

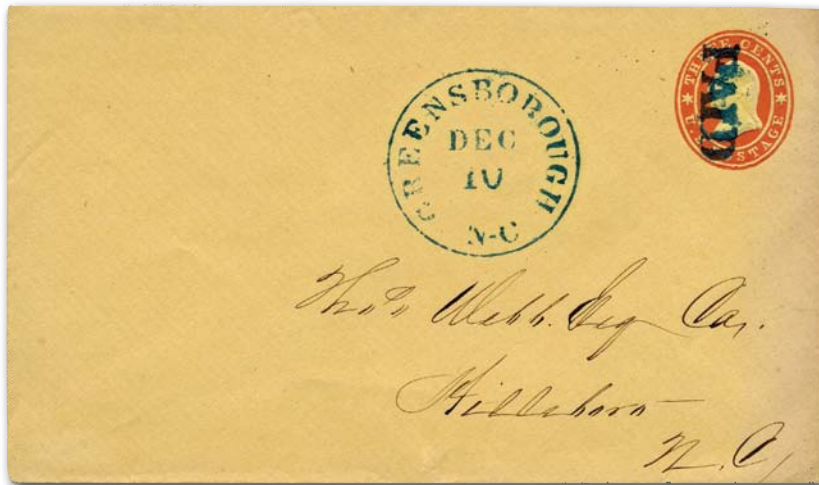
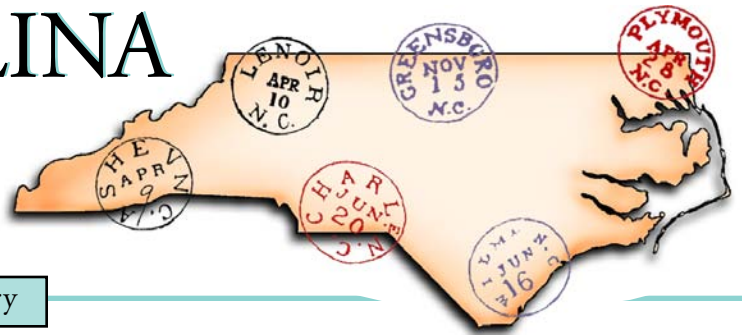
NORTH CAROLINA POSTAL HISTORIAN

The Journal of North Carolina Postal History

VOLUME 30, NO. 3

SUMMER 2011

WHOLE 115



Greensborough PAID
Handstamp

Edenton Postal
History



Passed Midshipman
Samuel P. Carter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The North Carolina Postal History Society will hold its annual meeting at CHARPEX 2011, the Charlotte regional philatelic exhibition and stamp show, at 2:00 PM, Saturday, August 6, 2011. After a very short meeting, I will present a talk I gave overseas titled, "Postal History and Social History: They Do Go Together." CHARPEX is being held this year on August 6-7 at the Renaissance Charlotte Suites Hotel, 2800 Coliseum Centre Drive in Charlotte. This venue is located just off Tyvola Road near Billy Graham Parkway and is only 5 miles from Charlotte-Douglas International Airport. Information about the show, exhibiting application and prospectus, and a detailed map of the show location is available on the CHARPEX web site, <http://www.charpex.info/>. The Board of Directors will meet at 1:00 PM on Saturday in the meeting room arranged by the CHARPEX committee.

We will continue to recognize the best contributions to our journal, the *North Carolina Postal Historian*. The members of the Board of Directors will select a recipient for this award, choosing from the published articles for the past year, Volume No. 28. The award will be presented at our meeting on August 6 during CHARPEX 2011.

The status box of the North Carolina Postmark Catalog Update (back page) will show more changes. Henderson and Hertford Counties have been completed and will be on the National Postal Museum web site by the time you read this. Some additions to "completed" counties with new postmarks and new dates of use have been made. If you want to know if the posted file of a particular county is newer than the one you may have downloaded before, check the file date in parenthesis after the name of the county in the on-line listing. Our catalog update continues to grow. To date, the postmarks of 46 counties and one large city have been documented. Many of

IN THIS ISSUE

| | | |
|---|-------------------------------|----|
| The Greensborough PAID Handstamp | by Thomas S. Richardson. | 3 |
| New Markings | | 9 |
| Mystery Cover | | 9 |
| Edenton, North Carolina - A Postal History | | |
| Giant by Tony L. Crumbley..... | | 10 |
| North Carolina Confederate Color Cancells | | |
| by Tony L. Crumbley. | | 15 |
| From Marion, North Carolina, to Woods, Texas | | |
| by Joe Crosby. | | 17 |
| Passed Midshipman Samuel P. Carter | | |
| by Richard F. Winter. | | 18 |

the early counties will require significant changes due to the extensive amounts of modern material available in the collections of the Postmark Collectors Club, but that will have to wait until all the counties have been created. Currently, there are 2,504 pages on-line, and 9,659 markings are shown that were not previously documented.

Since work has not started on developing our web site, we are exploring other options to get the site created. Discussions are underway with different web site designers, and we hope to be able to have some preliminary designs by the time of our CHARPEX 2011 meeting.

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 e-mail message at rfwinter@bellsouth.net or write to me. My mailing address appears at the bottom of this page.

Dick Winter



NORTH CAROLINA POSTAL HISTORIAN

Library of Congress #ISSN 1054-9158.

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 Secretary/Treasurer. Submissions for the *Postal Historian* or inquiries may be addressed to the editor.

| President | Vice-President | Secretary/Treasurer | Editors |
|---|--|---|---|
| Richard F. Winter 31 Flagship Cove Greensboro, NC 27455 rfwinter@bellsouth.net | Harvey Tilles PO Box 5466 High Point, NC 27262 htilles@triad.rr.com | William DiPaolo 404 Dorado Ct. High Point, NC 27265 wdipaolo@triad.rr.com | Tony L. Crumbley PO Box 681447 Charlotte, NC 28216 tcrumbley2@bellsouth.net |
| | | | Richard F. Winter 31 Flagship Cove Greensboro, NC 27455 rfwinter@bellsouth.net |

Board of Directors

Term Ending 2011

Richard F. Winter
John W. Allen
Bill DiPaolo

Term Ending 2012

Maurice M. Bursey
Harvey Tilles

Term Ending 2013

Harry Albert
Michael Kelly

The Greensborough PAID Handstamp

by Thomas S. Richardson



A few years ago Tony Crumbly challenged me to determine the use of or reason behind these cancels. He wondered if some cover examples without a year date might have been examples of a Confederate provisional use. I thought the socked on the nose (SON) examples of the "PAID" blue handstamp might have been intentionally used by the Greensboro postmaster to create pre-canceled stamps or envelopes. This article will examine use of the "PAID" cancel on 1853 3¢ first Nesbitt envelopes, the 1851 and 1857 3¢ stamps, and the 1860 3¢ Nesbitt Star Die envelopes. A number of Greensboro covers exist with a "PAID" handstamp precisely canceling the franking, either on the Nesbitt stamped envelopes or on the 1857 3¢ stamps. In each case, the marking can be described as SON. Figure 1 illustrates one of these covers, a December 10, 1860, cover to Hillsboro (Orange County) on a 3¢ red 1860 Nesbitt Star Die



Figure 1. ▲ November 6, (1860), Scott No. U-27, 1860 Nesbitt Star Die envelope, with blue Type 5 cds and socked on the nose "PAID" handstamp killer from Greensboro to Thomas Webb Esq., Hillsboro, (Orange County).

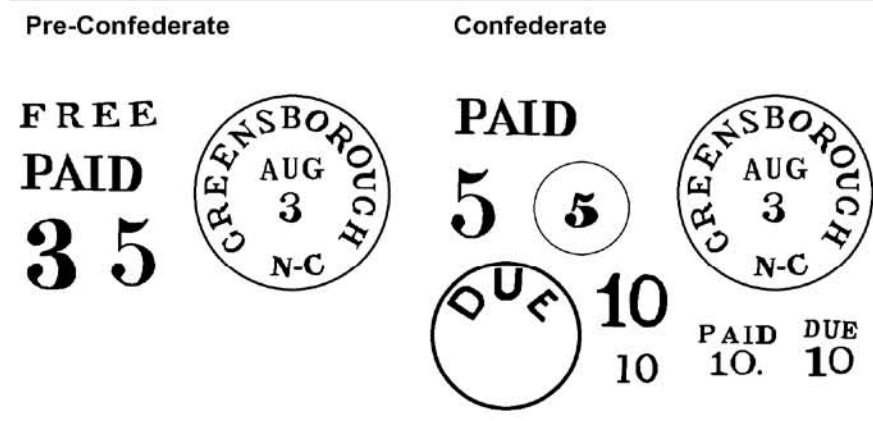


Figure 2. Greensboro Type 5 postmark and handstamp markings used in the pre- and Confederate periods. (From *Post Offices and Postmarks of North Carolina*, Vol. II, and the on-line "North Carolina Postmark Catalog Update")

stamped envelope, Scott No. U27. No examples of this "PAID" cancel have been seen tying stamps on cover or projecting onto the envelope when used to cancel the indicia of the stamped envelopes.

We need to establish some information related to the post office at Greensboro, stamps and stamped envelopes, Earliest Known Use (EKU), demonetized dates, and postal regulations issued. The post office was established at Greensboro in 1810. Greensboro was named for Nathaniel Greene, hero of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse in 1781. Postmarks from 1810 until 1851 read "Greensboro," but the postmark spelling was changed to "Greensborough" in 1851 by Postmaster Levi Scott.¹ A circular date stamp (cds) of 32 mm, Type 5, in blue, black and red was used to mark stampless and stamped covers from 1851 to 1865.² This Type 5 cds was used with the handstamp markings "FREE," "PAID," "3," and "5," before the Confederate period and with markings "PAID," "5," small circle "5," "10," small "10," "DUE/10," "PAID/10." and circle "DUE" during the Confederacy. Figure 2 illustrates the various handstamps.

Stampless covers with the Type 5 cds have dates as early as August 5, 1851. Those with the handstamps "3" and "PAID"



▲ **Figure 3.** Greensboro, November 1, (1851) on stampless envelope with blue Type 5 cds, “3,” and “PAID” handstamps to Mr. William Wiley, Randolph County, Franklinville.

are illustrated in Figure 3, a November 1, 1851, cover to Franklinville (Randolph County). Stampless covers after November 1851 resulted from a shortage of the 3¢ 1851 stamps. Greensboro received 5,000 3¢ 1851 stamps on July 28, 1851. Greensboro also received 1,000 1¢ 1851 stamps and no 12¢ 1851 stamps at the same time. Sometime after July until November 1851 the 3¢ stamps were used up for postage on mails from Greensboro. The 1853 Nesbitt envelopes are canceled with the Type 5 Greensboro cancel spelled “Greensborough.” Figure 4 illustrates a January 5, 1855, cover to Raleigh (Wake County). The Type 5 cds on this cover has a round shape to it. Sometime between December 1855 and August 1856 the Type 5 cds was damaged enough to create an indentation above the “BO” in “GREENSBOROUGH.” Figure 5 shows the damaged outer rim on an October 23, 1856, cover to Lenoir (Caldwell County) and a “FREE” handstamp. This defect is consistent to 1865 on U.S. and CSA covers with the black, blue and red color Type 5 cds. The reason this defect is pointed out is to help date a few of the covers. Because some of the covers or their contents have no visible year date and the color of the date stamp varies over the years, this defect may help place the marking in its proper year.

The “PAID” blue handstamp used as a killer on a 3¢ 1857 stamp, appears on an October 18, 1859, cover to Farmington (Davie County) with the Type 5 cds and SON “PAID” blue

handstamp (Figure 6). The “PAID” marking cancels the stamp but is not tied to the envelope. Other covers exist in the same state with the “PAID” marking canceling the postage stamp but not tying the stamp to the cover. This use of a marking other than a cds to cancel the postage stamp is similar to the Leominster, Massachusetts “3” used to cancel the 3¢ 1851 stamp on the cover shown in Figure 7. One early theory about this “3” was that it may have been used as a precancel. It is not known tying a stamp to a cover, suggesting the sheets of stamps were handstamped prior to sale.³ However

leading postal historian Richard B. Graham, writing in 1989 about the postmaster and the positioning of the Leominster “3” handstamps, stated “...this factor is simply due to Colburn’s extremely precise and deliberate methodology of



▲ **Figure 4.** Greensboro, January 5, (1855) on 1853 Nesbitt stamped envelope (Scott No. U-10) with Type 5 Greensboro cds to Ralph Gorrell, Raleigh (Wake County). Note the round-shaped, undamaged rim of the cds.

postmarking letters, which involved heating up the canceller and making test markings every few minutes. There is no evidence at all that any of these stamps so cancelled were ever sold and used as precancels.”⁴ Also mentioned in that article were Postage Due labels that were attached to letters that had the same “3” and “DUE 3 CENTS” on maroon labels that seem to have been made up before to attach to the soldiers letters that were due 3¢. Leading postal historian Frank Mandel writing in 2006 stated “...Charles H. Coburn, who became a

dedicated user of rating marks as cancellers. He must have been what would be called today a 'neat freak,' for he carefully applied numeral ratings marks, usually '3,' to stamps to the 1860s, so carefully that they have sometimes been described as precancels."⁵

Regarding the cancelations on the Greensboro covers we need to look at the *Postal Laws & Regulations (PL&R)*. The 1852, 1855 & 1859 *PL&Rs* permitted using office dating or postmarking stamps as canceling devices as long as they were to be used "with black printer's ink, and in such a manner as thoroughly to affect the object." By late 1860, this had changed. The November 1860 *United States Mail and Post Office Assistant* had the following statement about postage stamps and stamped envelopes: "The use of the office dating or post marking stamps as cancelling instruments, is now entirely prohibited, and a separate instrument



▲ **Figure 5.** Greensboro, October 23, (1856) cover showing damaged rim above the "BO" in "GREENSBOROUGH" on the blue Type 5 cds with a blue "FREE" handstamp to Lenoir (Caldwell County).



◀ **Figure 6.** Greensboro, October 18, (1859) with blue Type 5 cds and PAID handstamp on 3¢ Scott No. 26 to Miss Minnie Douthit, Farmington (Davie County).

required to be used instead."⁶ We know from the examples shown throughout this article that blue ink was used by the Greensboro postmaster, who did not follow the *PL&R* instructions to use black ink when canceling stamps or stamped envelopes.

The 1853 Nesbitt 3¢ stamped envelopes, Scott Nos. U9 and U10, were distributed to postmasters

in June 1854. The 3¢ 1857 issues, Scott Nos. 26 and 26a, have EKU of September 14, 1857 and June 26, 1857 respectfully. The 1860 Nesbitt 3¢ cent stamped envelopes, known as the Star Die envelopes, have an EKU of August 25, 1860.⁷ These postal stamps and stamped envelopes were demonetized by the U.S. Post Office Department in the seceded states on June 1, 1861. They were not demonetized at the same time in



Figure 7. ▶
Leominster, Massachusetts, June 18, 1852 cover with black 3 handstamp sock on the nose canceling 3¢ Scott No. 11 to Mrs. Mary Mary B. Allyn, E. Greewich, Rhode Island.

the Northern States and territories. Post Office Department notice of August 1861 outlined dates of September 10, October 1st and November 1st 1861 for various parts of the North. Due to insufficient supplies of the new 1861 stamps and stamped envelopes, demonetization in the Northern States was not completed until December 1861, or early 1862.

The last day of use of United States stamps and stamped envelopes in the Confederate States of America (CSA) was May 31, 1861. North Carolina seceded on May 20, 1861, and joined the CSA on May 27, 1861. The period as an independent and as a Confederate state for the use of U.S. stamps and stamped envelopes was 11 days. There were only five days when the use of United States stamps and stamped envelopes could be legally used in Confederate North Carolina. The Provisional Government of the CSA was formed on February 8, 1861, and the Post Office of the CSA on February 21, 1861. The first proposal for stamps for the CSA was April 2, 1861. The letter rate in the CSA was established June 1, 1861, with 5 cents for single letters weighing up to ½ ounce and traveling up to 500 miles and 10 cents for distances greater than 500 miles. Double rates were charged for letters weighing between ½ and 1 ounce.⁸ The EKU of a press-printed entire was June 5, 1861 in Lynchburg, Virginia, and the EKU of an adhesive provisional stamp was June 7, 1861, in Hillsboro, N.C. and Marion, Virginia.

The 3¢ Star Die stamped envelope was issued in August 1860 and the EKU is August 25, 1860 as stated before. It had a very short postal use in both the U.S. and Confederate Governments. The Star Die envelopes became a problem for both sides and the respective Postmaster Generals issued orders to demonetize the envelopes. In the CSA this was accomplished by an order from Postmaster General John H. Reagan, effective June 1, 1861, requiring all postmasters “to render to the Post Office Department at Washington D.C., their final accounts and vouchers for postal receipts and expenditures up to the 31st of May, 1861, taking care to forward with said accounts all postage stamps and stamped envelopes remaining on hand, belonging to the Post Office Department of the United States.”⁹ In the North, a notice from the Post Office Department of the United States appeared in the Washington, D.C. newspaper *National Intelligencer* dated June 13, 1861, reading as follows: “There are now no postmasters of the United States, in the seceded States, authorized to sell stamps or collect postage, since the 1st of June, for this Government. Postmasters, therefore, must treat all matter since the 1st of June coming from the seceded States, and mailed within these States, as unpaid matter to be held for postage. All such matter is ordered to be sent to the dead letter office at Washington to be disposed of according to law”¹⁰ These orders may have caused the use of the “PAID” blue hand stamp in Greensboro on existing 3¢ 1853 Nesbitt and 1860 Star Die envelopes and on covers with the 3¢ stamps of 1857 since no stamps or stamped envelopes were ready in the Confederacy until October 1, 1861.

The thought that use of the blue “PAID” on the Nesbitt 1853 and 1860 Star Die stamped envelopes in Greensboro was a Confederate Provisional is not supported by some dated covers occurring before North Carolina joined the Confederacy. One striking example shown was shown in Figure 1 dated December 10, 1860, which was used before the Confederacy was established. It is more likely that this was a continuance of what I believe were pre-canceled 1857 3¢ stamps previously shown in Figures 6.

Let us look at the three 1860 3¢ Star Dies that have the Type 5 Greensboro cancelations and “PAID” in blue SON over the indicia. The 3¢ Star Dies, Scott Nos. U26 and U27, have an EKU of August 25, 1860 and a last day of use in both the United States and the Confederacy of May 31, 1861, issued in orders by both Postmaster Generals. For the use of the Greensboro “PAID” handstamp to be used as a Provisional marking or for Confederate usage, the dates would have to fall between May 27, 1861 and April 27, 1865.¹¹ We can narrow this time frame for the covers in question. The 5¢ regular issue postage stamp, CSA No. 1, has an EKU of October 16, 1861. Greensboro would have had the 5¢ stamps by November or December 1861. Between the dates May 27, 1861 and November 1861, the Greensboro Type 5 cds with various rate handstamps as well as the “PAID” handstamp was used on stampless covers since no CSA stamps were available. Dates seen on Star Die stamped envelopes are December 10, 1860 (Figure 1), the EKU of this envelope in North Carolina; March 23, 1861, cover to Hillsboro (Orange County) (Figure 8); and May 4, 1861 cover to Graham (Alamance County) (Figure 9). These dates are all before North Carolina’s secession of May 20, 1861. Each shows use of the “PAID” marking as a killer and each is SON as were some pre-Confederate period 3¢ 1857 covers. The 3¢ 1853 Nesbitt stamped envelopes canceled with the same “PAID” as a killer were also used, as shown by a September 3, 1860 cover to Hillsboro (Orange County) (Figure 10).

The Postmasters during these periods were: Levi M. Scott, July 15, 1851 to August 14, 1853; Branson G. Graham, August 15, 1853 to October 17, 1862; and James E. Thom, October 18, 1862 to an unknown date before April 30, 1865. Under Postmaster Graham the Greensborough Postmaster Provisionals were created and used, as well as 5¢ stampless covers showing the Greensboro Type 5 cds with “5,” and “PAID” illustrated by a May 30, 1861, cover to Salem (Forsyth County) (Figure 11) and 10¢ stampless covers showing Type 5 cds and “PAID/10,” shown by a September 10, 1861, cover to Randolph Macon College near Boydton, Virginia (Figure 12). These markings show the continuing use of the 1851 to 1860 markings used to pre-cancel the 3¢ 1857 stamp, 1853 Nesbitt and 3¢ 1860 Star Die envelopes, into the CSA era in similar position on the envelope as the previous covers. The use as precancels is consistent with August Dietz’s comment under the Greensboro listing of CSA Provisionals in Dietz’s



◀ **Figure 8.** Greensboro, March 23 (1861) 1860 Star Die stamped envelope (Scott No. U-26) to Thos. Webb Esq., Hillsboro (Orange County) with blue Type 5 cds and PAID handstamp killer socked on the nose.



Figure 9. ▶
Greensboro, May 4, (1861) 1860 Star Die stamped envelope (Scott No. U-27) to Archibald Boyd, Esq., Graham (Alamance County) with blue Type 5 cds and PAID handstamp killer sicked on the nose. Estate settlement enclosed dated May 3, 1861.



◀ **Figure 10.** Greensboro, September 3 (1860) 1853 Nesbitt stamped envelope (Scott No. U-9) to Thos. Webb Esq., Hillsboro (Orange County) with blue Type 5 cds and PAID handstamp killer socked on the nose.

Confederate States Catalog, where he states: “It has long been considered that the 10c handstamped envelopes were prepared in advance of use and sold at the Greensborough post office.”¹²

Why would the Greensboro postmaster not have continued the process he had started when he was the U.S. Postmaster in 1853 to 1861? I maintain that he created the SON 3¢ 1857 stamps by pre-canceling the sheets of stamps and that he pre-canceled the 1853 Nesbitt and the 1860 Star-Dies stamped envelopes in the same manner as the Greensboro Postmaster Provisional envelopes were prepared under Postmaster

Graham. Since all the known examples of “PAID” cancels are SON killers on stamps or embossed envelopes, I envision the Postmaster selling these precancels over his counter to make his job more efficient. Each day he would set out the cancel, the stamps and envelopes for the day’s business, and then collect the money for the postage, and hand over a pre-canceled stamp or embossed envelope for the use by the patron. The Postmaster would only need to take the item back and place it in the mail sack since it already had been postmarked. ■



◀ **Figure 11.** Greensboro, May 30 (1861-62?) stampless envelope to R.L. Patterson Esq., Salem (Forsyth County) with blue Type 5 cds, PAID and 5 handstamp.

Figure 12. ▶
Greensboro, September 10, (1861) stampless envelope to Miss M.E. Carter, R(andolph). M(acon). College, Boydton, Va. with blue Type 5 cds and PAID/10. handstamp.



Endnotes:

1. Greensboro postmarks and Types are taken from *Post Offices and Postmarks of North Carolina*, Vol. II (North Carolina Postal History Society Charlotte, NC 1996). Additional references are taken from "North Carolina Postmark Catalog Update," http://www.postalmuseum.si.edu/statepostalhistory/northcarolina_postmarkcatalog.html.
2. *Post Offices and Postmarks of North Carolina* lists this postmark as Type 3 and the "North Carolina Postmark Catalog Update," which is an updated version on-line, lists this as Type 5 because two earlier postmarks were added to the catalog. The postmark will be called Type 5 in this article.
3. Thomas J. Alexander, *Simpson's U.S. Postal Markings 1851-61* (Columbus, OH: U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, 1979), pg. 116.
4. *The Chronicle of the U.S. Classic Postal Issues*, Whole No. 141 (February 1989) pg. 47.
5. *The 1851 Issue of United States Stamps a Sesquicentennial* (U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, 2006), pg. 279.
6. Collectors Club of Chicago, *United States Mail and Post Office Assistant, 1860-1872*, Original ed. by James Holbrook. Reprint ed. in 2 vols. (Chicago: Collectors Club of Chicago, 1975), vol. 1, pg. 6.

7. ECU/EDC Dates 1998 Edition *Earliest Known Uses, Earliest Documented Covers of U.S. postage stamps and selected postal stationery issues, 1847-1931*: compiled by Expert committee of the American Philatelic Society.
8. *The New Dietz Confederate States Catalog and Handbook* (Miami, FL: Bogg & Laurence Publishing Company, 1986), pg. 269
9. *UPSS Catalog of the 19th Century Stamped Envelopes and Wrappers of the United States*, Edmund C. McGovern ed. (Redlands, CA: United States Postal Stationery Society, Inc., 1984), pg. 143.
10. *Ibid.*
11. On April 27, 1865, a surrender broadside proclamation by General Joseph E. Johnson was printed and distributed in Greensboro. A. Earl Weatherly, *The First Hundred Years of Historic Guilford, 1771-1871* (Greensboro, NC: Greensboro Printing Company, 1972), pg. 177.
12. *The New Dietz Confederate States Catalog and Handbook*, *op. cit.*, pg. 80.

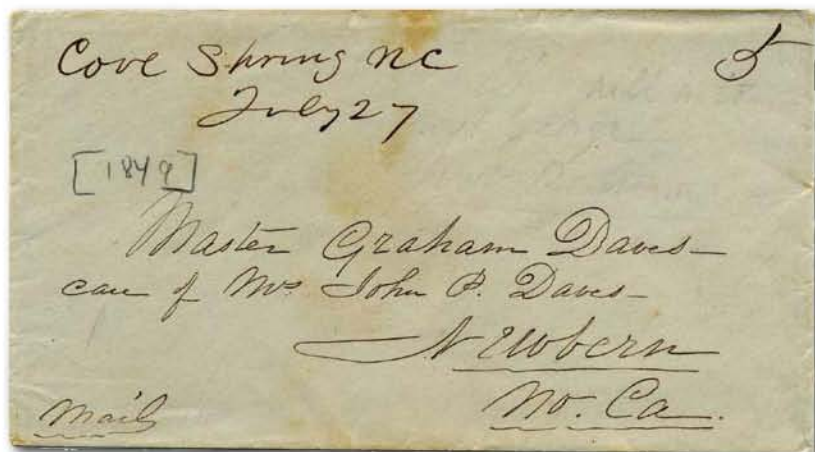
New Markings



From time to time our readers send information about new postal markings for North Carolina post offices. We will use this section to show these new markings in addition to adding them to our on-line "North Carolina Postmark Catalog Update." Member Jay Smith from Snow Camp (Alamance County) has submitted the following cover, a 23 August 1882 envelope from Little River Academy (Cumberland County) to Asheboro (Randolph County). Not only is the postmark one not previously recorded but the color of ink is a brilliant magenta color only occasionally seen during this period. The 3¢ Bank Note is canceled with three pen strokes.

Mystery Cover

Correct responses were received from Scott Troutman and Roy Elmore, who thought this example was easier than the usual mystery covers. He was right. The postmark looks like "Cove Spring," which is not a North Carolina post office. Instead, it is a hastily written "Cool Spring" (Washington County). Cool Spring opened in 1826 and changed its name to Scuppernon in December 1849 about five months after this letter was posted.



Can you locate the office shown by the manuscript cancel on this lady's envelope dated 24 July 1864?

Send your answer to Tony Crumbley or Dick Winter.

Edenton, North Carolina – A Postal History Giant



by Tony L. Crumbley

Edenton is located on the Albemarle Sound in Chowan County. It was one of North Carolina's first settled cities.

The area was known to the Indians as "Town on Matecomack Creek." In 1715 it

was incorporated as "Town on Queen Ann's Creek." Charles Forts became the first owner of land in the community. Later, Thomas Betterley, Patrick Ogilby and Richard Alban would become neighbors. By 1718 the town had a court house and a public landing but scarcely any evidence of civilization. Shortly after the death of Governor Charles Eden in 1722, the town name was changed to Edenton.

Edenton was the capital of North Carolina colony from

1722 until 1743. In those days, Edenton was a busy hub of shipping with hundreds of ships delivering food and goods and exporting local agricultural crops to European harbors. Vast plantation settlements spread across the region.

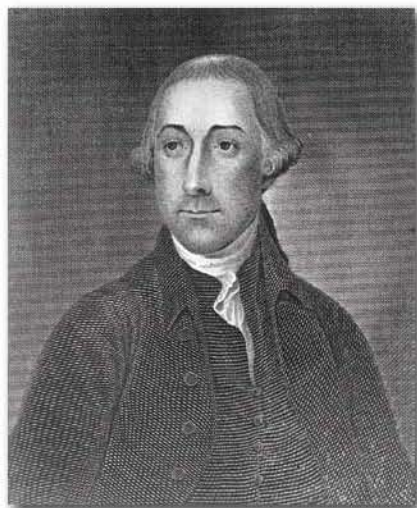
Samuel Johnson came from Scotland in 1754 to Edenton to study law under Thomas Baker. In 1765 Johnson purchased the plantation at Hayes and made it his home. James Iredell migrated from Bristol, England, as a 17-year old boy and became the

gallons of rum, 100,000 gallons of molasses, 150,000 pounds of salt and 400,000 yards of linen.

Edenton was prospering. A new shop opened up on the wharves where women came to shop. They bought brass from Persia, silks and jewels from India, spices, sugar and silver dishes from Spanish countries and lace from Morocco. Edenton was truly an international city.

In 1770 Joseph Hewes (Figure 1) became the first appointed postmaster in Edenton. He would serve until January 19, 1776, when William Gardener was appointed. In 1773 one of Edenton's leading businessmen was Joseph Hewes. At 43 years of age, he ran a store in partnership with Robert Smith and operated the shipyard. He had a dry dock fashioned from a log bulkhead filled with ballast stone. Along the dock ran parallel wooden rails about 12 feet apart upon which vessels could be launched or pulled out for overhauling. Hewes was educated at Princeton. He fell in love with Isabella Johnston, sister of Samuel Johnston, but she died before they could marry, a tragedy from which he never recovered and never married.

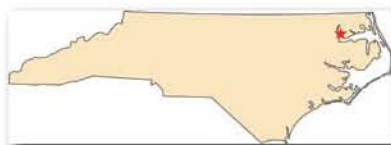
Another visitor to Samuel Johnston's plantation was James Iredell, Sr. (Figure 2). He would marry Hannah Johnston, Samuel's youngest sister. At age 19 he became the state's youngest practicing attorney and became a powerful leader in the colony. Figure 3 illustrates a letter sent free to him from Philadelphia in 1787



▲ **Figure 1.** Joseph Hewes became the first appointed postmaster of Edenton in 1770. He would serve for six years. Later he was one of the three North Carolinians to sign the Declaration of Independence. (Courtesy of North Carolina State Archives)

port comptroller. Hugh Williamson was also drawn here in quest of a mercantile fortune. These men would later play key roles in forming the nation.

Between 1771 and 1776, Edenton port records show 827 ships cleared for America and foreign ports. Nearly half of these were bound for the West Indies. In this five year period,



local farmers and merchants exported almost 10 million barrel staves, more than 16 million shingles, 320,000 bushels of corn, 100,000 barrels of tar along with 24,000 barrels of fish and 6,000 hogsheads of tobacco. For these goods came 250,000



▲ **Figure 2.** James Iredell, Sr., the state's youngest practicing attorney and one who would become a powerful leader in the North Carolina colony. (Courtesy of North Carolina State Archives)



◀ **Figure 3.** Free Frank of William R. Davie, North Carolina member of the Constitutional Convention, posted in 1787 at Philadelphia to James Iredell in Edenton.

until September 1793. By February 1793, manuscript postmarks were in use until 1818 and again during the years 1823 to 1825 (Figure 6). When

Figure 4. ▶
Edenton, June 3, 1788, folded letter to Portsmouth, Virginia with red straight-line handstamp of Edenton used only in 1787 and 1788. 2 dwt sterling postage paid.

by William R. Davie, a North Carolina representative to the Constitutional Convention.

The earliest known postmark from Edenton is dated October 29, 1787, a straight-line postmark introduced in 1787,



◀ **Figure 5.** Edenton, NC, December 8, 1790. Letter sent free to Judge James Iredell in Edenton but forwarded to him in Philadelphia, where he was an associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. 5 dwt 8 gr. sterling marked due as he was not entitled to free postage.

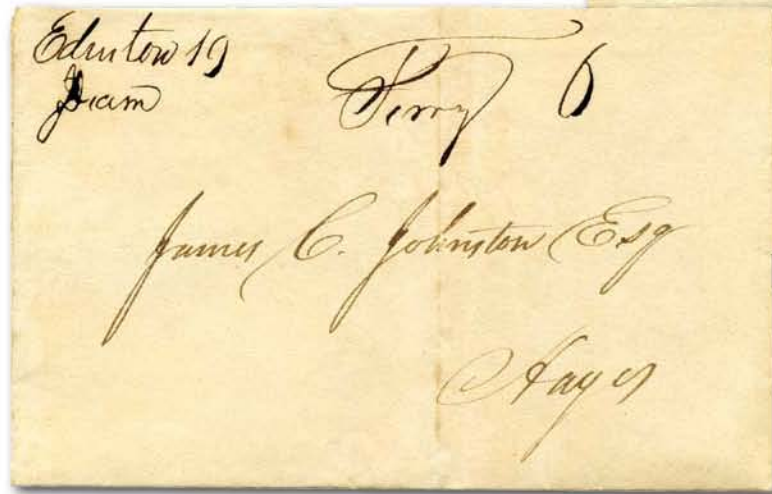
Figure 6. ▶
Edenton, January 3, 1812, manuscript postmark used on a letter due 25¢ in Boston. Manuscripts postmarks were in use from 1793 until 1818.



first in red and from September 1788 in black ink (Figures 4 and 5). This straight line handstamp was used

Figure 7. ▶

Edenton, September 14, 1821, red Edenton cogwheel cancel used from 1818 until 1823. Ship letter entering mail at Edenton marked for 20½¢ postage due in Raleigh (2¢ ship fee plus 18½¢ inland fee), then redirected to Stagville (Orange County). Duncan Cameron, owner of more than 1,000 slaves, was founder of Christ Episcopal Church, St. Mary's School for Girls and chaired the committee to build the capitol in Raleigh.



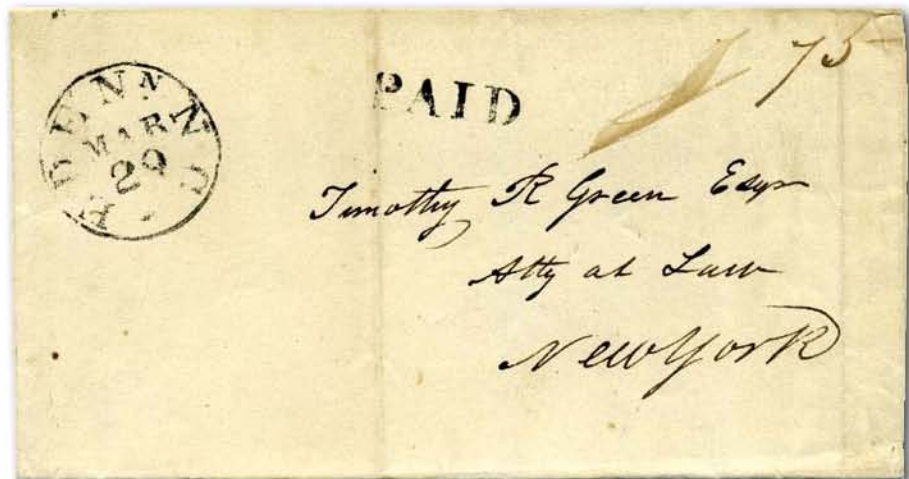
◀ **Figure 8.** Edenton, January 19, 1825, manuscript cancel "Ferry 6." Letter carried from downtown Edenton to James Johnson at his plantation, Hayes, less than a mile away and marked for 6¢ postage due. Hayes was over 1,375 acres.

Henry Willis became postmaster in 1817, he introduced North Carolina's first fancy cancel, considered by many the state's most attractive. Figure 7 is an example of this cog wheel handstamp, which was used from April 1818 to December 1823. Little is known of this handstamp but the distinctive teeth on the circle certainly make it unusual and attractive.

By 1825 the Edenton postmaster was back to using manuscript markings (Figure 8). This would last until 1826 when the Type 3 Eden handstamp first appeared (Figure 9). This handstamp is similar to other U.S. markings and is most likely the first handstamp provided to the city by the postal system.

Figure 9. ▶

Edenton, March 20, 1838, Type 3, 32 mm CDS in black with 3 x 25¢ rate paid to New York. CDS used from 1826 – 1838 with 1826 use in red.



By 1839 Edenton would begin using its fourth distinct handstamp. This handstamp would be used throughout the stampless era and on into the first two stamp issues from 1839-1857. The Type 4 handstamp (Figures 10 and 11) was used with black, red, blue and green ink. Numerous rate, paid and free handstamps as well as manuscript markings can be found with this handstamp.

John C. Fleetwood would be appointed postmaster on December 11, 1855. Shortly thereafter he began using the Type 5 handstamp (Figure 12). This would be used throughout the Civil War as Fleetwood was the Confederate postmaster.

At the beginning of the war, Edenton was a town of 1500 people. The 1850 census indicates Chowan County had 2,494 whites, 3,673 slaves and 104 free Negroes. The Edenton business directory lists 14 businesses dealing in groceries and dry goods, two in liquors, a drugstore, four tailors and three cobblers. There were also two millinery shops, two confectionery and fancy stores, a saddlery and two grist mills. Edenton had two hotels, numerous churches and four newspapers served the city throughout this decade.

When North Carolina joined the Confederacy in 1861, Edenton did its part. Scrap metal of all types were gathered up and sent to Richmond for use in the making of cannons. All but one of the city's bells was removed and went into cannons for use in the war efforts. Local troops were marched off to war.

At the end of August 1861, federal troops seized a foothold at Hatteras Island. A small operation remained there until January 1862 when a large Union force assaulted Roanoke Island. On the morning of February 12, 1862, three Union gunboats entered the harbor at Edenton. Hereafter there was scarcely a week for the remainder of the war that Edenton was not visited by Union troops in quest of food and supplies. Chowan and the entire region east of the river were written off as lying within Union lines. Even so, patriotic groups in Chowan established and maintained regular traffic in cotton and other produce for use of the rebel army.

With the war's end, John McCurdy was appointed postmaster on October 11, 1865. Postmaster McCurdy introduced the Type 6 handstamp in Edenton (Figure 15). Similar handstamps would be used until the 1890s.

Figure 10. ▶

Edenton, January 7, 1841, Type 4, 30 mm CDS used from 1839 to 1855, to Hertford (Perquimans County). Manuscript "Paid/(22)" made to indicate 12¢ payment charged to box 22 at Edenton post office. Colors used were red, blue-green, and black



◀ Figure 11. Edenton, February 19, 1850, cover to McAllisterville, Pennsylvania, rated first at 5¢ postage due, then corrected to 10¢ since distance was greater than 300 miles, all in red.

Figure 12. ▶

Edenton, March 6, 1861, Type 5, 33 mm CDS canceling 1856 issue U.S. stamp on cover to Howell Cobb, President of Congress of Confederate States in Montgomery, Alabama, showing Edenton's continued political involvement.



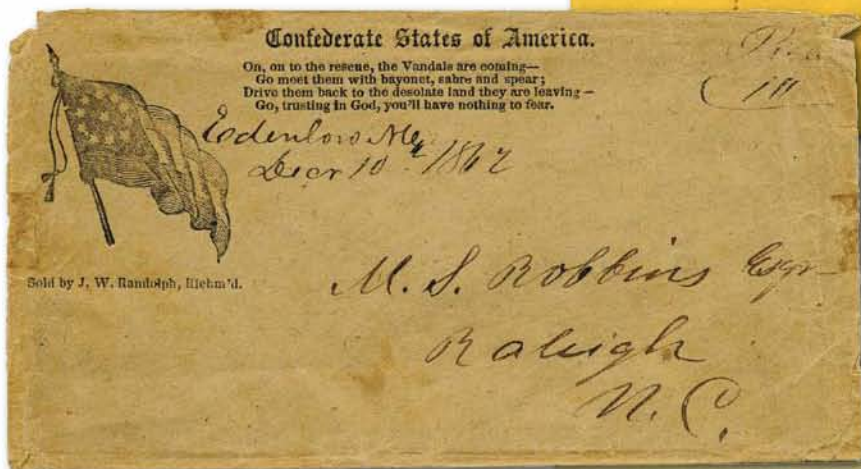
Without a doubt, Edenton has been a leader in the development of this state and nation. Much of this history can be seen in its postal history. Because it saw friendly occupation by federal forces during the war, much of its historical properties are still intact today. The James Iredell house, Chowan County Courthouse, the St. Paul's Episcopal Church and over 25

homes have been recognized by the National Register for Historic Places.

In 1963 Edenton hosted first day ceremonies for the issuance of the U.S. stamp commemorating the Carolina Charter (Figure 16), an indication of the continued postal history of the community. ■

Figure 13. ▶

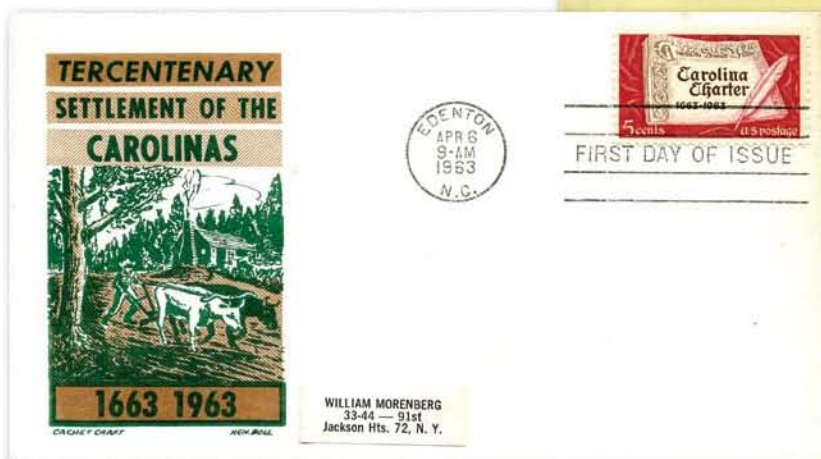
Edenton, November 8, 1861, with Confederate soldier's due 5 from A.F. Faucett, 2nd Regiment, NC Calvary, to Hillsboro (Orange County).



◀ **Figure 14.** Edenton, December 10, 1862, Paid 10 Confederate patriotic cover posted from Edenton to Raleigh well after Union occupation in February 1862.

Figure 15. ▶

Edenton, April 7, 1865, Type 6 26 mm CDS with 5 circle target killer to Baltimore. This CDS and two other similar ones would be used until the 1880s.



◀ **Figure 16.** Edenton, April 6, 1963 First day of issue of the Carolina Charter commemorative.

North Carolina Confederate Color Cancells

by Tony L. Crumbley

For nearly two years now, work has been underway on the updating of a new Confederate postal history catalog. As the North Carolina section editor, I have been updating the North Carolina stampless cover section of this new work. Along with this assignment, I took on the task of updating the color postmark section of the catalog.

Of the many thousand of post offices in the Confederacy, only 366 different hand stamp devices are known used with inks other than black. Of the 1,175 North Carolina post offices, only 44 used post marks of color.

This study only examined colors used on town postmark devices. Colors used on rate or auxiliary markings were not recorded. Raleigh, for instance, is known to use green ink on its paid hand stamp for a short time. It, however, is not listed in green because the CDS is not recorded struck in green.

It should be noted that just because the cancel looks a specific color it may actually not be the color it appears. Many inks change color over time and the paper the ink was used on may cause the ink to look differently. For instance, blue ink

used on a yellow envelope paper will look green. Many of the blue Raleigh and Greensboro hand stamps are on yellow envelopes and confuse collectors as to their actual color. This is one reason it is important to know what colors were actually used.

The following chart indicates the number of postmarks known for each of the six different recorded colors.

| | |
|--------|----|
| Blue | 18 |
| Red | 17 |
| Brown | 6 |
| Green | 1 |
| Orange | 1 |
| Violet | 1 |

The author would like to know of any other markings you may have in your collections that are not included in this listing. Please forward a color copy or scan of your covers not included here. ■

North Carolina Confederate Color Cancells

Blue Markings

| | | |
|-------------|---------------|----------------|
| Ashboro | Greensborough | Mount Pleasant |
| Brownsville | Hillsboro | Newbern |
| Charlotte | Kenanville | Raleigh |
| Concord | Lenoir | Taylorsville |
| Enfield | Martindale | Wadesborough |
| Graham | Morgantown | Wentworth |

Red Markings

| | | |
|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| Columbia | Harrellsville | Mount Mourne |
| Dunns Rock | Hertford | Plymouth |
| Elkville | Lincolnton | Raleigh |
| Gaston | Madison | Warsaw |
| Greensborough | Mebanesville | Yanceyville |
| Hamptonville | Monroe | |

Brown Markings

| | | |
|-------------|---------|-------------------------|
| Durham | Madison | P. Hill (Pleasant Hill) |
| Franklinton | Milton | Scuppernong |

Green Markings

Durham

Orange Markings

Raleigh

Violet Markings

Whitesville

Figure 1. ▶

Durham, August 1, 1863. This double-circle CDS is scarce without consideration of the color since few towns in the state used such a marking. The chestnut brown ink used here is the only known example.



◀ **Figure 2.** Durham, July 18, 1864. By 1864, postmaster Shepard had changed his ink to a green color. This is the only example recorded of this green marking.



Figure 3. ▶

Fredericksburg, Virginia, April 10, 1862. The green Scott #1 was postmarked with a black CDS. In Raleigh, the cover was forwarded to Hillsboro. The Raleigh postmaster applied a Scott #4 for the 5¢ forwarding fee. Both stamps were canceled with a blue double circle CDS. On this yellow envelope paper, the ink looks green.



◀ **Figure 4.** Raleigh, 10 November 1863, marked for 10¢ postage due in New Centre, South Carolina. Only Raleigh used orange ink during the war. This is the only recorded example of this color ink use within the state.



From Marion, North Carolina, to Woods, Texas

by Joe Crosby

I continue to be amazed at what research can be done on the internet related to postal history.

In going through some of my late father's covers I came across this one from Marion (McDowell County) to Woods, Texas. It had with it a letter from 1863 written by a son of the Hull family from a Civil War battle in Louisiana to his mother in Woods, Texas. After some research it has become clear the

Edwin Sealy Hull was born in 1818 in Scotland Neck. With his brother Thomas, he traveled to Raleigh and they apprenticed to become tailors, like their father before them. Edwin married Sarah Ann Young on November 25, 1841, in Scotland Neck and continued as a tailor. He expanded his business interests by

Figure 1. ►

10 September 1859 or 1860, Marion (McDowell County) to Woods, Texas, from Col. Edwin Sealy Hull to his wife. Envelope contained an 1863 letter, which did not belong with the envelope.



letter did not go with this cover. Woods, Texas, is a very small town just over the Louisiana border southwest of Shreveport.

This cover is no doubt from Col. Edwin Sealy Hull, sent around 1859 or 1860 to his wife Sarah. He did not bring his family out to Woods, Texas, until April 1858.

Edwin's father was Henry Sealy Hull, who came to America from Bristol, England. His ship was wrecked off Cape



◀ **Figure 2.** Col. Edwin Sealy Hull, born in 1818 in Scotland Neck (Halifax County) and later moved to Marion (McDowell County).

Hatteras and he survived by clinging onto a chicken coop for three days until rescued. He later settled in Scotland Neck (Halifax County).

becoming a merchant. In the 1850 census he is listed as running a hotel in Marion, retaining several farms, and he owned a slave named Jane. Edwin sold off his property to pay off bad investments and moved to Woods, Panola County, Texas, in 1857. He built a store, assisted in the construction of a Methodist church and a school house, and finally brought his family out from North Carolina to Texas in April 1858. They had seven children. During the Civil War he helped raise a regiment from Woods. After the war his store prospered. He died in Panola County, Texas in 1909.

All this and more can be found in the comfort of one's home simply by visiting the web. Anyone want to venture a guess on what research will be like in 20 years?

Bibliography:

Sealy picture and much of the information from the web site http://www.howderfamily.com/genealogy/surnames_h/HULL_Edwin_Sealy_1818.html ■

Have You Given Us Your E-mail Address?

We would like in the future to be able to send information to members using e-mail, but we lack valid e-mail addresses for many of our members. Please help by sending your e-mail address to Bill DiPaolo, the Secretary-Treasurer at wdipaolo@triad.rr.com or Tony Crumbley at tcrumbley2@bellsouth.net.

Passed Midshipman Samuel P. Carter

by Richard F. Winter



On 10 July 1849, Passed Midshipman Samuel P. Carter sent a letter to North Carolina from his ship in Europe. While his letter is no longer with the envelope, the cover is of considerable interest from a postal history prospective as well as the individual who wrote the letter. This article will address both.

The term “midshipman” originated from the place assigned to the “young gentlemen,” as they used to be called, amidships. In the larger vessels there was no way to go from the quarterdeck to the forecabin without descending into the lower, center section of the ship. Messengers were necessary to prevent the captain or officer of the watch from having to leave his station, so the midshipmen carried the orders. It was the starting place for young men who desired to become officers in their early years at sea. A Passed Midshipman was a midshipman, who passed his examination for promotion to lieutenant, but was awaiting a vacancy in that grade. There were no lower officer grades below lieutenant at the time.

Samuel Powhatan Carter was born in Elizabethtown, Carter County, Tennessee, on 6 August 1819. He was educated at Princeton, but never graduated, and on 14 February 1840, became a midshipman in the navy attached to the sloop U.S.S. *Dale* in the Pacific Squadron, where he served until 1844. He

was assigned next to the steamer U.S.S. *Michigan* in 1845, the Navy’s first iron-hulled warship built and operated throughout her career on Lake Erie for its defense. In 1846, Carter went to the new Naval School at Annapolis, Maryland. Between 1840 and 1842 almost 200 midshipmen had entered the navy. When the naval school opened in 1845 these midshipmen, ranked according to their officer warrants, had almost completed the six years’ of service customary prior to taking the lieutenants’ exam. They were sent to Annapolis to prepare for the exam. Carter graduated 11th in the first Annapolis class of 1846 (the class graduated between the years 1846 and 1848). He was promoted to Passed Midshipman on 11 July 1846, and then served on the U.S.S. *Ohio* operating off the east coast of Mexico during the Mexican War. *Ohio* had sailed for Veracruz on 4 January and arrived back at New York on 9 May 1847. In August 1848 he went aboard the newly-commissioned frigate U.S.S. *St. Lawrence*. This vessel had been laid down at the Norfolk Navy Yard in 1826 but not completed until 1848 when a shortage of funds was overcome by the Mexican War. The ship left Norfolk in September 1848 for duty in Northern Europe and the Mediterranean and returned to the United States in November 1850. *St. Lawrence* arrived at Bremerhaven, the port city for Bremen, Germany, on 10 July 1849 to discharge German midshipmen that were being trained on board the vessel.

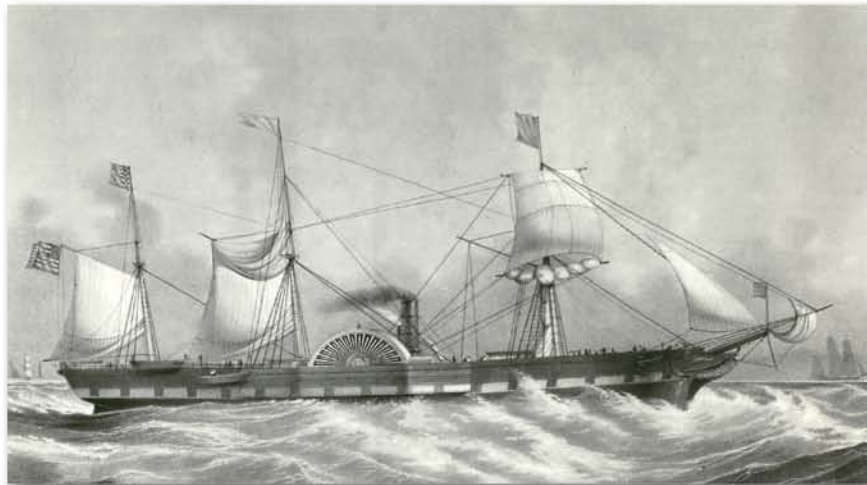
On the same day, Passed Midshipman Carter penned his letter to James Johnston Pettigrew at Cool Spring, Washington County. Figure 1 shows the cover, a yellow brown envelope with no markings on the reverse that was sent as an unpaid letter. A docketing notation on the left edge of the envelope by the recipient shows the letter was from Passed Midshipman Samuel Carter, dated 10 July 1849, and was of a general nature. J. J. Pettigrew was a contemporary of Carter’s, who became a lawyer, a scholar, and Confederate general. From 1852 to 1861 Pettigrew would serve as junior partner of James Louis Pettigrew at Charleston, S.C., a cousin of the Pettigrews and one of the leading attorneys of the country.

The absence of any Bremen markings on this cover is a clear indication that Carter did not post his letter in the German mail system, but took it directly to the Ocean Line steamship *Hermann*, which had arrived on 6



▲ **Figure 1.** 10 July 1849, unpaid envelope without letter contents from Europe to Cool Spring (Washington County), readdressed to Charleston and then Bordeaux, South Carolina. Postage due at final destination was 39¢. (Courtesy of Tony Crumbley)

July 1849, and was soon to depart for New York. This was an American steamship, one of two vessels of the first American



▲ **Figure 2.** Ocean Line mail steamship *Hermann*, one of two steamships of the first American contract mail line to Europe. The vessel operated between New York and Bremerhaven, the port city of Bremen, Germany, with a stop off the Isle of Wight, England. (Courtesy of The Mariners Museum, Newport News, Virginia)

mail steamship line to Europe, the Ocean Line. Figure 2 illustrates this contract steamship. Bremen post office records show that *Hermann* carried 4,768 letters on this voyage to New York. The steamer departed Bremerhaven on 12 July and arrived at New York on 4 August 1849. Since the letter was not a regular part of the Bremen mail it was marked at New York only for 24¢ postage due, which was the amount due for a letter carried from Europe by an American vessel. Had it been a part of the mail under the postal arrangement with Bremen, the postage due would have been 34¢, 24¢ international rate from Bremen plus 10¢ U.S. inland fee from New York to North Carolina. On 17 August 1849, the letter was readdressed to Pettegrew in Charleston, and forwarded from Cool Spring. The postage due now was 24¢ plus 10¢ fee from Cool Spring to Charleston, approximately 450 miles away. On 25 August 1849 the letter was again readdressed to Bordeaux, South Carolina, and received the red circular datestamp of Charleston on the left side. The postage due had now increased to 24¢ plus 10¢ plus 5¢ fee from Charleston to Bordeaux, approximately 190 miles away.

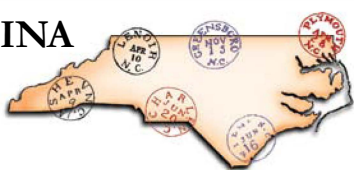
Samuel Powhatan Carter (Figure 3) went on to a most unusual and distinguished career. He was the only U.S. military officer to hold the rank of Army General and Navy Admiral. In July 1861, while an assistant instructor of seamanship at Annapolis, he was ordered to report to the Secretary of War. Tennessee Governor Andrew Johnson, after receiving assurance of loyalty to the Union from Carter, used his influence to have

Carter assigned to organize and train militia within East Tennessee. He was appointed colonel of the 2nd Tennessee volunteers. By May 1862 he received a full commission as brigadier-general and commanded successful operations in East Tennessee. Later he lead many more troops in Tennessee as a division commander. In January 1865, at his own request, he was relieved and ordered to North Carolina to command a division. He was brevetted Major General in March 1865 and commanded the 23rd army corps. In August 1865 he was relieved of army duty and returned to the navy. While in the army he advanced in rank in the navy: Lieutenant-Commander in July 1862; Commander in June 1865; and honorably mustered out of the army in January 1866. He was commandant of the naval academy at Annapolis from 1869 to 1872, was promoted to Captain in October 1870, commissioned a commodore in November 1878, and retired on 6 August 1881, shortly before being promoted to rear-admiral in May 1882. ■



▲ **Figure 3.** Samuel Powhatan Carter, the only U.S. military officer to hold the rank of Army General and Navy Admiral during his military career. He sent this letter as a Passed Midshipman in 1849 from Europe to North Carolina.

NORTH CAROLINA POSTAL HISTORIAN



If you'd like to contribute information
or articles to the Summer *POSTAL HISTORIAN*
please submit by the following deadline:

SEPTEMBER 1

SEEKING

Confederate and Southern States
Postal History as well as a few
Select Customers for such.

Carolina Coin & Stamp, Inc.

Tony L. Crumbley
P.O. Box 681447, Charlotte, NC 28216
704.395.1191

tonycrumbley@bellsouth.net
www.TonyCrumbley.com



BIG LICK STAMPS

*Buying and selling Stamps, Covers &
Collections of the World*

Cary Cochran
Owner

P.O. Box 163
Locust, North Carolina 28097
1.800.560.5310

carytj@yahoo.com

I BUY IT. I SELL IT.

Confederate States

Stamps and Postal History

Patricia A. Kaufmann

10194 N. Old State Road, Lincoln DE 19960
(302) 422-2656 ~ trishkauf@comcast.net

Over 40 years experience in Confederate philately

*Let me help you build your collection or, if that time has come,
let me help you market it to your best advantage*

2011 SUSTAINING MEMBERS

| | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Marshall Acee | J. Ron Edmonds | Pierre Oldham |
| Harry Albert | Andrea Edmondson | Dennis Osborne |
| N.C. Archives | Roy Elmore | Tom Richardson |
| W. Bryson Bateman | Pascual Goicorchea | Irwin Robinson |
| Larry Baum | Charles Hall | Eugene Setwyn |
| Ralph Baumgardner | P. Mark Hardy III | Edward Smith |
| Alan Blair | Philip Howerton | Jay & Bonny Smith |
| Mary Ann Brown | Sam Hudson | Ed Stafford |
| Maurice Bursey | David Hull | Scott Steward |
| Christopher Chamberlin | Steve Jackson | Larry Thomas |
| Roland Cipolla | Stefan Jaronski | Harvey Tilles |
| Cary Cochran | Trish Kaufmann | Richard Weiner |
| L.T. Cooper | Michael Kelly | Kent Wilcox |
| Tony Crumbley | Raymond Marshall | Douglas Williams |
| Frank Dale | Richard Murphy | Richard Winter |
| Bill DiPaolo | Robert Outlaw | |

(43% of membership)

NEW MEMBERS

Gregg Brookshire - Leicester
Joel Crossman - Canton, Ohio
Ward Mullis - Charlotte
Franklin Stack - Charlotte

CALLING ALL MEMBER CYBERPHILES

We have a MEMBERSHIP E-MAIL DIRECTORY

Please send your e-mail address to
tcrumbley2@bellsouth.net

North Carolina Postmark Catalog Update

The following counties have been prepared
and are available at

[http://www.postalmuseum.si.edu/statepostalhistory/
northcarolina_postmarkcatalog.html](http://www.postalmuseum.si.edu/statepostalhistory/northcarolina_postmarkcatalog.html):

Alamance through Hertford

Minor changes have been made to some of the other counties

ALAN BLAIR PUBLIC AUCTIONS



QUALIFIED AUCTIONEER

Alan Blair
5405 Lakeside Ave., Suite 1
Richmond, VA 23228
e-mail: alanblair@verizon.net
Website: www.alanblairstamps.com



Office: 800.689.5602 Fax: 804.262.9307