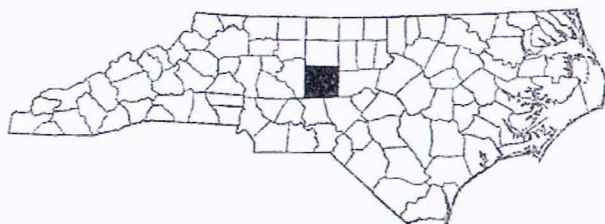
With the closing of his albums, a true friend to the hobby has been lost. The knowledge gained from his research is, however, preserved for future generations thanks to his desire to publish all he could.

by Tony L. Crumbley

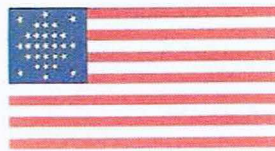


NORTH CAROLINA POSTAL HISTORY

Originally Randolph C.H.
Asheboro
Post Office 1814 - present



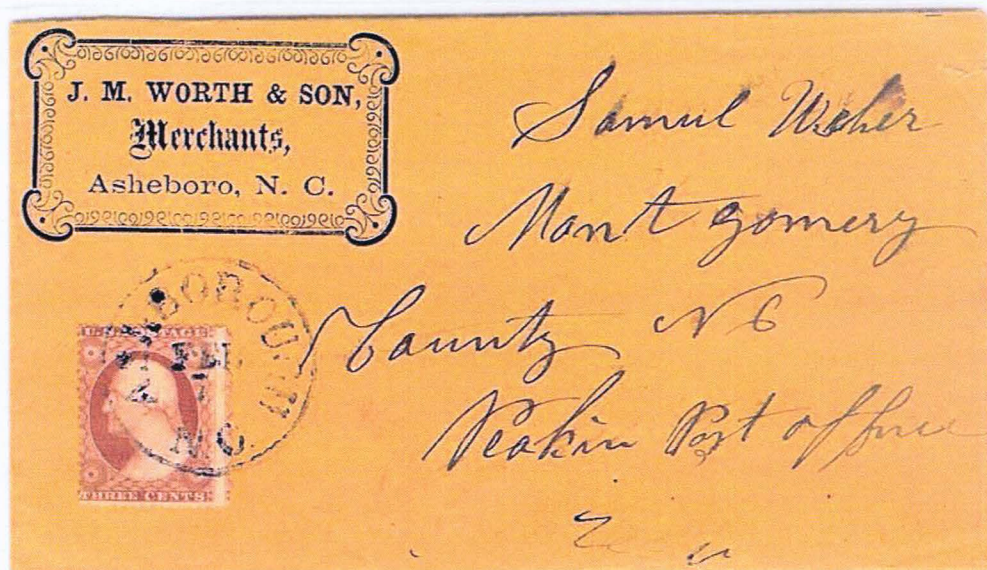
Randolph County
Formed in 1779
from Guilford



3¢ Issue of 1857 - 61

Type 2 cds of 1854 - 60

7 Feb 1860



John Milton Worth [1811 - 1900] was a physician, businessman and politician. His brother, Jonathan, was the reconstruction governor of North Carolina. John was educated in Guilford County and Transylvania University in Lexington, Ky.

He practiced medicine briefly in Guilford County, but abandoned it for gold mining, merchandising, farming and politics. He represented Moore and Montgomery Counties in the State Senate from 1842 - 1848.

Worth had strong Union opinions like his brother, but supported the Confederacy after the war started. He was a colonel in the militia, but resigned to become salt commissioner for the state. In 1864 he became colonel of the 76th Regiment, known as the Senior Reserve, where he mainly tracked down deserters.

In 1872-76 he was back in the state senate for Moore and Montgomery Counties, and served as state treasurer from 1876 - 85. He was president of the Bank of Randolph and Worth Manufacturing, a large cotton factory.

His son became a captain in the 19th N.C. Cavalry and was killed near Richmond.

NORTH CAROLINA POSTAL HISTORY

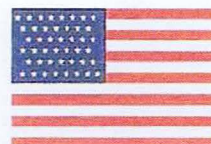
Originally Randolph C.H.
Asheboro
Post Office 1814 - present



Randolph County
Formed in 1779
from Guilford

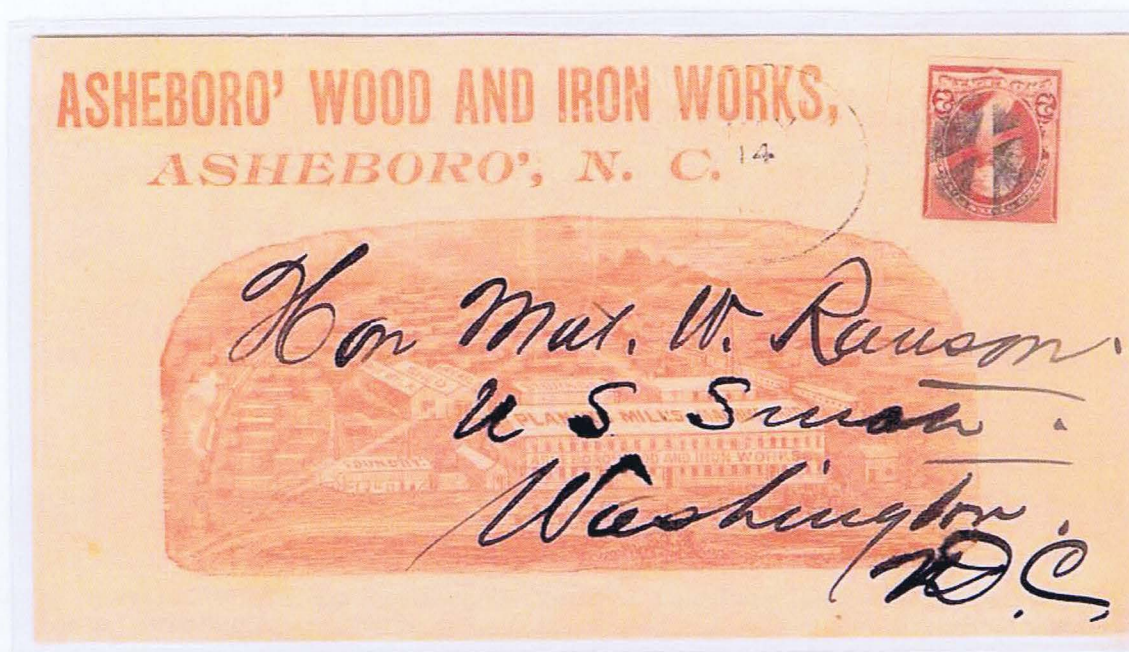


Issue of 1890 - 93



All-Over Advertising Cover

14 May 1894



Matthew Whitaker Ransom (1826-1904) was North Carolina attorney general, U.S. senator and brigadier-general in the Confederate States Army. He was educated at Warrenton Academy and the University of North Carolina. He was admitted to the bar and practiced in Warrenton. In 1852, the legislature elected him attorney general. He married and moved to his wife's estate, Verona, on the Roanoke River. Ransom served as a legislator from 1858-1861 and was appointed a commissioner to the Confederate convention in Montgomery.

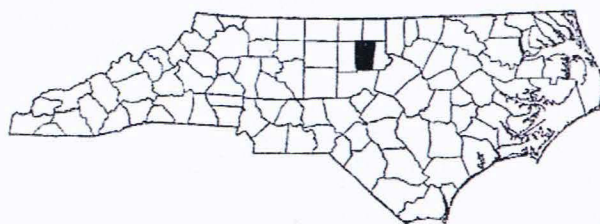
At the outbreak of the war he enlisted as a private, but was made lieutenant-colonel of the First Regiment North Carolina Troops, and then a lieutenant-colonel in the Thirty-fifth N.C. Regiment, a part of his brother, Robert's, Brigade, which he later commanded. In 1863 he was advanced to brigadier-general and participated in the battles of Seven Pines, Malvern Hills, Sharpsburg, Drewry's Bluff, and the siege of Petersburg. He was wounded three times and surrendered his command at Appomattox.

After the war he returned to his law practice and ran successfully in 1872 for the seat Zebulon Vance had been denied. He served until he was defeated in 1895. President Grover Cleveland appointed him minister to Mexico.

NORTH CAROLINA POSTAL HISTORY

Chapel Hill

Post Office 1794 to present



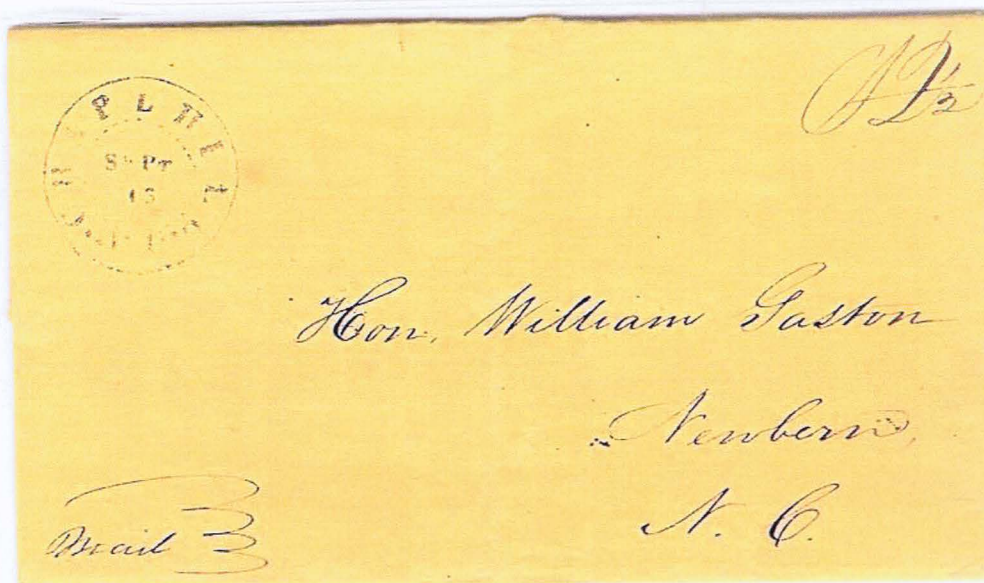
Orange County

Formed in 1752
from Johnston

Type 2 Double Circle cds of 1827 - 32

12½¢ Due Rate

13 Sep (1827 - 32)



William Gaston [1788-1844] was lawyer, legislator, congressman, and jurist whose father, Dr. Alexander Gaston was killed by Tories in 1781. William was the first student accepted by Georgetown College, but had to return to Newbern for health reasons, where he was valedictorian at Newbern Academy in 1794. He entered the junior class at Princeton and graduated first in his class in 1798. He took over part of a law practice in Newbern the same year.

In 1800 Gaston was elected to the state senate, and to the House of Commons in 1807, 08 and 09. In 1810 he was elected to the U.S. House of Representative, to the state senate in 1812, and back to the H of R in 1813. He was re-elected to Congress and made a reputation for eloquence. He retired from Congress in 1817.

In 1818 and 1819 Gaston returned to the state senate. He was elected to the House of Commons in 1827, 1829 and 1831, and was appointed head of the Bank of New Bern in 1828. In 1833 he was elected to the North Carolina Supreme Court. He was ardent anti-slavery despite owning a plantation in Craven County with 200 slaves. His two most notable cases were *State v. Negro Will*, and *State v. William Manual*, the latter was cited by the U.S. Supreme Court in the Dred Scott Case. Gaston was elected to the Constitutional Convention of 1835 where he spoke for suffrage for free blacks.

Gaston was a deeply religious Roman Catholic. Bishop John England held the first Catholic Mass in the parlor of Gaston's home, and named Gaston as one of five men to conduct services. Gaston contributed to and supervised the building of St. Paul's Church, the first Roman Catholic Church in North Carolina.

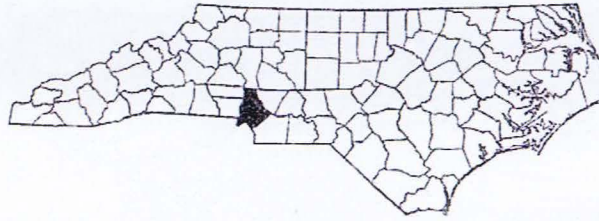
In 1835, while in Raleigh, Gaston wrote the words to *The Old North State* which was made the State Song in 1927. The tune was adapted from a tune he heard played by Swiss bell ringers.

Gaston was made honorary doctor of laws by University of Pennsylvania, Harvard, and Columbia, and was elected to membership in 17 honorary societies. Portraits of him hang in the National Gallery, the state supreme court building, his law office in New Bern, and a marble bust at UNC, Chapel Hill. Gaston County and Gastonia were named in his honor.

NORTH CAROLINA POSTAL HISTORY

Charlotte

Post Office 1794 to present



Mecklenburg County

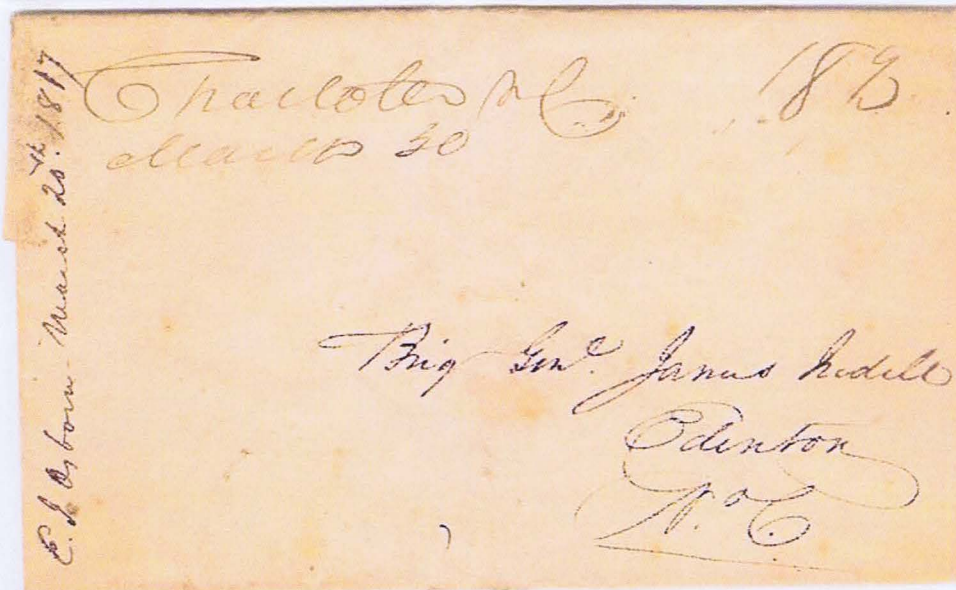
Formed in 1762
from Anson



Manuscript Markings of 1811 - 1818

18½¢ War Rate

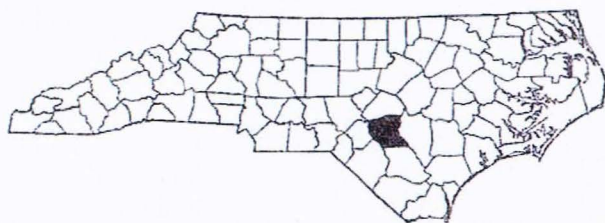
30 March 1817



James Iredell, Jr. [1788 -1853], son of the famous jurist, was U.S. Senator, North Carolina general of the N.C. State Militia, and Superior court judge. He attended Edenton Academy and graduated from Princeton in 1806. He was admitted to the bar in 1809, and served as captain in the War of 1812 in the defense of Norfolk. He was appointed brigadier general in the militia in 1815. In 1813 he was elected member of the General Assembly from Edenton, and served again in 1816-28, where he was Speaker of the House from 1817 to 1827, when he was elected governor. He served only a few months before being elected U.S. Senator to replace Nathaniel Macon. At the end of the term, he returned to Raleigh to practice law. In 1836-37 he was a commissioner to revise laws, and from 1840-52 he was a reporter for the N.C. Supreme Court. He prepared a *Digest of All Cases Determined in the Courts of North Carolina from the Year 1778 to the Year 1845*, published in three volumes.

NORTH CAROLINA POSTAL HISTORY

Changed from Cross Creek
Fayetteville
Post Office 1783 - present



Cumberland County
Formed in 1754
from Bladen



Red Type 1 cds of 1802 - 1823

Manuscript 12½¢ Rate

PAID in Fancy Oval

12 Jul 1821

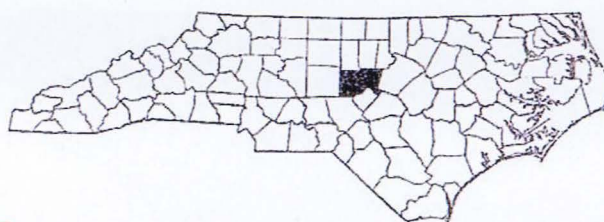


Duncan Cameron [1777-1853] was one of the most distinguished citizens of North Carolina in his day. He was a planter, judge, politician and banker. He became a trustee of the University of North Carolina in 1802, was a judge of the Superior Court from 1814 to 1816, served as president of the State Bank of North Carolina, clerk of the North Carolina Supreme Court, and a member of the board of internal improvement. He served five terms in the state house and three terms in the state Senate. He was chairman of the committee to build the capitol in Raleigh, a founder of Christ Episcopal Church, and established St. Mary's School for Girls.

Cameron was one of the largest plantation and slave holders in the South. He built his plantation mansion, Fairntosh, near Stagville, and another mansion house on Hillsborough Street opposite St. Mary's. His more than 1,000 slaves were treated benignly. The same doctors and preachers saw to the needs of both white and black families. In 1834 he was president of the state's Colonization Society which offered slaves their freedom, and paid for their resettlement in Liberia. He educated promising slaves.

NORTH CAROLINA POSTAL HISTORY

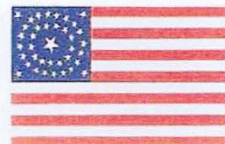
Gulf, The Gulph
Post Office 1828 - present



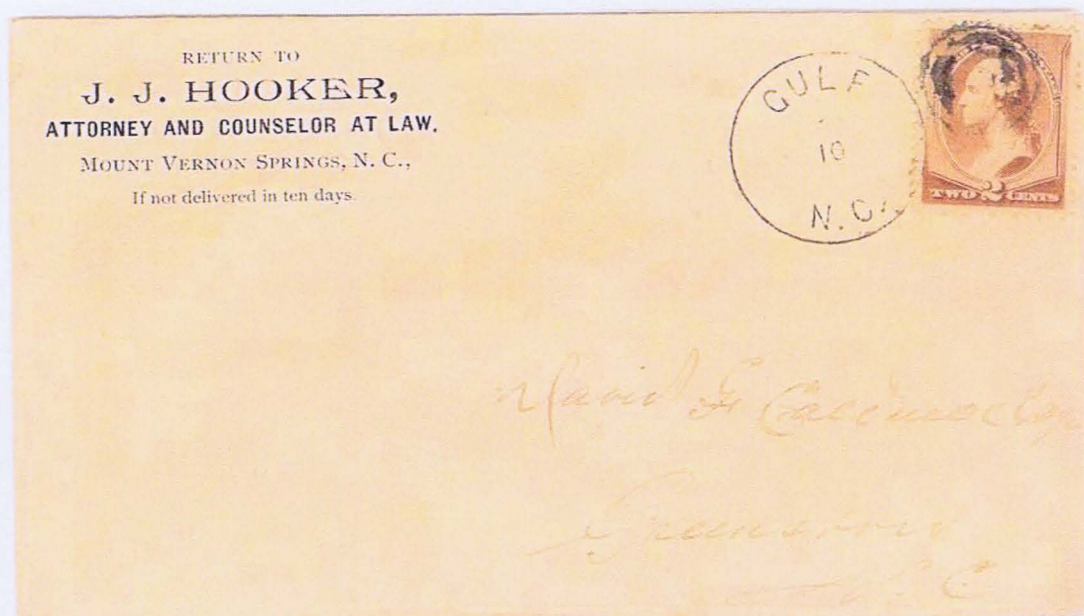
Chatham County
Formed in 1770
from Orange



2¢ Banknote Issue of 1883



10 Nov 1886



David Franklin Caldwell (1814 -1898) had a limited education and worked on his father's farm outside Greensboro, then went into the mercantile business with his brothers in Tom Caldwell & Sons Cheap Store. He was elected as a Whig to the House of Commons for five terms from 1848 to 1860. He read law and was admitted to the bar in 1861.

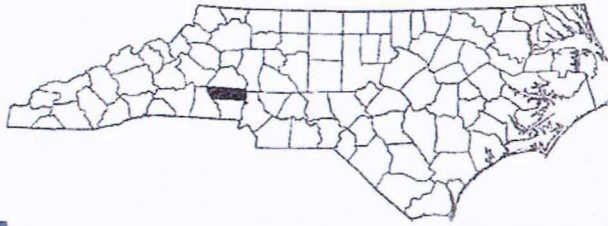
Caldwell's opposition to secession caused him to be refused a commission in the Confederate Army, so he enlisted for two years as a private. In 1864 he was elected as county attorney, and in 1867 he purchased the *Greensboro Patriot*, which he sold a year later. In 1868 Caldwell was elected to the U.S. Congress, but was disqualified by the Fourteenth Amendment. He served one term in the state senate in 1878.

Caldwell was active in cotton mills, railroads and banking. He drove the last spike on the North Carolina Railroad on 29 Jan 1858, and organized the Bank of Guilford, of which he was made president in 1889.

NORTH CAROLINA POSTAL HISTORY

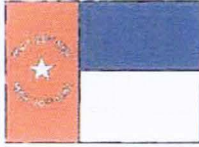
Iron Station

Post Office 1867 - 1951



Lincoln County

Formed in 1779
from Tryon



3¢ Pictorial Issue of 1869 - 72



Manuscript Markings

16 July 1869



William Alexander Graham (1804 -1875) was lawyer, planter, governor, secretary of the Navy , and vice-presidential candidate with Winfield Scott. He was born on Vesuvius Plantation in eastern Lincoln County. His father pioneered the Catawba River Valley Iron Works. He attended Hillsborough Academy and graduated with shared first honors from the University of North Carolina in 1824. He studied law under Thomas Ruffin and established a very successful practice by 1828.

He began public service in the 1830's as borough representative, member of the House of Commons, Speaker of the House, and went to the U.S. Senate in 1843. He was elected governor in 1844 and again in 1846. In 1850 he became the Secretary of the Navy under President Fillmore, and was considered one of the best Naval Secretaries of the century as the exploration of the Amazon Basin, and Admiral Perry's Expedition to Japan were under his term of office.

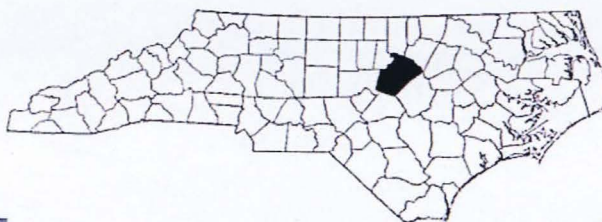
Graham ran with Winfile Scott on the Whig ticket of 1852 and was badly defeated. Graham returned to law practice in Hillsborough. He worked with various factions to prevent disunion. In 1861 he represented Orange County in the Confederate Constitutional Convention. In 1862 he supported Zebulon Vance for governor and became a senator in the Confederate Congress.

When Gen. Sherman approached Raleigh, Gov. Vance appointed Graham and David L. Swain to negotiate the surrender of Raleigh. After the war he was appointed to the Board of the Peabody Fund, the arbitration commission on the boundary dispute between Virginia and Maryland, and elected to the Constitutional Convention of 1875, but he died before the convention started.

NORTH CAROLINA POSTAL HISTORY

Morrisville

Post Office 1852 to present



Wake County

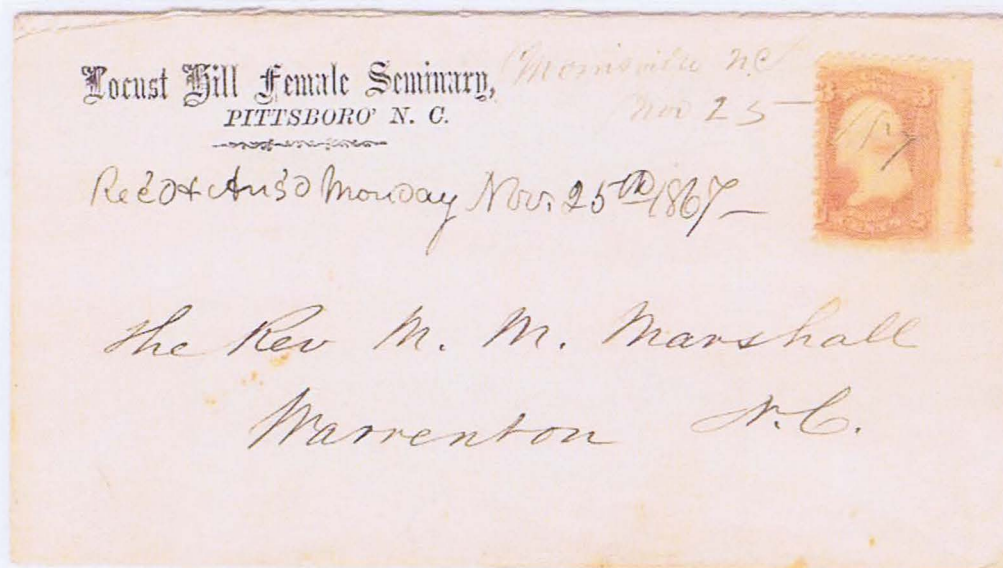
Formed in 1770
from Cumberland,
Johnston and Orange



Issue of 1861-69

Manuscript Markings of 1861-67

25 Nov 1867



Mathias Murray Marshall [1841-1912] was an Episcopal clergyman and a chaplain in the Confederate States Army. He was born in Pittsboro, educated in local schools, Trinity College in Hartford, Conn., and the University of North Carolina. William and Mary gave him a doctorate.

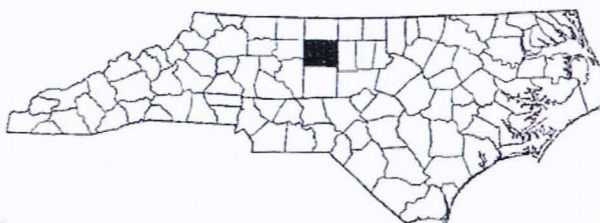
Marshall enlisted in the Confederate Army, was made a lieutenant chaplain, but was forced to resign because of poor health. After recovery, he became chaplain of the 7th Regiment, NCT, and joined the regiment at Orange C.H. Again poor health caused him to leave the regiment. He became chaplain of the Confederate Hospital at Kittrell Springs.

He was ordained a priest in 1865 and officiated at Christ's Church, Elizabeth City. In 1867, he moved to Emmanuel Church, Warrenton, and later Christ's Church in Raleigh.

NORTH CAROLINA POSTAL HISTORY

Oak Ridge

Post Office 1828 to 1936



Guilford County

Formed in 1770
from Orange



2¢ Banknote Issue of 1883

Type 1 cds

24 Apr 1887

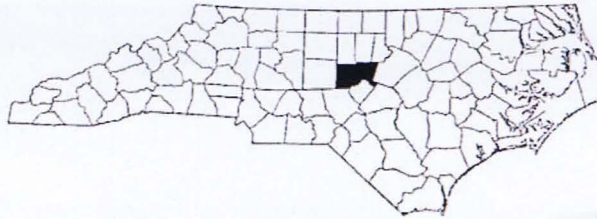


John Allen Holt [1852-1915] was an educator, businessman, state senator, and lay leader in the Protestant Methodist Church. He was principle and senoir proprietor of Oak Ridge Institute. Holt attended Oak Ridge, Williams College in Massachusetts, Ohio Wesleyan University and Ohio Business College. He taught at Oak Ridge, and with his brother, purchased the facility.

Holt was director of the City National Bank of Greensboro, and of the North State Fire Insurance Company. He was a member and chairman of the Guilford County Board of Education, a trustee of the University of North Carolina, a Mason, and in 1888 was elected president of the North Carolina Association of Academies. He served in the state senate 1907-08.

NORTH CAROLINA POSTAL HISTORY

Changed from Chatham C.H.
Pittsboro
Post Office ca. 1817 - present



Chatham County
Formed in 1770
from Orange

Brown Type 1 cds of 1818 - 25

Manuscript Paid 6 (1/4)¢ Rate of 1794-1845

12 Jan (1818)



James Webb [1774-1855] was a pioneer physician, merchant, philanthropist, banker, and educational leader. He attended the University of North Carolina 1795-96 and was responsible for naming the Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies. In 1798 he studied medicine at the University of Pennsylvania under Benjamin Rush before setting up his practice and commerce in Hillsborough.

He became a partner and silent partner in many businesses. He participated in the establishment of the North Carolina Medical Society in 1799. The society lasted only five years, but was revived by Webb's student, Dr. Edmund Strudwick, some years later.

Webb had many medical students studying with him. In 1822, he was giving smallpox vaccinations. He was a close friend of Duncan Cameron, and was Cameron's second in the famous Cameron-Duffy duel. In 1810 he was appointed cashier of the Branch Bank of Cape Fear.

Education of both sexes was one of Webb's passions. He became a trustee for the Hillsborough Academy, and served as guardian for many of the students. Some of the boys stayed in his home, and he became financially responsible for them. He was responsible for the establishment of Mary (Polly) Burke's School and Burwell Female School. Webb was a trustee of UNC for thirty-eight years.

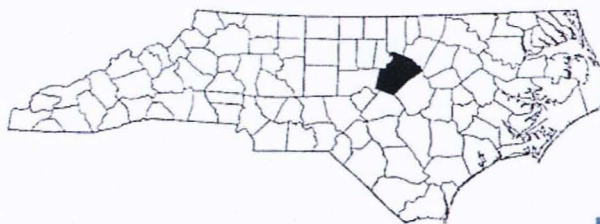
In 1816 Webb was listed as one of nine original pew renters of the Hillsborough Presbyterian Church and erected a separate building for the Sunday School, which later became the Hillsboro Library. In 1822 he gave lumber, land and money for the building of the Hillsboro Methodist Church.

So large was Webb's philanthropy that in 1842 he was declared bankrupt, and all of his possessions sold at auction. His friend purchased and restored everything to him.

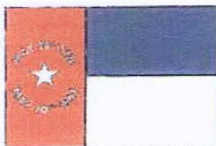
NORTH CAROLINA POSTAL HISTORY

Raleigh

Post Office 1794 to present



Wake County
Formed in 1770
from Cumberland,
Johnston and Orange



Confederate States Handstamp Markings



Blue Type 11 cds of 1861

Red Postmaster's Provisional

29 Jun 1861



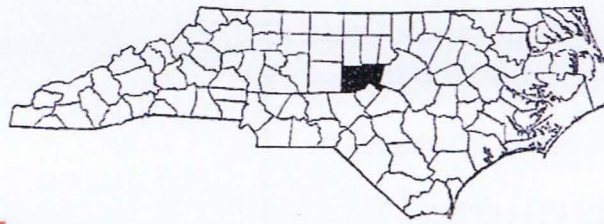
Letter from **William V. Brooksher** to his girl friend, N.C. Herren, originated at Camp Holmes in Raleigh. Brooksher was inducted as sargeant in the 6th Regimentt., N.C. Volunteers. He was reduced to private by fall of that year. The 6th Regiment. was sent first to Richmond, and then to north western Virginia where it manuevered against Federal forces trying to come down the Shanandoah Valley. The 6th was made part of the 16th Regiment N.C. Troops. There was much sickness in the regiment during the winter of 1861-62.

The following spring, and summer of 1862 the 16th fought at Mechanicsville, taking heavy losses. It also fought at Cold Harbor, Gaines Mill, Malvern Hill, Cedar Mountain, Manassas Junction, Ox Hill, Harper's Ferry, and Chancellorsville.

William Brooksher became ill and was furloughed home in the winter of 1862-63. He died of disease in the spring of 1863.

NORTH CAROLINA POSTAL HISTORY

Changed from Energy
Siler City, Siler Station
Post Office ca. 1884 - present

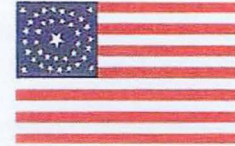


Chatham County
Formed in 1770
from Orange



2¢ Postal Stationery Issue of 1883 - 86

Type 3 Duplex Double Circle Date Stamp



with

with Maltese Cross Killer

5 Mar 1887



CALLING ALL MEMBER CYBER-PHILES

THE *POSTAL HISTORIAN* HAS COMPILED A
MEMBERSHIP E-MAIL DIRECTORY

PLEASE SEND YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS TO

EDITOR TERRY CHAPPELL

at

tchappell@verizon.net

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