

# APPROVAL CARDS.

**A**N ENTIRELY NEW IDEA for mailing stamps without hinging or pasting; also for desk and pocket use. Patent applied for. 20 cts. per dozen, or \$1.50 per 100. Try a sample dozen and see how handy they are.

## BLANK STAMP ALBUM.

**W**OLSIEFFER'S BLANK STAMP ALBUM is what every collector needs. It contains 100 leaves, with accurate guiding squares numbered at top and sides. Roan Binding \$1.50, Half Seal \$3.75, Half Morocco \$4.00. Send stamp for specimen page.

## NEW MUSIC.

**H**ESITATION—A beautiful new song. Very popular. Regular price, 50 cents; our price 25 cents.

**P**RETTY ELSIE DOWNEY—New waltz song by H. C. Verner. Beautiful title page in 3 colors. Price 50 cts., our price only 25 cts.

**S**OUSA'S BAND, playing the Northwest Two-Step, made it popular and everybody wants it. Regular price, 40 cents; our price, 25 cents, postpaid. Music Catalogue free.

## POSTAGE STAMPS.

**A**BOUT STAMPS for collectors, buy or sell. Write us. Collections wanted for cash.

**S**TART A STAMP COLLECTION—An Album 200 different stamps and package of stickers for one dollar. Price list free.

## STOCK BOOKS.

**W**OLSIEFFER'S LEFT PAGE STOCK BOOKS. The best in the market. Five sizes, A  $4\frac{3}{4} \times 7\frac{3}{4}$  \$1.15, B  $6\frac{1}{4} \times 7\frac{3}{4}$  \$1.65, C  $7\frac{1}{4} \times 10\frac{1}{4}$  \$2.25, D  $9\frac{1}{4} \times 12$  \$3.40, E  $12\frac{1}{4} \times 15\frac{1}{4}$  \$4.50. Everybody using them will have no other.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

New Stamp Tongs, best in the market.....\$0.35  
Blank Approval Sheets, per 100......40  
Transparent Millimeter Scale......15

**P. M. WOLSIEFFER,**

**MUSIC PUBLISHER**

**STAMP DEALER**

201 South Clark Street,  
CHICAGO, ILL.

Chicago, 3/13<sup>th</sup>. 1897

Mr. Andrew H. Mc Neel.

Dear Sir:

Yours of the 3<sup>rd</sup>. recd., and noted.  
I have no idea what price

the Antangaville Ala. stamped envelope will bring. We were just going to press with the auction catalogue when your letter came, and

I have taken the liberty of using your letter for purpose of identifying the envelope.

This is the first known specimen, for it is not catalogued and ~~should~~ bring a good price.

I will mail you the auction catalogue which gives full description soon as ready.

Yours truly

P. M. Wolsieffer,



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**P. M. WOLSIEFFER,**

**MUSIC PUBLISHER**

**STAMP DEALER**

201 South Clark Street,  
CHICAGO, ILL.

Chicago, *4/17th*. 1897

*Mr. A. H. Mc Neel.*

*Dear Sir:*

*I have your favor of the 15th. and in reply would say that from your letter no one would suppose you had any of the stamps or envelopes. You said you had his "old P.O. papers" and the seal or die from which your father made the 5c and 10c stamps.*

*Again, I purposely left off your address thinking to do you a favor, and keep probably a lot of curious people from writing you about the dies. If you have any envelopes you should by all means destroy the dies, or it will lessen the value of the envelopes and stamps you may have. If there is any suspicion of reprinting entertained it will kill all value to the stamps and envelopes. The one in the sale brought over \$400.00. Will mail the price catalogue in a few days. Yours truly P. M. Wolsieffer.*



C O P Y.

State of Alabama )  
County of Montgomery)

A. H. McNeel of the city of Montgomery, in the county and state foresaid being first duly sworn according to law, doth upon oath declare and say:-

That he was born in the county of Autauga, State of Alabama, in the town of Autaugaville, on the fourteenth day of February A. D. eighteen fifty five. That his father now dead was A. W. McNeel who was post-master in the town of Autaugaville, Ala. during the year eighteen sixty one as well as before and after that date.

That he has had many conversations with his father as well as with other persons who were familiar with the business of the postoffice at Autaugaville, in the year eighteen sixty one.

That he has in his possession many of the papers and documents used officially by his father, at or about the year eighteen sixty one.

That basing his opinion upon what he himself has personally seen, as well as what has been told him by others, (including his father), affiant is of the firm belief and opinion that in the year eighteen sixty one, soon after the breaking out of war between the northern and southern states, that there <sup>was</sup> ~~were~~ a lack of postal facilities in many of the states then comprising ~~the~~ a part of the Confederate States, of which Alabama was one.



That there was an utter absence of postage stamps or stamped envelopes in the various post-offices and that the postmasters were permitted to use such means, devices, or methods as they might desire to take the place of stamps.

That the postmaster at Autaugaville, Ala. provided himself with brass dies, the face of which ~~was~~ was rectangular and about the size of an ordinary postage stamp similar in use and shape to the accompanying rough sketch.



That within the double lined oval were the words (A. W. McNEEL, P. M. AUTAUGAVILLE, ALA.) that within the inner lines of said oval were the words (paid 5) surrounded by stars.



(2)

That there were two dies, each made similar to above description, one being for five cents, one being for ten cents.

That the postmaster at Autaugaville, Ala. used the dies to print with "printers ink" upon a blank envelope the stamp as above described and afterwards sold said "stamped envelopes" in the same manner as was sold the stamped envelopes which had been

before, and had been since issued by the United States government.

That the parties purchasing said blank stamped envelopes used them as such, and they were afterwards regularly dated when duly addressed, sealed and mailed at the said postoffice at Autaugaville, Ala.

That affiant has seen one of the envelopes so described after it had been used as above detailed.

That affiant again affirms his belief and conviction that his father A. W. McNeel did in eighteen sixty one make, sell and use and recognize as postmaster certain stamped envelopes (with stamps printed on them) as before described one of which has lately been seen by affiant.

And further affiant saith not.

(Signed) A. H. McNEEL.

Sworn to and subscribed to before me this 16th day of February A. D. 1899.

(Signed) D. C. Hanson, Notary Public.

Montgomery, <sup>County</sup> Ala.



EDITORIAL OFFICE  
OF  
MEKEEL'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS

C. E. SEVERN, Managing Editor.

Room No. 1006 Journal Building,  
No. 160 Washington St.

Chicago, Ill., July 6th, 1899.

Andrew H. McNeel, Esq.,  
Montgomery, ALABAMA.

Dear Sir:

Mr. Mekeel has forwarded to me your very interesting letter, with enclosure, of the 3rd instant.

I thank you for writing in so kindly a strain and for your permission to publish your letter and the affidavit; they will appear probably with some comment in an early number of the WEEKLY.

Allow me to say that the manner in which you revere the words and memory of your honored father is a matter for pleasant reflection even for one unknown to you, such as myself.

Very truly yours,

*C. E. Severn.*



EDITORIAL OFFICE  
OF  
MEKEEL'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS

C. E. SEVERN, Managing Editor.

Room No. 1006 Journal Building,  
No. 160 Washington St.

Chicago, Ill., August 30th, 1899.

Andrew H. McNeel, Esq.,  
Montgomery, ALA..

My dear Sir:

I wish to thank you for your courteous letter of the 22nd instant;  
and also for the interesting enclosure in the shape of an "endorsed"  
Confederate bill that it contained, one of which I had never seen before.

Should you discover any additional data at any time, bearing upon  
the locals of your father, I should be glad to publish it in our paper.

With appreciation of your kindness, I am,

Very truly yours,

*C. E. Severn.*



TELEPHONE CONNECTION

*Chas. S. Brenneman*

*Packer of and Dealer in*

*Leaf Tobacco*

*N.W. Cor. Plum and Walnut Sts*

*Lancaster, Pa.* March 24th. 1919.

To the Postmaster at  
Autaugaville, Ala.

My Dear Sir;

During the War of 1861-66 your Postmaster issued his own local Envelope stamps and as I am a private collector I would like to secure as complete a collection of stamps as possible. Do you know of any person having any of these stamps or any other issues of Confederate Stamps? If so kindly advise me. In order to assist me in getting such stamps would you kindly post the enclosed Notice on the wall of your local Post Office and which favor I would appreciate. If you can I would also like to know the name and place of publication of the daily or weekly paper your town people read. I beg to enclose Stamps addressed envelope for your reply. Thanking you for the above courtesies and awaiting your reply, I remain,

Yours very truly,

*Chas. S. Brenneman*

~~XXX~~

*Answered  
July 25/19  
See Copy on back*



*Chas. S. Brenneman*  
*Packer of and Dealer in*  
*Leaf Tobacco*  
*N.W. Cor. Plum and Walnut Sts*

Mr. A.H.Me. Neel, 523 S. Court St., *Lancaster, Pa.* July 28th. 1919.  
Montgomery, Ala.

My Dear Sir;

I was certainly greatly pleased to receive your very interesting letter and as you write that you would be glad to assist me in getting some old Confederate local or general issues, I ask that if you at any time hear of anyone possessing an original env. or off the env. any of the Confederate postage issues, I wish you would kindly have them let me know what stamps they may have to offer. About 30 years ago I had a large collection of over 10,000 varieties but a few years later I sold same and now again lately have started in collecting. As you write your son Allen has a good sized collection, I have also written him so if he may have any duplicates in good condition that I may not have, if the price is right I will purchase such from him.

Your information regarding the Autaugaville stamp is very interesting, and I want to thank you for your very kind letter and hope you will be successful in locating some of the Confederate issues for me, general or local issues, on the original envelopes or loose.

Again thanking you, with best wishes, I remain,

Yours very truly,

*Chas. S. Brenneman*  
*P.O. Box 97*  
*Lancaster Penna.*



CITY OF MARSHALL, MICHIGAN

H. C. BROOKS, MAYOR

November 30, 1925.

Mr. Andrew H. McNeel,  
Montgomery, Alabama.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter received some time ago should have been answered sooner but pressure of public duties outside of my office has been so great the past few weeks that it has seriously interfered with my private correspondence.

I would be very glad to examine any old stamps or envelope used during the Civil War which you might care to send me for examination. It is interesting to note that your father was Postmaster at Autaugaville during the Civil War period and if you have any of the old stamps or envelopes that you would care to send to me I can assure you that they would be handled as carefully as by yourself and prices quoted which would be in line with the full market value of such pieces.

I am not a stamp dealer and am not buying with the idea of selling at a profit but rather in order to secure interesting stamps and envelopes from original sources. Old documents, coins, Confederate money or bonds I do not collect. Nor am I posted on their values but I do know what stamps are and what they are worth.

If you want to send the envelope mentioned, and any other stamps or envelopes of the period, you may use the enclosed return envelope, which bears sufficient postage for registration. You are not of course obliged to sell merely because they are sent me but if my offer is not entirely satisfactory the stamps or envelopes will be returned to you in good order by registered mail.

You of course do not know of me except through my advertisement in the Christian Observer and the fact that I am Mayor of Marshall Michigan, so if you wish other references do not hesitate to write the First National Bank of this city, or you might possibly inquire of the Advertising Manager of the Advertiser, who has carried the advertisement of my regular business (Brooks Appliance Company) for several years. You may have seen my advertisement for Rupture Appliances on the back page of the Sunday Advertiser of October 18th and I am now starting a schedule of small copy, beginning Sunday December 6.

I am merely telling you this in order to serve as an identification and awaiting your reply with interest, I remain

Yours very truly,

HCB\*ES

*H C Brooks*



Dec. 11th, 1925.

Hon. H. C. Brooks.,  
Marshall, Mich.

Dear Sir:-

Yours of the 30th. of November before me.  
Have been absent from the city, or would have answered  
sooner.

Complying with your request, I gladly send  
you here-with an old "AUTAUGAVILLE, ALA. Provisional  
Confederate stamp" on original cover, for your examina-  
tion. With this old stamp, I am also enclosing,

- 1 old U.S. 2¢ Stamped envelope,
- 6 " " 3¢ " envelopes,
- 1 " C.S. 10¢ " envelope,
- 10 " " " envelopes, Marked "DUE 10¢)
- 1 \$10.00 Confederate Money; Poem on back.
- 2 Receipts \$56.50 & \$14.50 for Negro Slaves. <sup>\$56.00 x \$14.50</sup>
- 3 Confederate 6% Gov't Certificates ( \$100, \$500 & \$1000)
- 1 " Bond (\$100.00)

No doubt you will find the above interesting and  
regarding the old Autaugaville stamp, we have only heard of  
just one other and this was bought at auction sale put on by  
a St. Louis firm;- a printed copy of same, accompanies "this  
little batch of old timers" to show that they were used and mailed  
about the same time, at the beginning of the war. Look them over  
and if you care to price them, do so, and let me hear from you.  
Just keep them all, until you hear from me in answer.

Very truly yours,

*Copy*

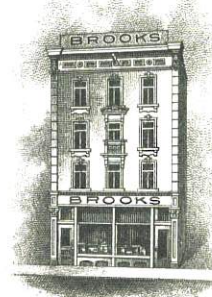




LONDON-ENGLAND  
KINGSWAY & PORTUGAL ST.



HOME OFFICE - MARSHALL, MICH., U.S.A.  
OWNED AND ENTIRELY OCCUPIED BY THE COMPANY, LARGEST ESTABLISHMENT  
OF ITS KIND IN THE WORLD, 15,000 SQ. FT. OF FLOOR SPACE.



AMSTERDAM - HOLLAND  
No. 4 PALEISSTRAAT

# BROOKS RUPTURE APPLIANCE COMPANY

Manufacturers of  
**SURGICAL AND ORTHOPEDICAL APPLIANCES**

ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT  
H. C. BROOKS, MANAGER

**Marshall, Mich., U.S.A.,**

December 28, 1925.

Mr. Andrew H. McNeel,  
Montgomery, Alabama.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter addressed to Mr. H.C. Brooks was received some time ago, but it has not been possible for him to reply as yet and it probably will be several days more before he will be able to do so.

His time has been very much taken up the past few weeks on account of litigation involving the interests of the city of Marshall and he has instructed me to send notices to a number of people, whose letters are being held, explaining this delay.

Any stamps which have been sent have been placed carefully in our company's vault and you will receive a reply from him in about a week.

Yours sincerely,

*Pearl Lischer*

Secretary.



CITY OF MARSHALL, MICHIGAN  
H. C. BROOKS, MAYOR

January 14, 1926.

Mr. Andrew H. McNeel,  
Montgomery, Alabama.

Dear Sir:-

I am very sorry indeed that I have not been able to write you until now and wish to assure you that the delay was in no way intentional. My time has been very much occupied outside of my regular office work with city duties, the city of Marshall having been involved in an important litigation case.

In regard to the envelope which you sent me, I might as well be frank with you and say that it doesn't especially appeal to me for several reasons. An envelope of this kind to be desirable for a collection should be in a different condition than this one is with regard to postmarks.

When one purchases envelopes of this kind it is not only for the satisfaction of having such items for a collection but also with the further view from a business standpoint that, in case a collection is broken up, the proceeds realized will be at least as much as that which has been paid.

I don't think that this envelope would bring a great deal from the fact that the postmark doesn't carry the year date and especially that it doesn't cover the "stamp". Other envelopes that exist of the same type are desirable from such a standpoint and there are also some which bear receiving marks on the reverse side.

Regardless of the private opinion of a collector on any item that he may have, in the event that his collection is ever sold such items are judged from a standpoint of what they would bring on the open market, taking all things into consideration.

The best that I could offer for this particular envelope would be \$75.00, altho I think it would be



#2

worth more if the postmark carried the year date,  
or covered the stamp impression, or had a receiving  
stamp on the back.

If you wish to dispose of it for that amount  
I will be glad to send a draft for that, but if not I shall  
return it to you by registered mail.

Awaiting your advice, I remain

Yours sincerely,

*HCB*

HCB\*ES



[illegible]



Jany. 15th, 1926.

Hon. H. C. Brooks.,  
Marshall, Mich.

Dear Sir:-

Yours received telling of reason in reference to delay in writing me concerning the old Confederate stamped envelope etc. which is perfectly satisfactory. Only I cannot wait longer for the reason that I am to exhibit my whole collection of Confederate papers, curios, coins etc. to others on the 25th. and will ask you to return the package you have, by registered mail, insured.

Since you have seen the several pieces sent you, you can write me at your leisure concerning same.

Thanking you to give this your prompt and valued attention, I beg to remain, with best wishes,

Very truly yours,

*Residence address*

#523 So. Court Street,  
Montgomery, Ala.



January 19th, 1926.

Hon. H. C. Brooks.,  
Marshall, Mich.

My dear sir:-

Yours of the 14th. to hand;- I wrote you the same day to return the Confederate envelopes etc. and hope that same are now on the way to me, for as stated to you in my letter, I am to exhibit them with other relics, next week.

Your offer, I do not consider. You evidently do not know about the old Confederate envelopes;- they were issued as provisional stamped envelopes at the beginning of the Civil War, and these provisionals were printed without the year being shown on them. You will note that my envelope and the printed one, the original of which was bought by a St. Louis Mo. concern at an auction sale, do not bear the year date. The one sold at auction brought nearly \$500.00. I merely mention this to acquaint you with information, which I am satisfied you overlooked, but never-the-less for sentimental reasons, if no other, that the envelope being issued at that time by my father, A. W. McNeel, who was Post-Master during the entire war period, - had your offer been \$750.00 instead of \$75.00, I would have hesitated in accepting. For your further information, will tell you that I have already turned down an offer of \$400.00. At the time, I would have taken \$500.00, but have since "dreamed dreams" of getting at least a thousand dollars for the "lil ole time" nothing.

With many thanks for your kind consideration, I beg  
to remain,

Very truly yours,

*Andrew H. McNeel*

*Copy*

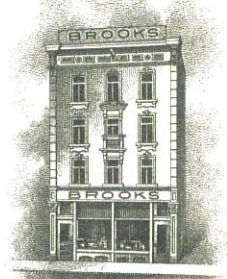




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AMSTERDAM - HOLLAND  
No. 4 PALEISSTRAAT

# BROOKS RUPTURE APPLIANCE COMPANY

Manufacturers of  
**SURGICAL AND ORTHOPEDICAL APPLIANCES**

**Marshall, Mich., U.S.A.,**

January 21, 1926.

Mr. Andrew H. McNeel,  
Montgomery, Alabama.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of the 19th just reached me and I am returning herewith all of the enclosures originally sent, by Special Delivery, trusting they will reach you in time.

Two days ago I received your letter requesting a return, but as I knew that our letters had crossed I thought best to wait a couple of days until I had your advice concerning my offer.

I am rather surprised at the amount which was offered for your envelope and if you decide at all to sell it I would advise letting it go for the amount mentioned, for it is not always that you can find a buyer for higher priced envelopes. Of course such an envelope would perhaps have more of a sentimental value and this might deter you from any financial consideration.

The other old papers, while interesting, have no particular value from a philatelic standpoint as the stamps are all more or less common.

Yours sincerely,

HCB\*ES





**NOLAND COMPANY**  
INCORPORATED

ELECTRICAL • REFRIGERATION • PLUMBING • HEATING • INDUSTRIAL SUPPLIES • MACHINE TOOLS

PHONE 3-5511

213 N. PERRY STREET

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

Allen Maxwell McNeil

Born in Mtgy. Mar. 4, 1882 -

Joined the Presbyterian Church at age 13 - Apr. 8, 1894.

He was graduated from the Mtgy. High School and A. P. S. at Auburn, Ala.

In early manhood he began his service to the church as Overseer, Secretary and Treasurer of the Sunday School.

He was elected deacon in 1912, and was elected on Sept-29, 1935.

Upon the death of Mr. W. H. Hubbard, Treas. of the S. S.





**NOLAND COMPANY**  
INCORPORATED

ELECTRICAL . REFRIGERATION . PLUMBING . HEATING . INDUSTRIAL SUPPLIES . MACHINE TOOLS

PHONE 3-5511

213 N. PERRY STREET

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

Allen was elected to that office and served until he was relieved of that duty to become Assistant Clerk of the Session on May 5, 1939.

Upon the death of Mr. John Dunn, Clerk, Allen was elected to the office on April 8, 1940, and served in that office until he resigned in Sept. 1954.

Upon his resignation the Session, in expression of their appreciation of his long and faithful





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PHONE 3-5511  
213 N. PERRY STREET  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

Service presented him  
with a watch and read  
before the congregation  
resolutions drawn for  
the occasion.

After leaving the League  
H. S. Allen was  
engaged for a short while  
in the business here  
and then went to the  
State Capitol where he has  
been Assistant Purchas-  
ing Agent ever since -  
for 25 years.  
He married Maud Burke  
in 1926. There are no  
children.