

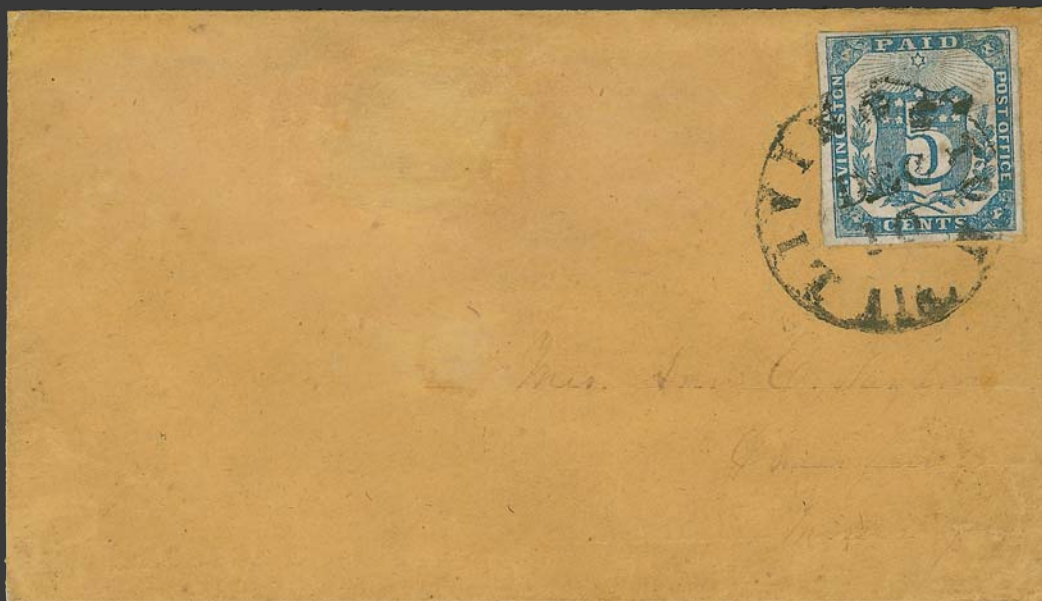


Southern Postmasters' Provisionals of The American Civil War



The D.K. Collection
Auction Preview

Robert A. Siegel
AUCTION GALLERIES, INC.



Livingston Ala. 5¢ Blue
 One of seven recorded covers
 Ex Kleine, Avery, Duveen, Walcott, Emerson, Brooks, Weatherly, "Isleham" and Hill



Victoria Tex. 10¢ Red Brown on Green
 One of two recorded covers
 Ex Brooks, Weatherly, Kilbourne and Gross



Southern Postmasters' Provisionals of The American Civil War

The American Civil War's effect on the people of the South was immediate, profound and long-lasting, especially in its impact on business and personal communication.

Post office mail was the essential means of communication, and, as soon as the war began, it disrupted the South's postal system. Even the Antebellum custom of prepaying postage was hindered by the Confederate government's delay in producing General Issue stamps and its inability to match the quality of pre-war stamps or to provide adequate stamp distribution.

Stepping in to fill the void were Southern postmasters, who manufactured their own stamps and stamped envelopes to meet the needs of local patrons. These artifacts of the South's Civil War experience are called Postmasters' Provisionals—*Postmasters*, because they are the people who issued them, and *Provisionals*, because the stamps provided relief during periods when government stamps were not available.

Collecting Southern postmasters' stamps dates back to the post-war reconstruction period. The June 1866 issue of *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine* reports the existence of the Macon and Petersburg "Confederate locals." The greatest collectors of the 19th century—Ferrary and Tapling—formed important collections of Southern postmasters' provisional stamps. The 20th century titans of classic worldwide philately—Caspary, Hind, Worthington, Lilly and Boker—made Confederate provisionals a significant component of their collections.

The D.K. collection comprises only adhesive stamps and press-printed provisional envelopes. It was formed during the past two decades, a period of great opportunity in Confederate philately. During this time the closely-held collections formed by Charles and Lucy Kilbourne, Dr. Ludwig Simon, John Birkinbine II, John R. Hill Jr., Dr. Hubert C. Skinner and the Hall family were sold, unleashing many of the rarest and most desirable items.

This sale preview presents highlights from the D.K. collection in categorical groups, rather than post office order, to emphasize the exceptionally diverse range of rarities to be offered.



The D.K. Collection of Southern Postmasters' Provisionals of The American Civil War

“Tens” of the East

Very few post offices east of the Mississippi River issued and used 10¢ adhesive (A) or press-printed (E) provisionals. This small group is as follows: Baton Rouge La. (A—three known); Charleston S.C. (E—unique); Danville Va. (E—probably not used); Fincastle Va. (E—unique); Fredericksburg Va. (A—never used); Greenville Ala. (A—two known); Greenwood Depot Va. (A—six known); Knoxville Tenn. (A—unique; and E—rare used); Marion Va. (A—seven known on cover); Nashville Tenn. (A—seven known on cover); Tellico Plains Tenn. (A—never used); and Uniontown Ala. (A—eight known). All other 10¢ provisionals were used in Texas or were issued as handstamped entires.



Top to bottom: Marion Va. 10¢ Black, one of seven known on cover, ex Hubbell, Graves and Hill
Uniontown Ala. 10¢ Red, one of seven known on cover (the only Pos. 2 with Lobes in Corners), ex Simon
Charleston S.C. unique 10¢ entire, ex Dr. Peters, Graves and Birkinbine

“Tens” of the West

From the start of the war the Confederate government experienced difficulty supplying stamps to post offices west of the Mississippi River, and the situation worsened after Vicksburg fell to U.S. forces. The 10¢ provisionals issued by postmasters in Texas were necessary throughout the war, and the adhesive stamps are among the rarest of all Southern provisionals.



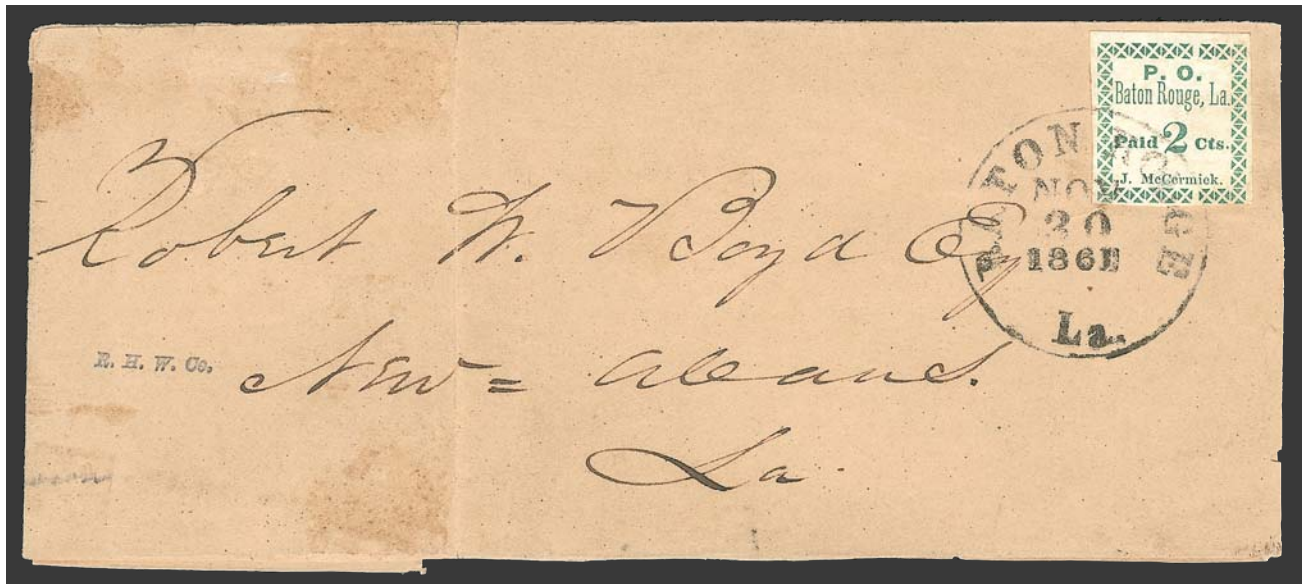
Top to bottom: Beaumont Tex. 10¢ on Pink, ex Moody and Kilbourne
Goliad Tex. 10¢ on Dark Blue, the finest of three recorded examples
Goliad Tex. 10¢ on Gray, one of five recorded covers, ex Hessel and Hill
Victoria Tex. 10¢ Red Brown, one of two recorded covers, ex Brooks, Weatherly, Kilbourne and Gross



The D.K. Collection of Southern Postmasters' Provisionals of The American Civil War

Two-Cent Provisionals

Six post offices in the South issued 2¢ provisional adhesive stamps: Baton Rouge La., Macon Ga., Memphis Tenn., Mobile Ala., New Orleans La. and Uniontown Ala. The 2¢ rate applied to locally-addressed drop letters and to printed matter from one post office to another. All of the 2¢ provisionals are rare.



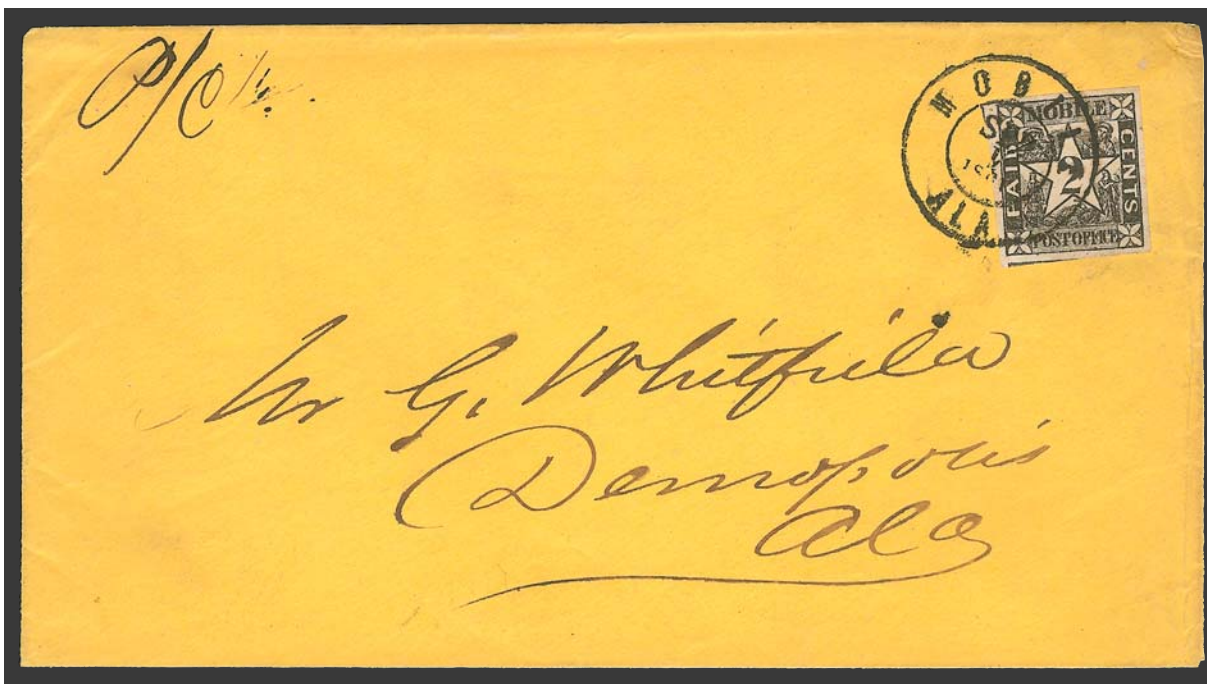
Baton Rouge La. 2¢ with "McCrmick" Error ("c" in place of "o"), Position 7, on wrapper to New Orleans
Ex Caspary, Lilly and Graves

Of the six recorded 2¢ Baton Rouge covers, this is the only "McCc" error

In addition to this cover, there is an unused single (D.K. collection) and a used single of the "McCc" error



Memphis Tenn. 2¢ on drop-rate cover to local addressee
Ex Richey and Simon



Mobile Ala. 2¢ Black on circular-rate cover
Ex Caspary and Graves



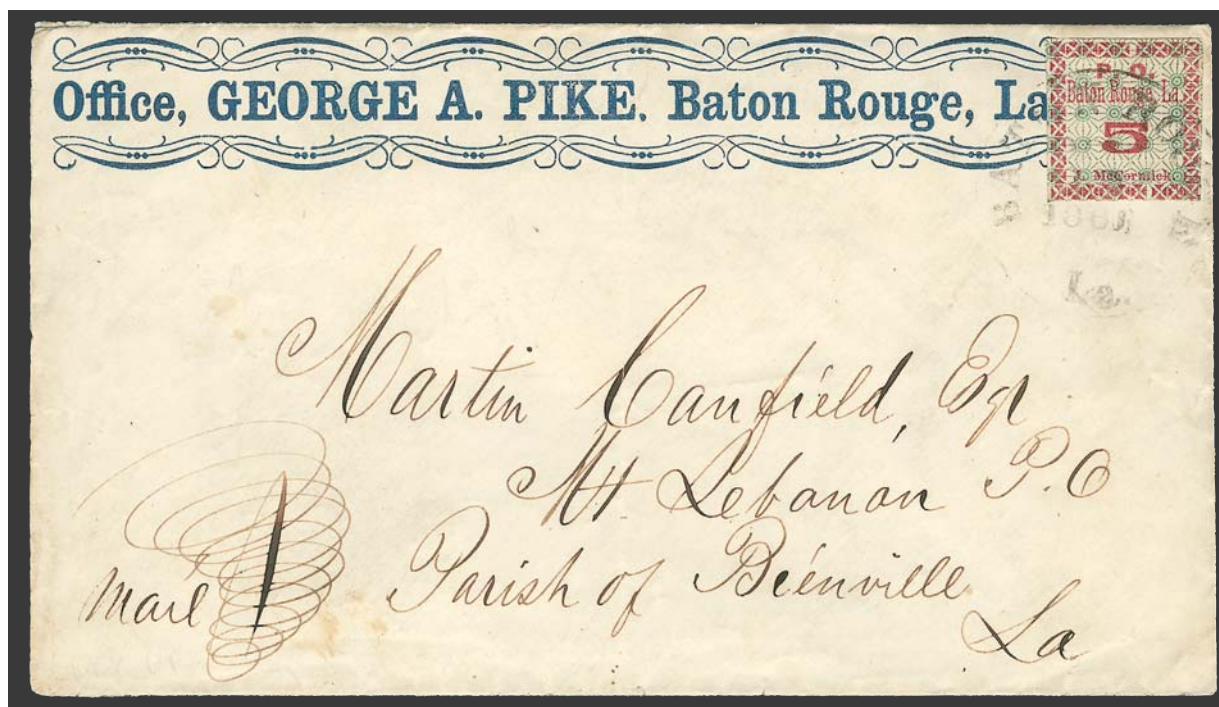
New Orleans La. 2¢ Red on circular-rate cover
Ex Simon



The D.K. Collection of Southern Postmasters' Provisionals of The American Civil War

Bicolored Stamps

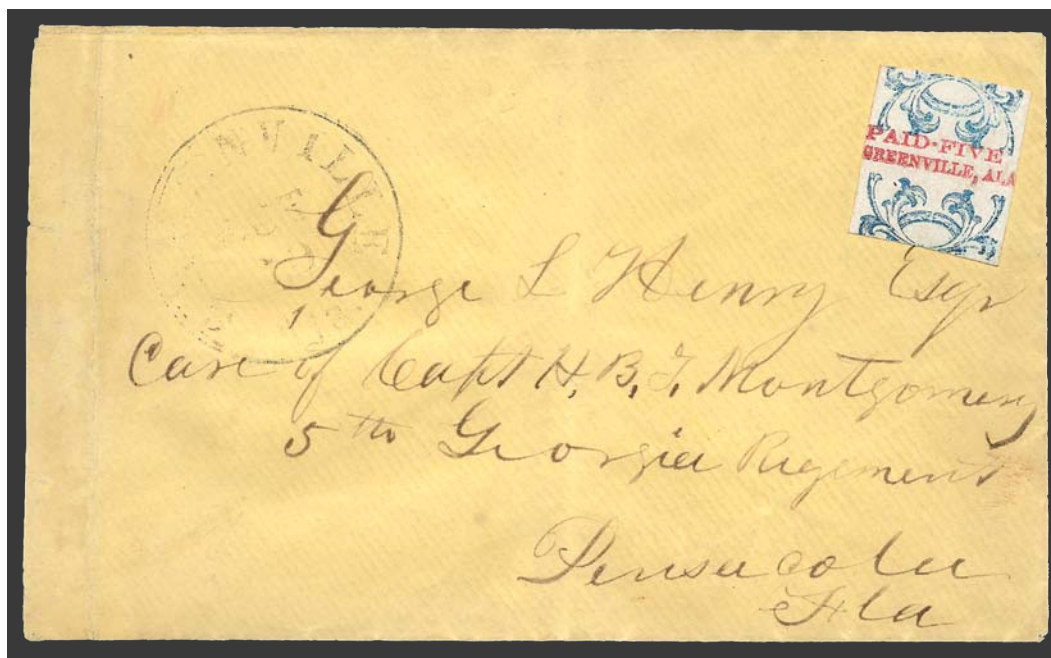
Only three Southern post offices issued provisionals printed in more than one color: Baton Rouge La. (5¢, both types), Greenville Ala. (5¢ and 10¢) and Lenoir N.C. (5¢). These are the first government-issued, bicolored adhesive postage stamps to appear anywhere in the Western Hemisphere.



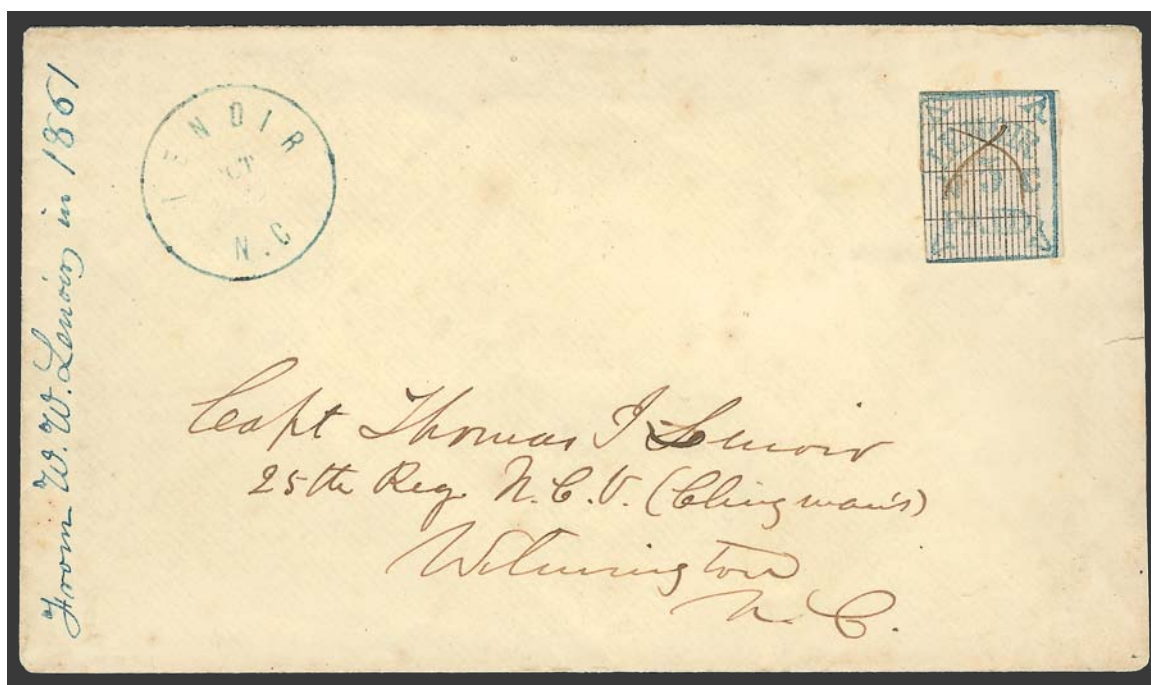
Baton Rouge 5¢ on cover with corner card of publisher of the local newspaper *Comet and Gazette*, where the provisional stamps were printed—ex Caspary and Graves



Baton Rouge 5¢ with Criss-Cross Border, “due 5” for 10¢ rate, ex Brown and Graves



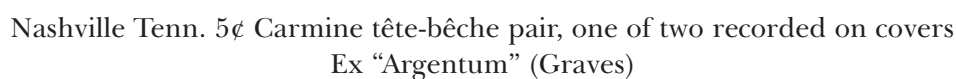
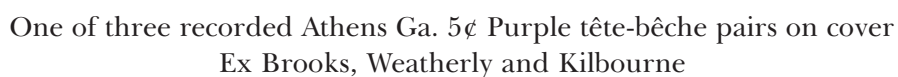
Greenville Ala. 5¢ Red and Blue, one of two recorded on cover (six examples known in total)
Ex Caspary, Graves and Birkinbine



Lenoir N.C. 5¢ Blue on Red-Lined Paper, addressed to a member of Lenoir's founding family
Ex Brooks, Weatherly and "Stonewall"



Only four post offices are known to have produced tête-bêche varieties: Athens Ga., Macon Ga., Memphis and Nashville Tenn. In most cases the tête-bêche multiple was created by the work-and-turn printing method, as opposed to an inverted cliché among subjects on the plate. All are extremely rare.





Two of the three recorded Memphis 5¢ tête-bêche pairs on cover: Head-to-head configuration at top, ex Ferrary, Walcott and Hall; Foot-to-foot configuration, ex Worthington, Caspary, Wise, Pope and Boshwit



Block of 37 comprising Positions 4-9/11-19/21-29/31-38/41-45 with three sideways tête-bêche positions at right (Positions 9/19/29), the largest recorded multiple of the Memphis 5¢ provisional
Ex Walcott, Matz, Pope and Boshwit



The D.K. Collection of Southern Postmasters' Provisionals of The American Civil War

Errors

Although the number of typographic and printing errors in postage stamps had been dramatically reduced prior to the Civil War, the primitive production methods used to create Southern provisionals magnified the opportunity for errors to occur. Examples of these printers' mistakes are among the rarest and most highly prized stamps in Confederate philately.



McCermick.

Baton Rouge La. 2¢ with "McCrmick" Error ("c" in place of "o"), Position 7
The only unused copy among the three recorded examples
Ex Worthington and Green



New Orleans La. 2¢ Blue printed on both sides
The only recorded example of this error
Ex C. B. Corwin (Scott Stamp & Coin May 1890 sale), Everett and Skinner



New Orleans La. 5¢ Brown on Blue printed on both sides
Ex Knapp, Brown and Skinner



Five of the seven recorded examples of the New Orleans 5¢ Red error are contained in the D.K. collection:

White paper (top): "DUE" handstamp, ex Caspary, Lilly and Kilbourne; Mixed Red and Brown color

Blue paper (bottom): "PAID" cancel, ex Caspary, Graves and Skinner;

"17 SEP" datestamp, ex Ferrary, Hind and Lilly; and "4 DEC" datestamp, ex Crocker



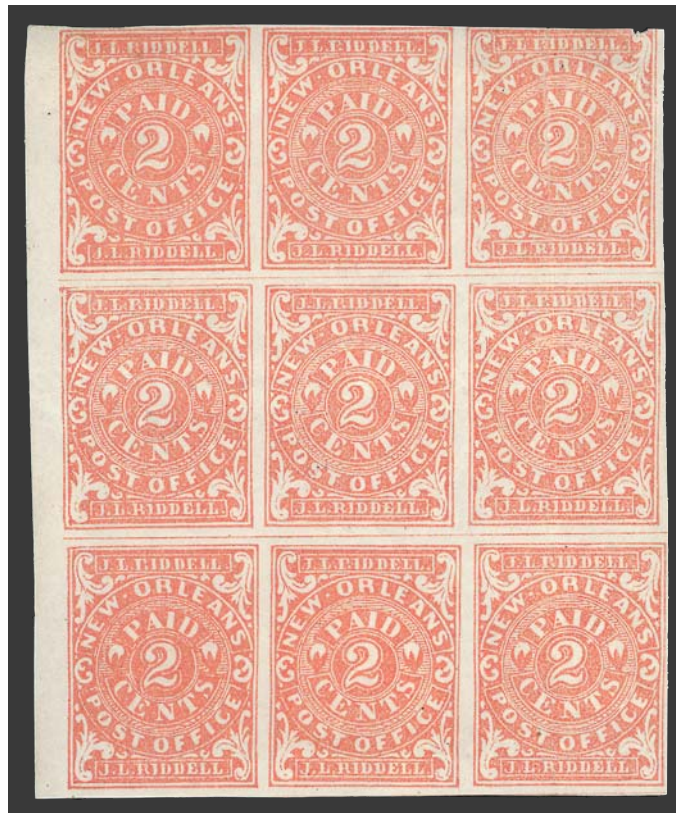
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Largest Known Multiples

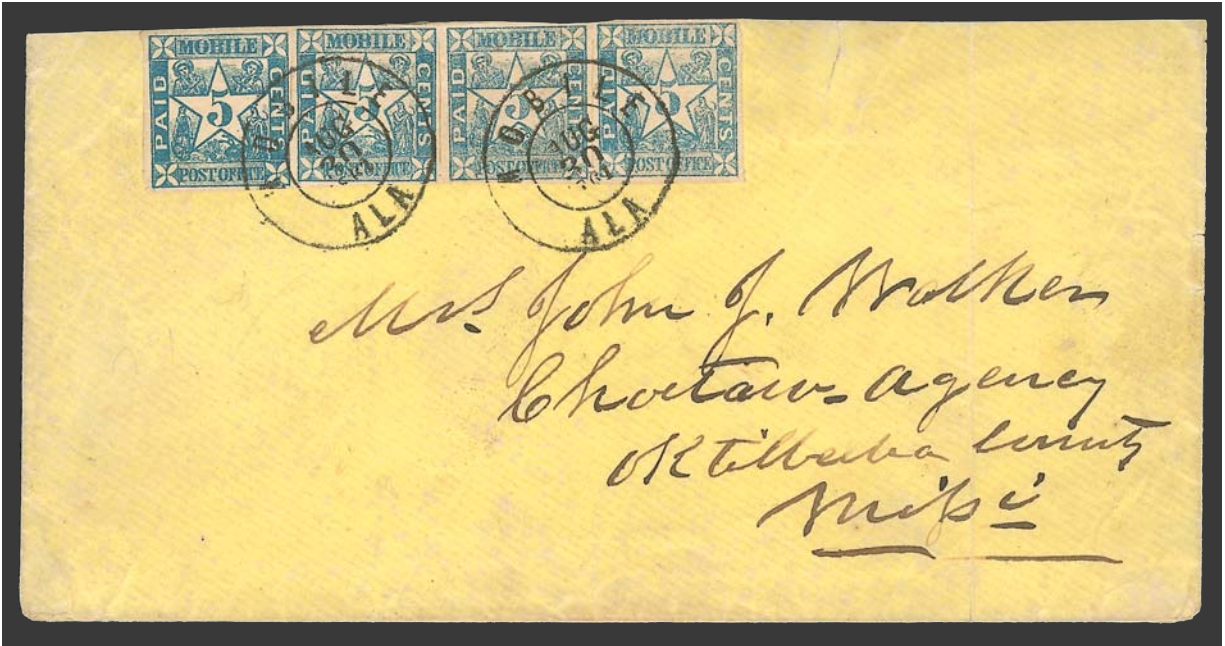
A small number of provisionals are represented by multiples, and very few exist in multiples larger than a pair. Apart from the tête-bêche pairs featured in a separate section of this sale preview, the D.K. collection contains several record-size pairs, strips and blocks.



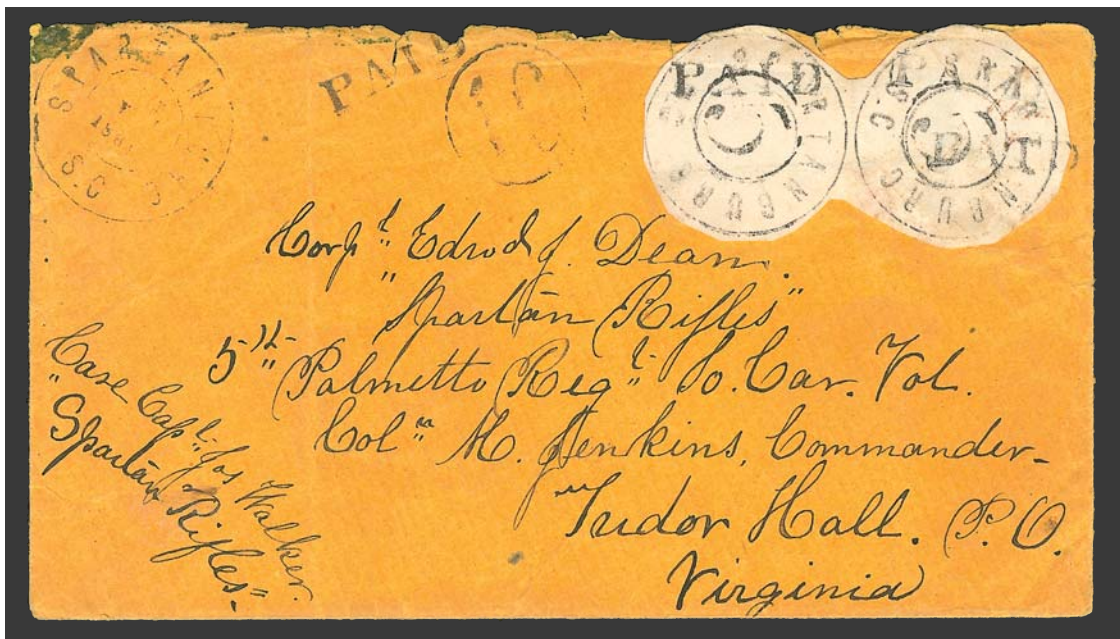
Baton Rouge 5¢ strip of five (Positions 1-5), the largest recorded multiple, used with single Position 2
Ex Caspary, Graves and Hill



Block of nine (Positions 9-11/17-19/25-27)
The largest recorded multiple of the New Orleans 2¢ Red
Ex Skinner



Mobile Ala. 5¢ strip of four with roulette razor cuts between each stamp applied to facilitate separation
Ex Caspary and Graves



The only recorded multiple of the Spartanburg S.C. 5¢ provisional
Ex Schenck and Everett



The D.K. Collection of Southern Postmasters' Provisionals of The American Civil War

Unusual Combinations and Markings

Given the limited use of Southern postmasters' provisional stamps and the low survival rate of covers, it is extremely difficult to find examples in unusual combinations or with rare postal markings.



Charleston S.C. 5¢ provisional used to forward a cover with Hamburg S.C. provisional handstamp
Ex Simon



Nashville 10¢ provisional on U.S. 3¢ entire carried by Adams Express Company
Ex Antrim, Kilbourne, Kramer and Walske



New Orleans 2¢ Blue and 5¢ Red Brown combination for 10¢ rate
 The only recorded combination of 2¢ and 5¢ provisional stamps and
 one of two known combinations of two different Confederate provisional adhesive denominations
 Ex Seybold, Needham, Grant and Skinner



New Orleans 5¢ Brown and U.S. 3¢ 1857 on "SOUTH^N LETTER UNPAID" cover
 Ex Worthington, Caspary, Lightner, Matz, Haas, Ishikawa and Walske



The D.K. Collection of Southern Postmasters' Provisionals of The American Civil War

Advertising and Patriotic Covers

Advertising and pro-Confederate patriotic covers are rarely found with Southern postmasters' provisionals stamps. The D.K. collection features some extraordinary designs and frankings.



Top to bottom:

- Macon Ga. 5¢ square provisional on green cameo corner card cover, ex Caspary, Graves and Green
- New Orleans 5¢ on illustrated building corner card, ex Graves
- New Orleans 5¢ pair on Flag and Cannon patriotic, ex Freeland and Graves



The hardcover catalogue of the D.K. Collection will be available in February. If you do not receive Siegel catalogues as a frequent buyer, please use the form below to order your copy of this important sale. Orders may also be made at siegelauctions.com

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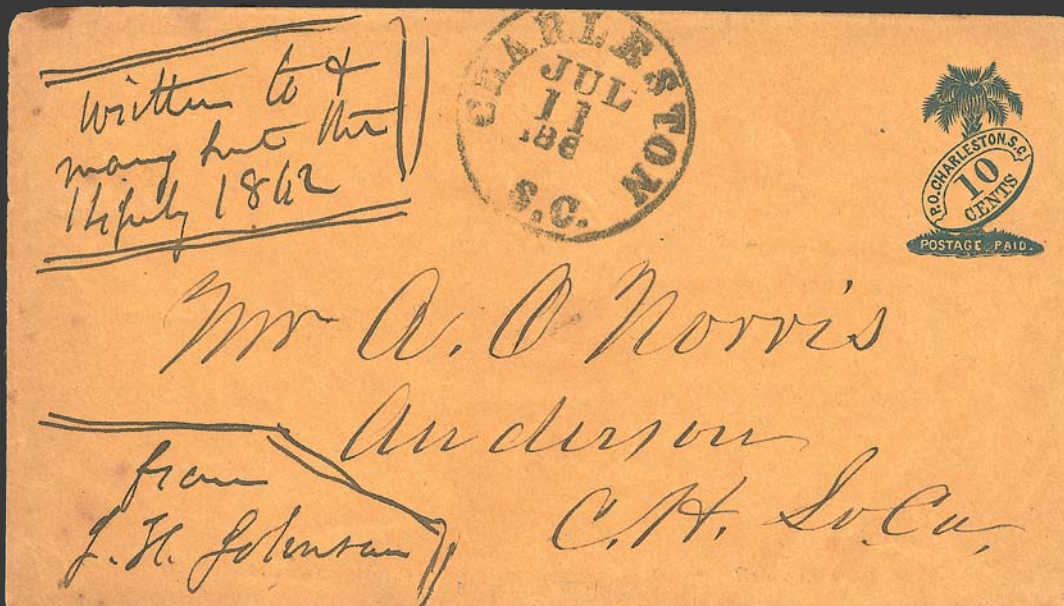
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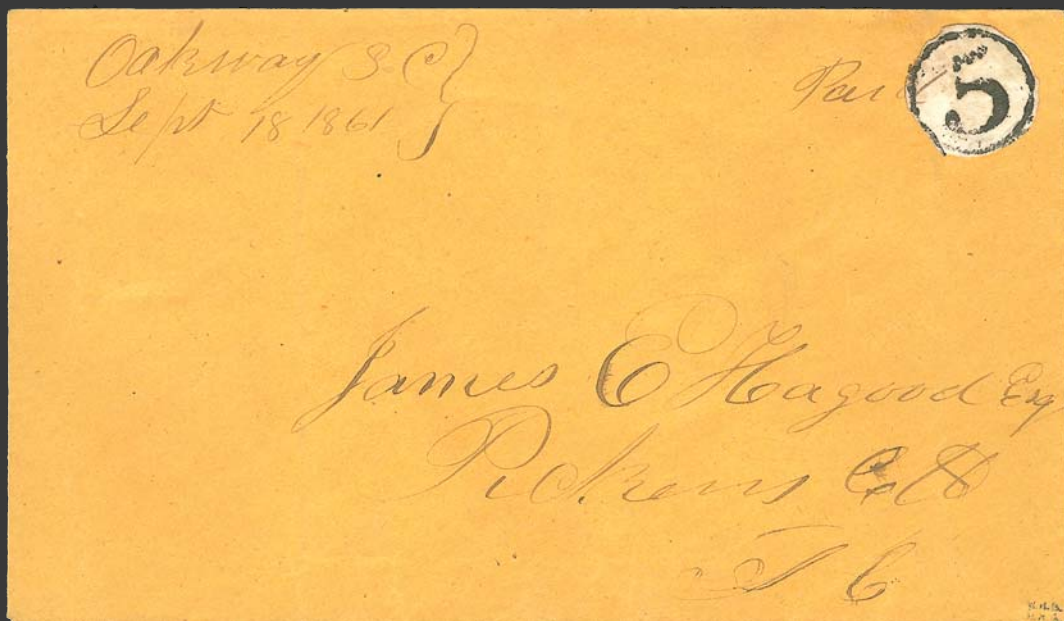
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The only recorded example of the Charleston S.C. 10¢ Printed Entire
Ex Dr. Peters, Graves and Birkinbine



One of two recorded examples of the Oakway S.C. 5¢ stamp (both on covers)
Ex Ferrary, Colson, Graves and Birkinbine

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