

# Civil War Philatelist



## Martyrs and Mourning Designs on Union Patriotic Stationary of the Civil War

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### CSA Primer & Civil War Articles

**Provenance: Tracing Philatelic Chain of Custody**

**Provenance** in Confederate postal history, or any area of collecting, is a record of ownership from its earliest existence - in legal parlance, a chain of custody. It helps establish pedigree and authenticity. See [Jan Slawik's column in Litch's Stamp News](#) November 18, 2015, which gives us insight to this topic.

Covers or stamps with demonstrable pedigree are more coveted than their mundane brethren. A cover that has once owned by Capper, Fennell or another famous collector tends to get our notice. Markings of prior owners, dates, initials, signatures or signature guarantees are all something that help trace the lineage of an item. Many such markings are familiar to us, if we are serious students.

If markings are European and our experience has only been within the continental United States, we may not be familiar with them. Collectors may make a mistake if they erase these lightly penciled markings. Some European experts pencil(!!) their initials near a stamp as a guarantee of authenticity. European collectors are usually insistent on certificates and guarantee signatures. What Americans may see as "markings" are what Europeans (and others) see as critically important.

Occasional rare, handwritten owners' markings appear throughout the backs of covers. That is, until some of the ink begins to wear through to the face - or someone placed a gash handstamp near an important marking on the verso, greatly reducing the value to future collectors. That, historically, caused a shift to lightly penciled paper or enamel markings. That the new owner has a choice whether to leave the ink in place. It spoke out against owner backstamps in an editorial in the early 1970s in the *Confederate Philatelist*.

Knowing who owned an item and being able to track it via auction catalogs or articles is helpful, not only in establishing lineage but in determining whether an item has been altered, forged or restored to greater or lesser degree. This will be even easier in the age of technology.

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# Confederate States of America

## Stamps, Postal History, Currency

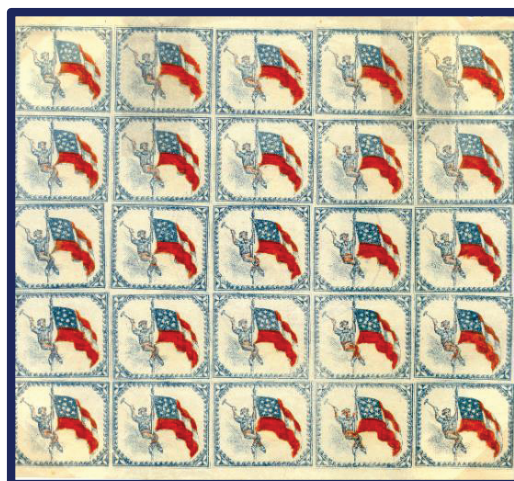
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# Civil War Philatelist

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# Civil War PHILATELIC SOCIETY

ESTABLISHED 1935  
RESEARCH, EDUCATION & FELLOWSHIP

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## Civil War Philatelic Society

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## Civil War Philatelist

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Larry Baum*

Spring is here and summer is around the corner. Stamp shows are returning, Covid seems to be somewhat under control and most members have received their vaccine; life is good. Napex, in an abundance of caution, moved its show to October; we will finally have an in-person get-together and the first meeting of the CWPS! Garfield-Perry 2022 is our next annual meeting and the Charleston Mid-Year has been moved to the fall of 2022. Please mark your calendars for Napex, Oct. 22-24, 2021!

New member recruitment has been great. So far, since our name change we have had 26 new and four reinstated members; last year we had a total of 15 new and reinstated members. The advertising committee is hard at work promoting the CWPS through ad swaps and purchases in a multitude of philatelic periodicals.

Many members have requested a return of our printed "Muster Roll." We plan on publishing a Muster Roll this year to be sent out with your Third Quarter CWP. We need your help; there are still many members who have not listed their privacy policy preferences. Rod Kelley, our secretary, will be sending out privacy policy forms to all those members who have not responded in the past. If you want your name and address listed – or at least your name so that other members may contact you – I urge you to fill out the form and return it to Rod.

Trish Kaufmann will again be the nominating committee chair for our election. Yes, it is that time again. Elections will be held in the fall this year and your slate of officers is found on page 9 of this issue.

— *Larry Baum*  
*CWPS President*

You may always reach me at [csaadcovers@frontier.com](mailto:csaadcovers@frontier.com).

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**F**ounded in 1935 as the Confederate Stamp Alliance, the Civil War Philatelic Society remains a non-profit, non-sectional and non-political organization for fellowship, research and cooperation among members of an avid group of hundreds of collectors worldwide of Civil War stamps, covers and postal history.

*Civil War Philatelist*, the official journal of the Civil War Philatelic Society, publishes articles by its members that shed new light on Civil War-era stamps, postal history and related ephemera. One of philately's oldest and most respected journals, this award-winning quarterly is the backbone of the collecting and study of Civil War philately.

*Civil War Philatelist* is published quarterly. The subscription price is included with membership.

## EDITOR'S PASTEBOARD

Wayne L. Youngblood

I've always been fascinated by pieces carried outside the mails during the Civil War. More specifically, I've often wondered what percentage ever got delivered to their intended recipients. Shown on the facing page is an interesting item I recently ran across. There is no dated docketing, nor is there much else to go on. Although I have several tantalizing leads, the trail has gone cold for the moment.

The cover itself is a full-face two color J.G. Wells patriotic (his imprint is on the reverse), showing a battle scene of the engagement at Tipton, near Fort Wright, Tenn., May 10, 1862, which involved ironclads. Fort Wright, constructed in mid-1861, was located on the Mississippi River and served as the first military training facility for the Confederacy in that state. It also was constructed to help protect Memphis. So, as a result of this patriotic design, we do know that the cover was carried sometime after mid 1862 (allowing some time for the envelope to be printed).

Another tantalizing bit of information about this piece is the fact it appears to have been double-carried, although we have no way of knowing who the sender was, or from where.

### Call for CWPS Service Awards Nominations

The CWPS Awards Committee is seeking nominations for the following CWPS service awards, to be presented at the Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., in October 2021 during the Napex show. The Awards Committee will review all nominations and make its recommendations to the trustees, at whose discretion they will be presented.

#### August Dietz Award

This award is for "distinguished research and writing in Civil War philately during the past year." The award is for material not published in the *Civil War Philatelist*.

#### Haydn Myer Award

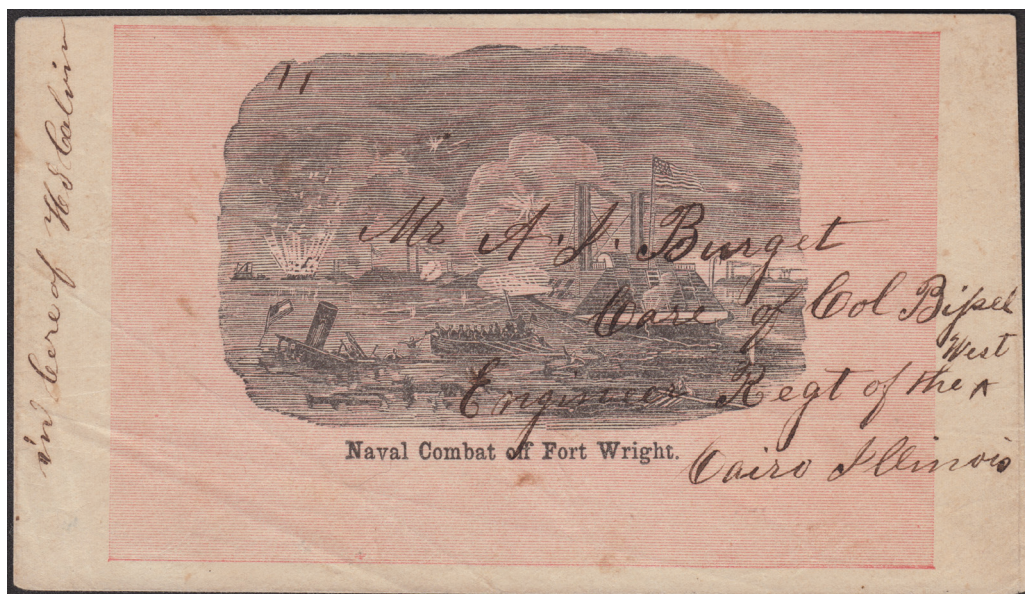
This award is presented at the discretion of the trustees "for distinguished service to the society by a member during the past year." A nominee must have made a noteworthy contribution to the society during the previous year.

Do you know a CWPS member who should be recognized for his or her service to the society? Take a few minutes and submit your nomination to Awards Committee Chairman Mike O'Reilly.

By email: [mcoreilly@yahoo.com](mailto:mcoreilly@yahoo.com)

By mail: Mike O'Reilly, PO Box 1131, Huntsville AL 35807-0131





The full cover address reads: "Mr. A.J. Burget, Care of Col. Bissell, Engineer Regt. of the West, Cairo, Ill." Vertically, along the left edge of the cover is "in care of H.S. Calvin."

My working assumption, then, is that the cover (wherever it originated) was first given to Mr. Calvin (perhaps a civilian), who was headed for Cairo, Ill. At that point he was supposed to give the letter to Bissell to, in turn, deliver to Burget.

There is, at least, one additional clue here. The Engineer Regiment of the West was part of the (Union) Missouri Volunteers, led by Col. J.W. Bissell, who served from its organization July 10, 1861, until he resigned in June 1863. Thus, the subject cover was likely carried during the year-long period between mid-1862 through mid-1863. Burget was probably part of Co. G (there were 10 companies), which was organized at Cape Girardeau, Mo., Sept. 17, 1861, just to the north of Cairo.

Because of its location at the confluence of the Mississippi and Ohio rivers, Cairo was strategically important to the Union. Gen. Grant had Fort Defiance (then Camp Defiance) built to protect the confluence. It is very likely that Co. G (and Burget) was stationed there for additional construction of the fort, which began in 1861.

With the miracle of the ever-expanding resources of the Internet, I have every confidence I will eventually be able to learn more. Until then I'll have to content myself with this teaser.

## Call for Papers: Third Quarter 2021

If you have a manuscript that's close to being finished, we need it. Our editorial cupboard is not bare, but it is not far from it. If you have already submitted a manuscript that has not been published, please check with the editor, as we have very few features on file at the present time. Our needs include features of all lengths, focusing on the North or South. Particularly welcome in the short term would be a feature or two dealing with fakes and forgeries or types of mail fraud during the Civil War. Please consider sharing some facet of your research, collection, exhibit or even a favorite item with your fellow members. We all enjoy reading about this fascinating area of philately!

If you ever have questions or concerns about this publication or a potential article, please do not hesitate to contact the editor at [wystamps@gmail.com](mailto:wystamps@gmail.com).

# CWPS MEMBERSHIP BROCHURE REVISED

Michael C. O'Reilly

The evolution of the Civil War Philatelic Society continues. The CWPS membership brochure has recently been updated and modernized to capture the new and wider focus of the society. A completely revised membership brochure uses the new society logo and website information. It provides a short history of the society and provides the historical connection to the Confederate Stamp Alliance, our predecessor organization. Colorful illustrations show Confederate postmaster provisionals, general issues, as well as a wallpaper cover and United States stamps and a Union patriotic cover. Most of all, it provides a detailed list of the benefits of membership.

The brochure is a full-sized sheet of paper that is folded to a trifold. A membership application will be included with each brochure, and the link to the online membership application on the CWPS website is also shown. This is an integral part of the new CWPS recruiting campaign, so we encourage you to contact Larry Baum, membership chair, and ask for several copies of the brochure to give to your collecting friends.

Make it your goal to recruit at least one new member for the CWPS this year.



## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

### Civil War Philatelist

One of American philately's oldest and most respected journals, this quarterly publication is mailed to all members. Its pages contain research studies, new discoveries and more, offering a wide array of topics by both established students and new authors. A searchable/browsable version of past issues is available on the website.

[www.CivilWarPhilatelicSociety.org](http://www.CivilWarPhilatelicSociety.org)

The professionally-maintained society website has a dedicated team continually adding a wide range of information from basics appealing to those new to collecting Civil War postal material, to in-depth topics for the more knowledgeable student. There are treatises on a wide range of topics, important monographs, state and town postal histories, detailed censuses, periodical archives, exhibits, society event news, and far more.

### Annual Convention

The society holds its annual conventions at various World Series of Philately national stamp shows around the country. This is the major annual gathering of members. It features impressive exhibits, as well as opportunities to buy from specialized dealers and listen to a variety of respected speakers on select Civil War topics. There is a special dinner on Friday evenings at which society awards are given. They comprise awards for research, writing, service, and exhibiting. This is as well as the usual show awards given by the hosting event. Occasional smaller mid-year meetings take place across the country as well.

*continued...*

The CIVIL WAR PHILATELIC SOCIETY is a group of hundreds of collectors of Civil War stamps, covers, and postal history. Its members' interests cover all possible phases of the stamps and postal history of the War Between the States, both North and South.

The purpose of the Civil War Philatelic Society is to further the study of the stamps and postal history of the Civil War. The original name of the Society was the Confederate Stamp Alliance and the logo of the Alliance stated its purpose in three words: "fraternity," "research," and "cooperation" across the top. Below this were the words "non-sectional" and "non-political" to indicate the non-biased nature of the Alliance. These words are still true and they sum up the purpose of the Society. It is a society of collectors and students working together to collect and study the stamps and postal history of the Civil War, without the bias of politics or sectionalism.

You're invited to review the information contained here and consider joining the Civil War Philatelic Society. The rewards of membership extend beyond the valuable benefits offered by the Society and will certainly enrich your collection and your knowledge.



CIVIL WAR PHILATELIC SOCIETY  
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## About Civil War Philately – A Postal System Divided

In 1860, the mails were the essential means of communication. The effects of the American Civil War were felt on both sides of conflict, although more severely in the South. Correspondence between North and South was banned, as was trade. The blockade, although somewhat porous, was an important economic policy that successfully prevented Confederate access to weapons and goods.

Mail was exchanged under flags of truce at designated locations. The agricultural South felt the impact of being cut off from the dependable Northern and European sources of paper goods, which caused make-shift "adversity uses," such as envelopes fashioned from spare rolls of colorful wallpaper, flyleaves of books, marine charts, or any paper product with enough blank space on which to write an address. Envelopes were turned inside-out and used twice or more; U.S. stamped envelopes were seized and overprinted by the Confederate government for their use. Larger denomination stamps were illegally bisected to create the more common postage rate.

The Confederacy's inability to provide stamps in the first few months of operations caused post offices to revert to handstamps and other provisional means of showing postage was paid, creating some of American philately's rarest provisional stamps and uses.

South Carolina seceded on December 20, 1860. From then until June 1, 1861, when the Confederate Post Office took control of its own affairs, the U.S. Post Office Department continued to operate within the Southern States by agreement with the new Confederate government, established in early February 1861. Amazingly, this cooperation continued despite the first shots at Fort Sumter which began the war on April 12, 1861. The postage rates and stamps used in the South were still U.S. 3¢ issues and monies were paid to the U.S. Post Office Department by new Confederate postmasters.



In the North, Sanitary Fairs were held to raise funds on behalf of the United States Sanitary Commission, which rendered aid dealing with the health and comfort of the Union troops. These civilian-organized bazaars and expositions issued stamps. While not valid for U.S. postage, they were prepared for, sold and used at the fair post offices.

In August 1862, the federal government began taxing a variety of goods, services and legal dealings to help pay for the war effort. These varied tax stamps are also extremely collectible.

Patriotic fervor was strong on both sides and the colorful patriotic envelopes of both North and South are among the favorite categories of Civil War postal history.

The U.S. "Black-Jack" and the Confederate "Red-Jack" were issued during the war within months of each other. They bear the same portrait of President Andrew Jackson – a hero to both belligerents.

Postal history helps provide a greater understanding about historical events. We seek to illuminate through philatelic research; study leads to insight.

### Civil War Philatelic Society Background

Under the banner of "Fraternity, Research, and Cooperation," the Confederate Stamp Alliance was established in 1935, proclaiming itself non-sectional and non-political. But only half the story was being told.

November 2020, 85 years later, the membership resoundingly voted to rename the Alliance the Civil War Philatelic Society and to broaden its scope – such a logical and exciting realignment. Our emphasis is still on Research, Education, and Fellowship. Arguably, our most important mission is education. To this end, award-winning publications are regularly produced by the society. They are available via the society website.

The research and study of the intricacies of a divided postal system facilitates an understanding of how the two postal systems unified correspondents and promoted communications across enemy lines.

## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

...continued

### Civil War Philatelic Authentication Service

As an important benefit to the collector, the society sponsors an authentication service for examining Confederate stamps and covers, rendering certificates of authenticity that are recognized by all major auction houses. Currently, U.S. Civil War material is not accepted, although this will likely occur sometime in the future.



### Mentor Program

Ever had a question regarding a Civil War philatelic item and wish you knew someone who could give you an answer? The CWPS recognizes this need and has established a "Mentor Program" whereby you can call or email a very knowledgeable Confederate philatelist and fellow CWPS member with your question.



### Camaraderie

Perhaps the greatest benefit of membership is the camaraderie and lifelong friendships built among members.

### Apply Today

Apply online at [www.civilwarphilatelicsociety.org/the-society/join/signup](http://www.civilwarphilatelicsociety.org/the-society/join/signup) or by mail to Civil War Philatelic Society, Larry Baum, Membership Chair, 316 West Calhoun Street, Sumter SC 29150.

If you have additional questions, please email [brochure@civilwarphilatelicsociety.org](mailto:brochure@civilwarphilatelicsociety.org).

## CWPS Nominating Committee Report

The Civil War Philatelic Society nominates the following member slate for the 2022-23 term. All candidates have confirmed a willingness to serve in the stated capacities.

**President:** Michael O'Reilly  
**Vice President:** Daniel M. Knowles  
**Secretary:** John Vagnetti  
**Treasurer:** C. Wayne Farley  
**Trustees:** Francis J. Crown Jr.  
 James Montich  
 Randolph P. Smith  
 Daniel M. Telep

Nominations for any position may also be made by petition of 15 or more voting members. Such petitions shall be signed by the proposers and shall include the written consent of each nominee. Any such petitions shall be filed with the secretary no later than Sept. 1, 2021. The Official Ballot will be mailed to all voting members no later than Oct. 1.

Respectfully submitted by the Nominating Committee

Patricia A. Kaufmann, chair  
 Peter W.W. Powell  
 John H. Walker

# Civil War Philatelic Society Annual Meeting

Napex, Washington, D.C.

Oct. 22-24, 2021

## Show Location and Hotel:

McLean Hilton Tyson's Corner  
7920 Jones Branch Dr,  
McLean, Va. 22102

Our local host is Randy Smith (202) 669-6889  
[randolphsmith@me.com](mailto:randolphsmith@me.com)

A special room rate of \$113 per night is available. The code for this special rate is **NAPEX2**

Make your reservation online at <https://book.passkey.com/go/napex21>  
or phone the Hilton directly at (703) 847-5000 and say you are attending Napex. Do not try to  
make reservations directly through the *Hilton.com* website.

## Show Hours:

Friday-Saturday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

CWPS Dinner: Friday evening, Oct. 22, 2021  
CWPS annual meeting: Saturday morning, Oct. 23, 2021  
Locations to be announced.

## Exhibits:

**The exhibit application closing date is Aug. 30**, but don't wait till the last minute!  
Frames are going fast. Please hurry and get your application in to  
John Warren, exhibits chair, as soon as possible.

**You may submit your 2021 exhibit application in one of two ways:**

### Online:

Go to [www.napex.org/exhibits\\_old.html](http://www.napex.org/exhibits_old.html) for links and instructions

### By Hard Copy:

Open and download a PDF of the application, print out, fill out and mail in:  
[www.napex.org/assets/docs/2021/2021NAPEXProspectus.pdf](http://www.napex.org/assets/docs/2021/2021NAPEXProspectus.pdf)

**Please check our website regularly (and follow the link to the convention)  
for information about the show. Information will be kept current at all times**

<https://www.civilwarphilatelicsociety.org>

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# Guidelines for Article Submissions

**TEXT** All text for articles should be sent as a simple Word document using the “Normal” style – please don’t attempt to format for the magazine! Bold text, italics and tabs are ok. Text files may be sent as an email attachment, by file transfer program or submitted via CD.

Please, do not embed illustrations in your text document! Show the preferred location if you wish (or send a separate PDF showing your preference), but leave actual illustrations out - please send them separately.

Simple, plain text always works best.

**ILLUSTRATIONS** are always preferred electronically as scans. Scans must be sized at a minimum of 100% and scanned at least at 300 dpi or higher as TIF or JPG files for optimal quality. Internet transmittals, such as WeTransfer (preferred) may be used. A typical cover should be at least 1,500 pixels wide.

If you do not have access to a scanner, originals may be sent. We will make scans and return them immediately by the same method as they are sent to us.

As a last resort, images may be sent to us as high-quality photocopies (hard copies made using a color laser copier and mailed to us).

Again, please do not embed images in the text.

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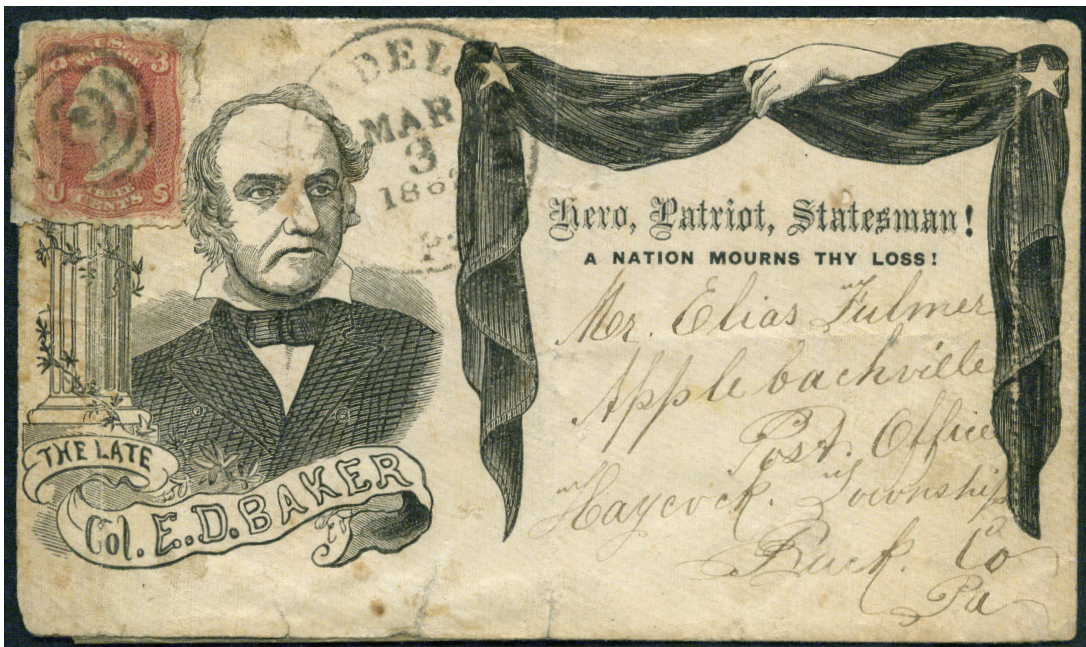
# MARTYRS AND MOURNING DESIGNS ON UNION PATRIOTIC STATIONERY OF THE CIVIL WAR

*James W. Milgram, M.D.*

I recently had access to a large collection of unused federal patriotic stationery of the Civil War, among which were a number of designs that have not been shown in philatelic publications. Specifically there were seven lettersheet designs by Charles Magnus that must be quite rare, since they depicted a number of martyred generals with unusual frames showing mourning themes. Other, more well-known Magnus designs, show three other martyred officers, so it seemed to be a good subject for an article. Since some of the individuals did not die on the battlefield, this article was extended to show other types of mourning designs. The article is organized by the names of the individuals portrayed on the stationery.

## **Edward Dickinson Baker (1811-61)**

Baker was originally an Illinois lawyer who was a friend of Abraham Lincoln. From the papers of John Hardin at the Chicago Historical Society, I learned of a deal that the three of them concocted to avoid conflicts. They each ran as a Whig candidate for a term of office in the House of Representatives. Baker served in 1844, but remained a friend of Lincoln. He had moved first to

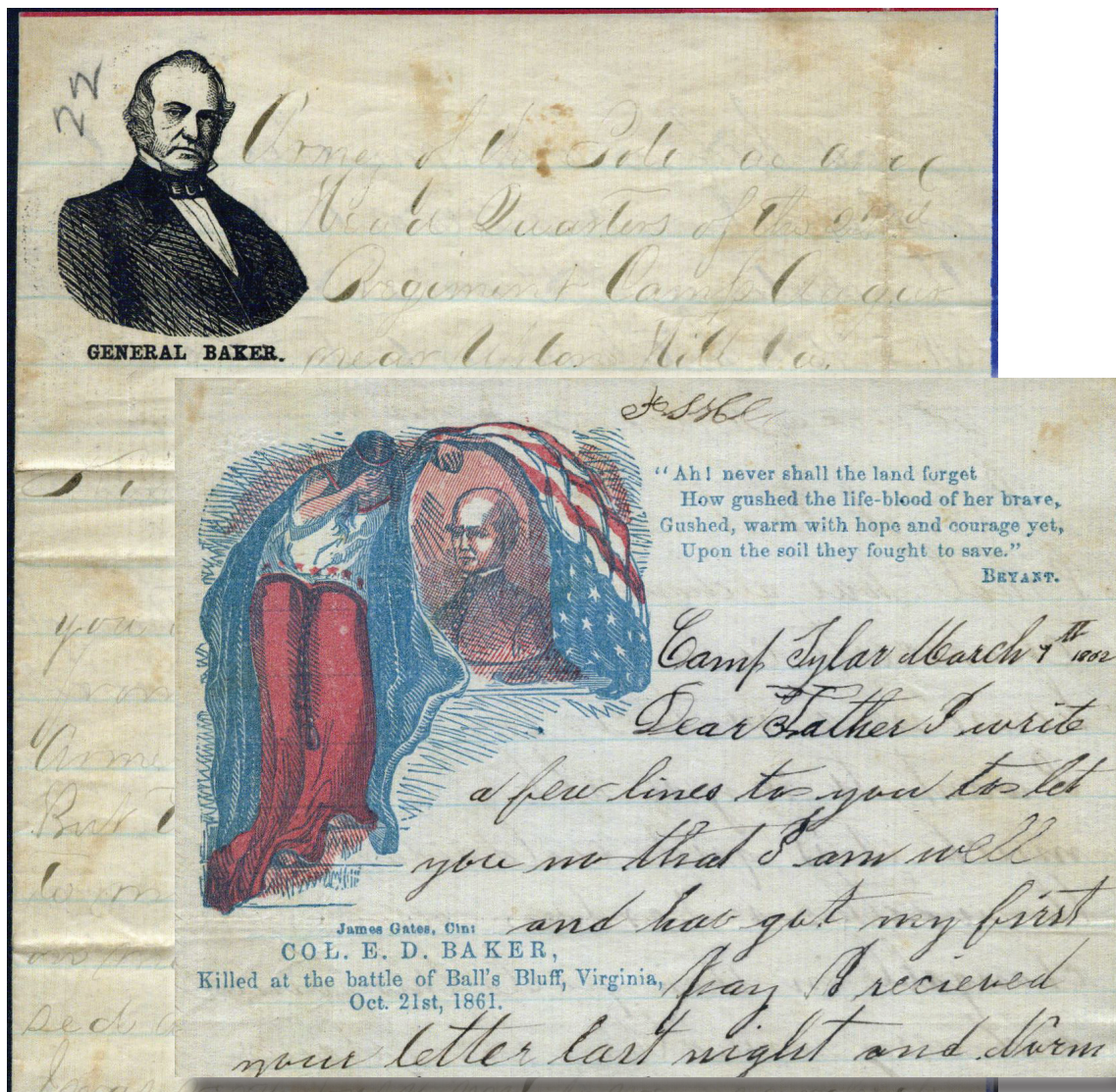


**Figure 1.** Baker mourning cover with additional black drape. Stamp was placed so as not to cover his face. The cover was postmarked "PHILADELPHIA PA MAR 3 1862."

San Francisco in 1852, but after statehood for Oregon had been passed in February 1859, he was asked by Oregon men to run for the senate in the new state. He became a U.S. senator on Dec. 5, 1860. He was in the carriage that took Lincoln to his inauguration, along with President James Buchanan. It was Baker who introduced Abraham Lincoln at the inauguration, "Fellow citizens, I introduce to you, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States."

Following Lincoln's call for 75,000 volunteers after the war began, Baker raised a regiment of New York and Pennsylvania soldiers. Although he was offered a commission as brigadier general, he opted to serve as colonel of the 71st Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry.

On Oct. 20, 1861, he visited Lincoln, Mary Lincoln and Willie at the White House. The next day he was killed at a battle near a Confederate camp at Ball's Bluff, Va. Lincoln was in George McClellan's headquarters when he learned the sad fate of his friend. The description of Lincoln's crying is quite famous.



**Figures 2A and 2B.** The top lettersheet is an unlisted black design used in March 1862, so it is possibly a mourning design. The other is a well-known type that has different variations. It is shown here on letter also dated March 1862.



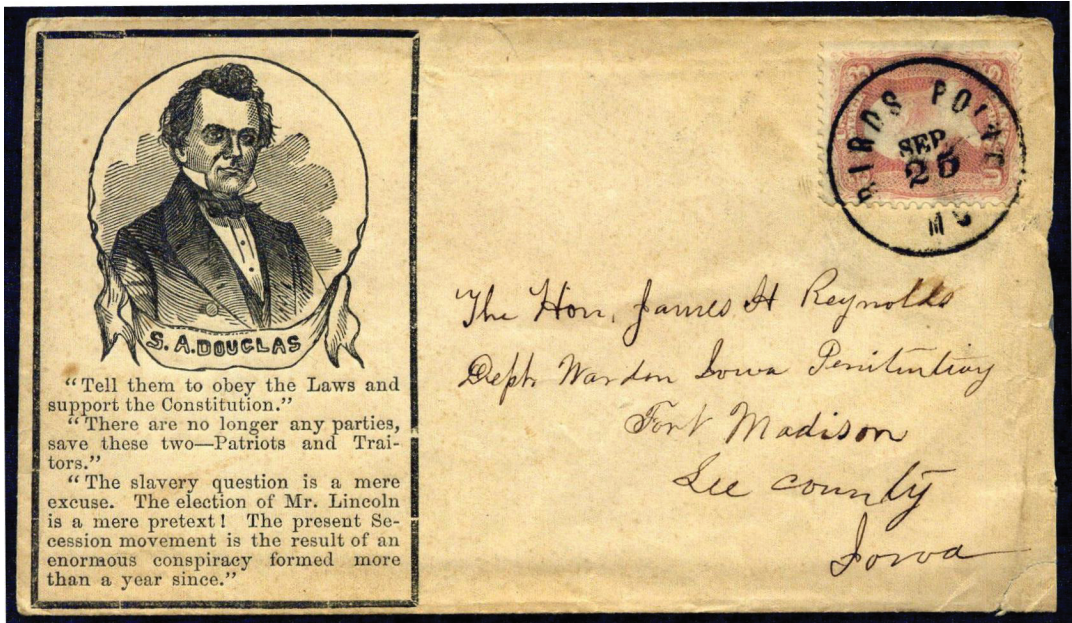


**Figure 3.** The image portion of large-format unused lettersheet showing action scene with death of Col. Baker. Printed by Magee of Philadelphia. Image is from The Library Co. of Philadelphia.

It is rather surprising that only four different depictions of Baker appear on envelopes after his death, one of these also with Ellsworth and Lyon. The best design is the black design shown in Figure 1, which is also known without the black drapes. Figure 2A shows the top of a lettersheet depicting Baker as a general, an unlisted design not in Bischel or Weiss, possibly a mourning design. Figure 2B shows a used lettersheet with a mourning design for Baker. But the unused lettersheet shown in Figure 3 is an outstanding scene of a martyr falling on the battlefield. This lettersheet resides in the collection of the Library Co. of Philadelphia. It was shown enlarged in Figure 7-48 of *American Illustrated Letter Stationery 1819-1899*.

### Stephen Douglas (1813-61)

The majority of the covers and lettersheets seen with the image of Douglas were produced as presidential campaign designs; but he died in Chicago in June of 1861, less than a year after the election. Stationers printed new designs with mourning themes, using portraits that had been created for campaign envelopes. Figure 4 is one such example from September 1861. The portrait design was one of four similar pictures for each of the four candidates in the 1860 election. A black border was added to the one for Douglas, together with quotations of Douglas that were used here to highlight issues relating to the war.



**Figure 4.** Campaign design for Stephen Douglas converted into mourning design by addition of black frame and verse. The 3¢ 1861 is postmarked "BIRDS POINT MO SEP 25."

### Elmer Ephraim Ellsworth (1837-61)

Ellsworth changed his first name to his middle name as he grew up. He studied law under Lincoln in 1860 after he moved to Springfield. He was involved with Lincoln's presidential campaign as well. He accompanied Lincoln on the trip to Washington. Prior to this he had studied military science in Rockford, Ill., before his move to study law. In Chicago he became colonel of Chicago's National Guard Cadets. But it was his adaptation of the French Zouave tactics that brought him national acclaim. Following the fall of Fort Sumter and, in response to Lincoln's call for troops, he raised the 11th New York Volunteer Infantry, also called the "Fire Zouves," since many of them were firefighters, and he was commissioned their colonel.

The story of Ellsworth being killed at the Marshall House on May 24, 1861, is one of the best-known incidents of the Civil War. This house was run by a rabid secessionist, James W. Jackson, who had raised a large Confederate flag seen by Lincoln and others all the way into Washington. Ellsworth, with seven other soldiers, had decided to remove the flag. While he was descending the stairs holding the flag, Ellsworth was shot by Jackson, who was in turn shot and killed by Pvt. Francis E. Brownell, one of Ellsworth's companions.

Ellsworth was the first Union officer killed in the Civil War, so he was lionized by many Union supporters as a martyr. Lincoln had his body laid in state at the White House and then in New York at City Hall. "Remember Ellsworth" became an important slogan for Union supporters. Lincoln kept the flag, which Tad Lincoln played with, but it was later given to Brownell.

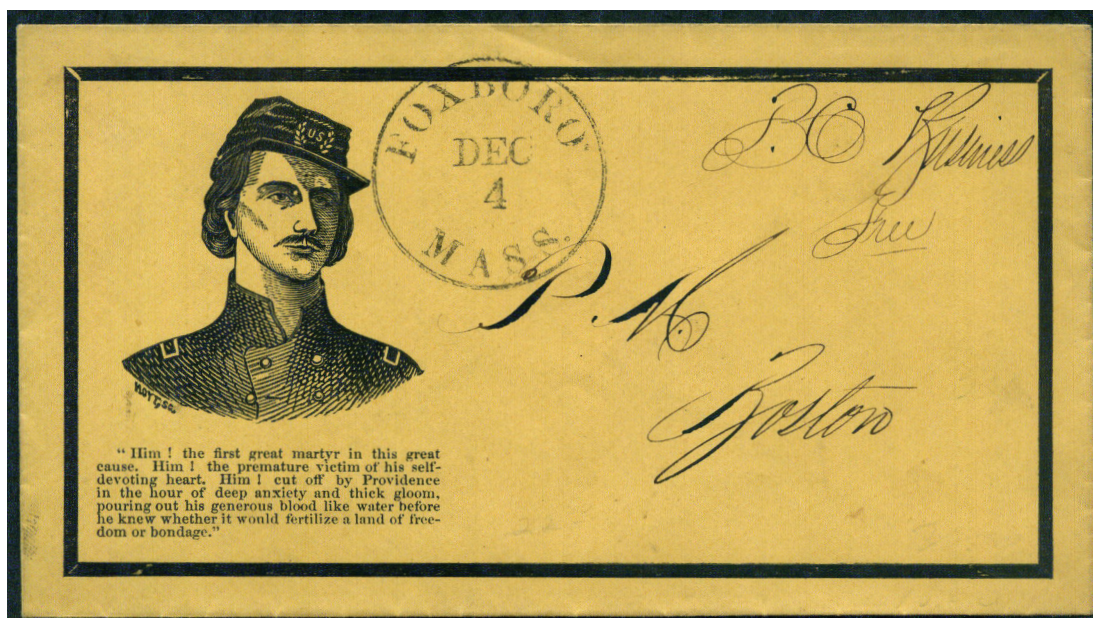
There is more patriotic stationery for Ellsworth than for anyone else – even including Lincoln after his assassination. He was felt to be the symbol of the brave young men fighting for their country. Weiss's *The Catalog of Union Civil War Patriotic Covers* contains more than 75 different designs on envelopes alone. Figure 5 is probably the best portrayal of his death and is from Chicago, where Ellsworth made his reputation. Figure 6 is a full-blown mourning envelope with black border. The Magnus Three Martyr bronze ink design shown in Figure 7 portrays Ellsworth with Baker and Lyon, who will be discussed later. This same image of Ellsworth alone was printed on envelopes with the caption "REMEMBER! ELLSWORTH!!!"

## Luther C. Ladd (1843-61)

While Ellsworth was the martyr who was used as a patriotic symbol during the war, he was not the first soldier to fall. Luther Ladd is often referred to as the first Union soldier to die during the war. His death occurred during the Baltimore Riot that followed Lincoln's call for troops after



**Figure 5.** Action scene of the death of Col. Ellsworth descending stairs with Confederate flag. Postal use of a 3¢ 1857, canceled “CHICAGO IL JUN 16 (1861).” Brownell shot – and then stabbed – Jackson. It is highly unlikely that another soldier entered the hotel holding a Union flag on a staff but it makes a good picture.



**Figure 6.** Mourning design for Ellsworth, with black border on orange envelope. Rare postal use of free franking between two postmasters, postmarked “FOXBORO MASS DEC 4,” probably 1861.

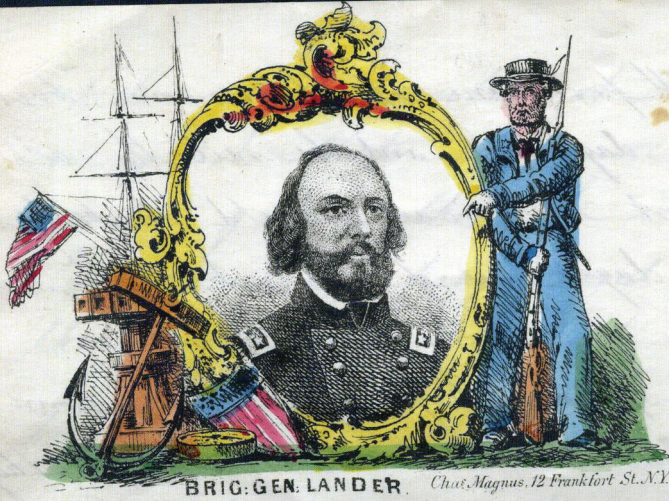
Fort Sumter surrendered. He was only 17 years old when he was killed by an accidental cannon discharge during a flag ceremony. He was a member of the 6th Massachusetts Militia, who were marching to Washington when they were attacked by a pro-southern mob in Baltimore. Ladd had been shot as well as being hit by the cannon.



**Figure 7.** Well-known Magnus design in bronze of the three martyrs, Col. Baker, Col. Ellsworth and Gen. Lyon. The 3¢ 1861 is tied by a “FAIRFIELD VA MAY 8” postmark.



**Figure 8.** This patriotic envelope shows a young soldier with text explaining that Pvt. Ladd was the first soldier to die in the Civil War. The cover bears a 10¢ stamp paying the transcontinental rate (carried by stagecoaches in the west), with postmark “BOSTON MA JUN 30.” This cover is also a regimental design with blue text to the left of the image.



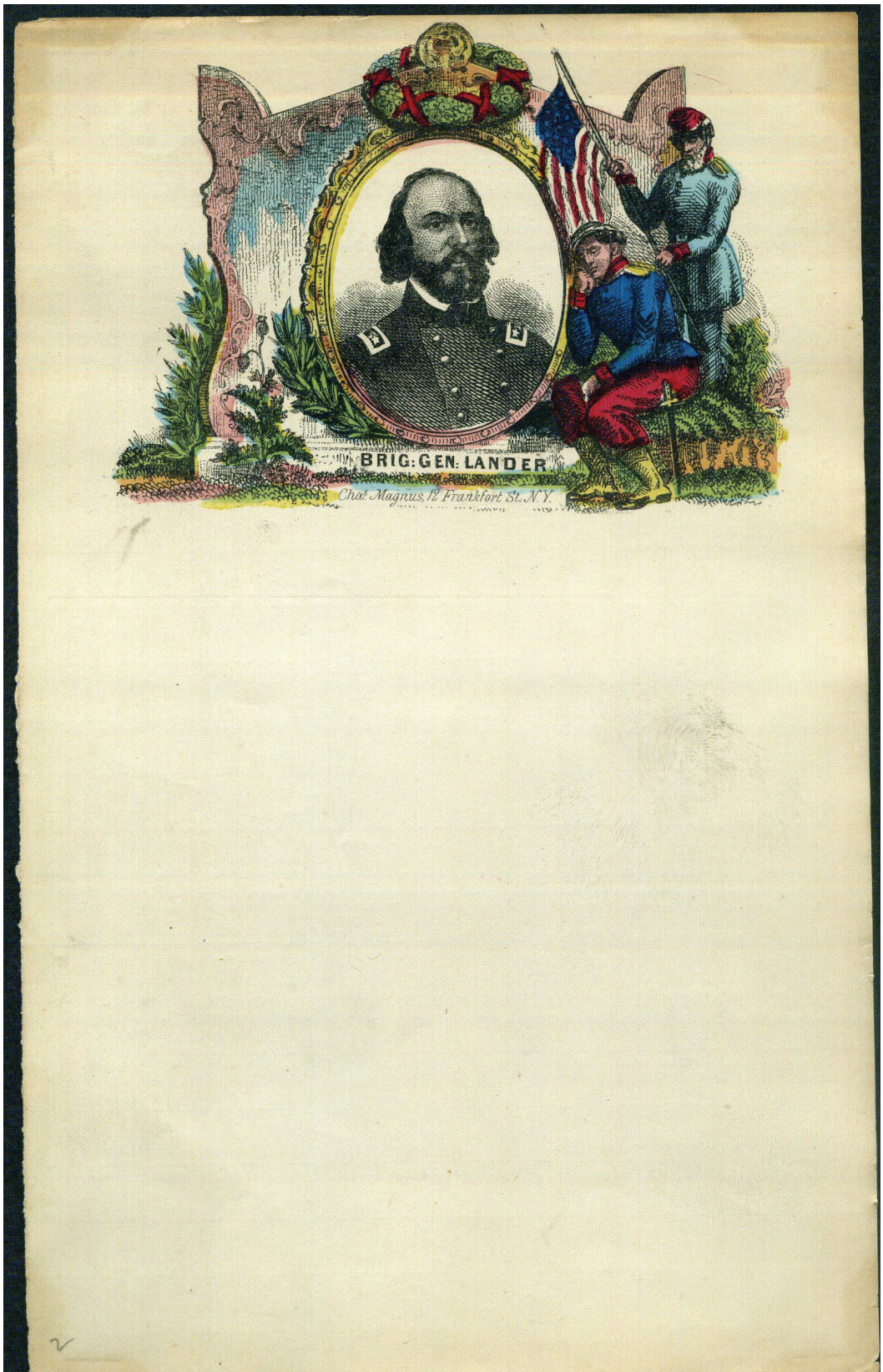
Headquarters Submers. Division.  
Camp California, Feb 17<sup>th</sup> 1862.  
Friends at home. As it is



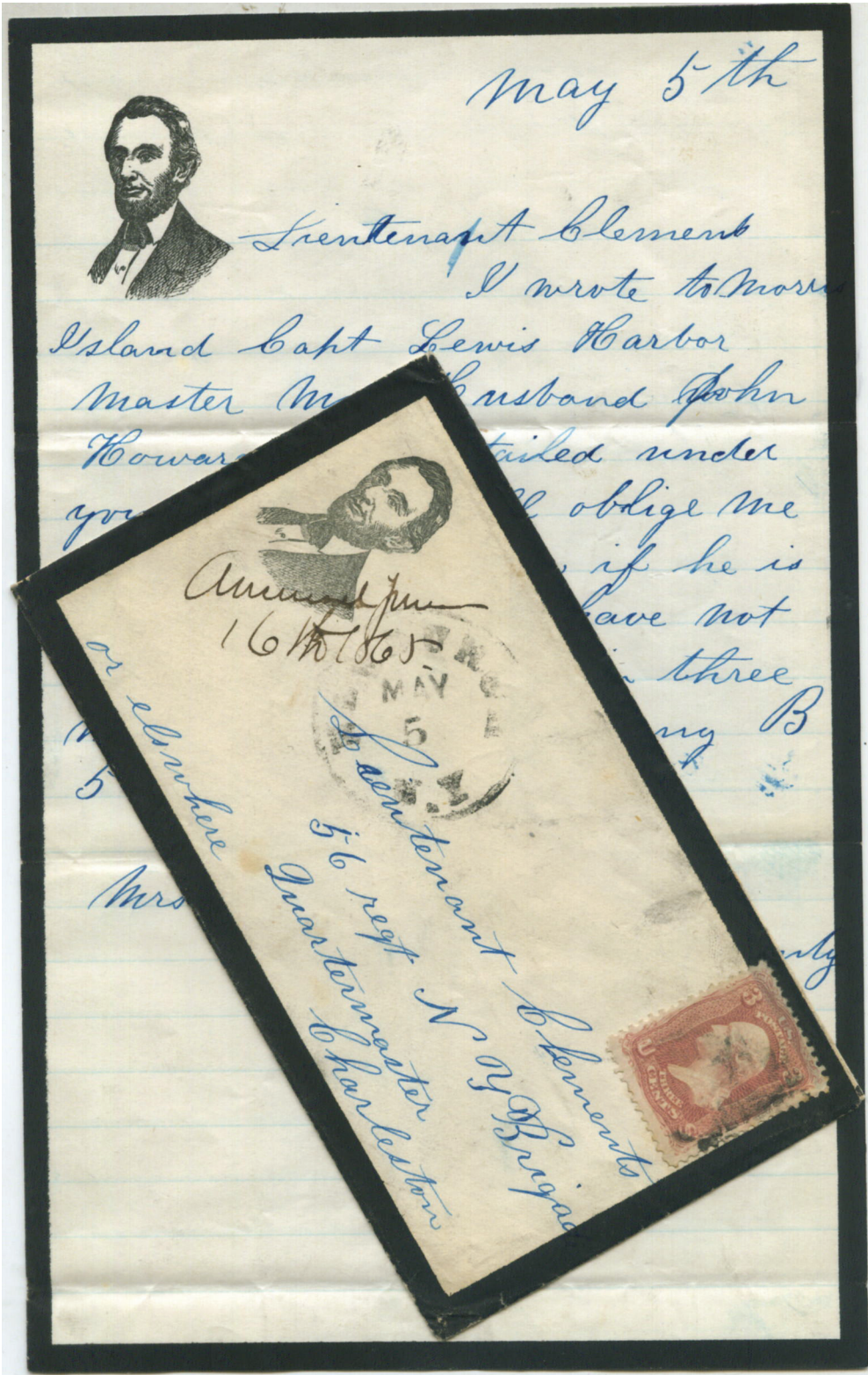
Mr W. L. Blue  
North Sage,  
Oneida Co.,  
New York.

I would you hope that two  
of the boys that tented with us had  
been taken to Washington Hospital with

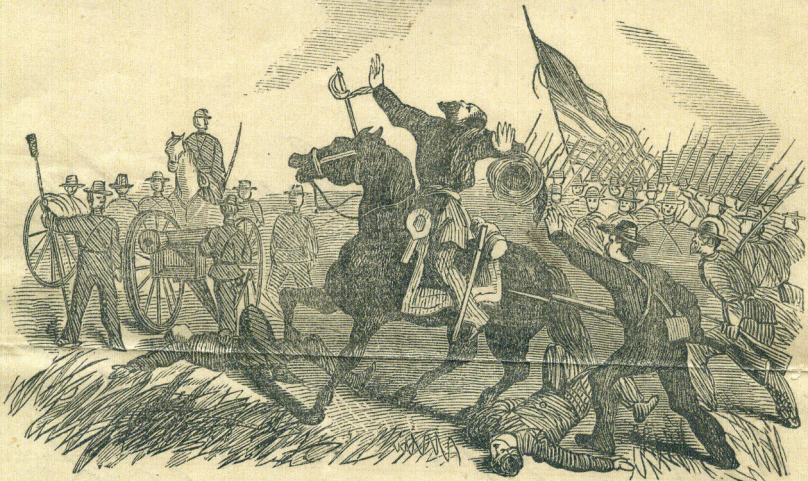
**Figure 9.** This lettersheet shows Gen. Lander with a nautical frame by Magnus. The matching cover is a multicolored Magnus Camp Scene design. The 3¢ 1861 stamp is postmarked "ALEXANDRIA VA FEB 18 1862," a day after the letter was written.



**Figure 10.** The unused letterhead shown here is one of the two Magnus mourning types with Brig. Gen. Lander's portrait. There are six separate watercolors used to paint the design.

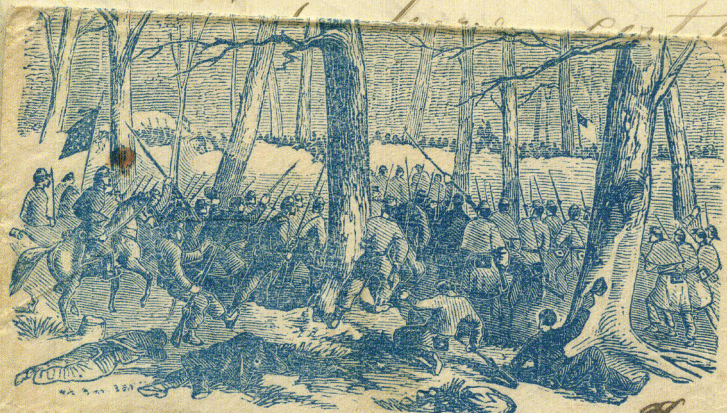


**Figure 11.** Black-bordered lettersheet and envelope with Lincoln's image. Postal use from Newburgh, N.Y., May 5, 1865, three weeks after Lincoln's death.

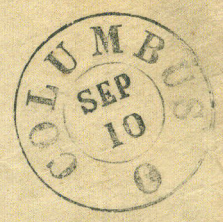


Death of General Lyon.

September 10/62  
Dear Brother we have  
been waiting for this



PIVONET CHARGE AT THE TAKING OF FORT DONELSON.



James Bronk  
Chardon Georgia  
Co Ohio

have any trouble go  
and see him and

Figure 12. Matching lettersheet and cover, both with views from the Battle Scene Series of patriotic covers. The lettersheet is intended to show the exact instant when Gen. Lyon was shot.



There is one patriotic design that shows a fairly good picture of Ladd. An example with postal use to California is shown in Figure 8. This design is also known on envelopes with no text referring to Ladd.

### **Frederick W. Lander (1821-62)**

Lander is known for his activities in surveying a route for a transcontinental railroad.

He was the only survivor after Indian depredations to the surveying party. The Lander Road became one of the routes from Wyoming Territory to Fort Hall in Oregon. The artist Albert Bierstadt had accompanied the expedition.

During the war, Lander was an aide de camp to Gen. McClellan. On May 17, 1861, he was promoted to brigadier general of volunteers and was present at a number of battles and skirmishes. The day after the Battle of Ball's Bluff he was wounded in the leg. He was then given command of a division in the Army of the Potomac, protecting the Upper Potomac River and Hancock, Md. He successfully defended the town against Stonewall Jackson's Confederates. Two weeks after an engagement, he was stricken with an illness culminating in fatal pneumonia. Lincoln attended his funeral in Washington.

The only patriotic design that has been seen during his life is a Magnus multicolored letter-sheet shown in Figure 9 with letter dated Feb. 17, 1862. Lander did not die until March 2, so this design is a patriotic design, one of Magnus' generals series. However, after Lander's death Magnus created another design, shown in Figure 10. This is the same black portrait of Gen. Lander, but the frame includes a grieving seated soldier and another soldier holding a flag at half mast. This is one of the two frames that Magnus had made to use for mourning designs. Just for the purpose of this article, let us call it the Type 1 frame.

### **Abraham Lincoln (1809-65)**

After Lincoln's assassination, mourning designs were produced on stationery so users could express their grief. I illustrated 30 designs in the Lincoln stationery book and added two more in the book on campaign stationery 1840-72. Figure 11 shows a matching lettersheet with cover that was given to my father by an antiques dealer as an appreciation for medical advice.

### **Nathaniel Lyon (1818-61)**

Gen. Lyon was the first Union general to be killed in the Civil War. He is best known for his actions against the Confederate governor of Missouri, Claibourne Jackson (there were two governors). Lyon was a professional soldier and had fought in the Florida Indian campaigns and then, later, during the Mexican War. In February 1861 he was made commander of the arsenal of the United States Army at St. Louis. After forcing the surrender of the pro-Confederate militia, he was given the command of the Union troops in Missouri. He was killed at the Battle of Wilson's Creek while he was trying to rally his troops. He actually had been shot earlier that day with his horse being shot too. But he was later shot again while leading a countercharge of the 2nd Kansas Infantry. He is given much credit for keeping Missouri in the Union.

The common patriotic design showing Gen. Lyon features him on a horse, holding his hat.

Another lettersheet shows just his bust in black. However, the lettersheet shown in Figure 12 is intended to show the exact second of his being shot while on horseback with his troops. This is one of what I have named the Battle Scene Series of patriotic designs. They are described in *The American Philatelist* in a 2008 article and are also shown in *American Illustrated Letter Stationery 1819-1899*. In my opinion, this series of action drawings are the best action views on patriotic stationery. It has also been speculated that they were made in St. Louis, which would make sense with a design showing Gen. Lyon. The cover pictured in Figure 12 is the matching envelope and shows

another of the Battle Scene Series, an action at Fort Donelson. There is also a two-color version of the death picture, with orange color added as fine horizontal stripes.

Lyon is also one of the three figures in the Magnus design of the three martyrs in Figure 7. That design was printed in black and multiple other colors, including bronze, red, green, violet and blue, as well as hand-painted on black. These multiple-colored Magnus designs almost all date from 1862. The later Magnus cover and lettersheet designs are known only in one color, usually black, which most frequently were hand colored.

### **Joseph K. Mansfield (1803-62)**

Joseph Mansfield was a professional soldier. He had gone to West Point at the age of 14, so he progressed in the officer ranks. During the Mexican War he was breveted to lieutenant colonel after the famous battle at Buena Vista, the same engagement where Jefferson Davis saved the battle with his artillery. He became Inspector General of the army in 1853. So he was a senior officer, 57 years old, when the Civil War occurred. Due to a number of factors, he was not given an important command until he was given command of the 12th Corps two days before the Battle of Antietam (Sharpsburg). He was shot while on his horse during the actions and died the next morning.

Mansfield's image appears in a number of patriotic images made before his death by Charles Magnus. He appears in a number of the duplex images with McClellan, such as the Review of the Army series. However, the lettersheet shown on page 124 of my book, *Abraham Lincoln Illustrated Envelopes and Letter Paper 1860-1865*, shows his image with the title Maj. Gen. Mansfield. Mansfield was breveted posthumously to major general, so this lettersheet had to have been printed after his death (the letter was written in August 1862). Weiss shows four Mansfield patriotic designs, three with the same portrait by Magnus and one by Magee.

Figure 13 shows a used example of a mourning lettersheet with Mansfield's portrait. This also is the second type of mourning design, Type 2, made by Magnus for different officers who had died. Here two sad standing soldiers hold a black drape over the top of the image and there is an urn above the portrait. Note, too, the title is "General Mansfield" so this design may have been printed before the one shown in my Lincoln book. It is also the only example of any of the Magnus mourning designs that was actually used for a letter during the Civil War, this one in February 1864.

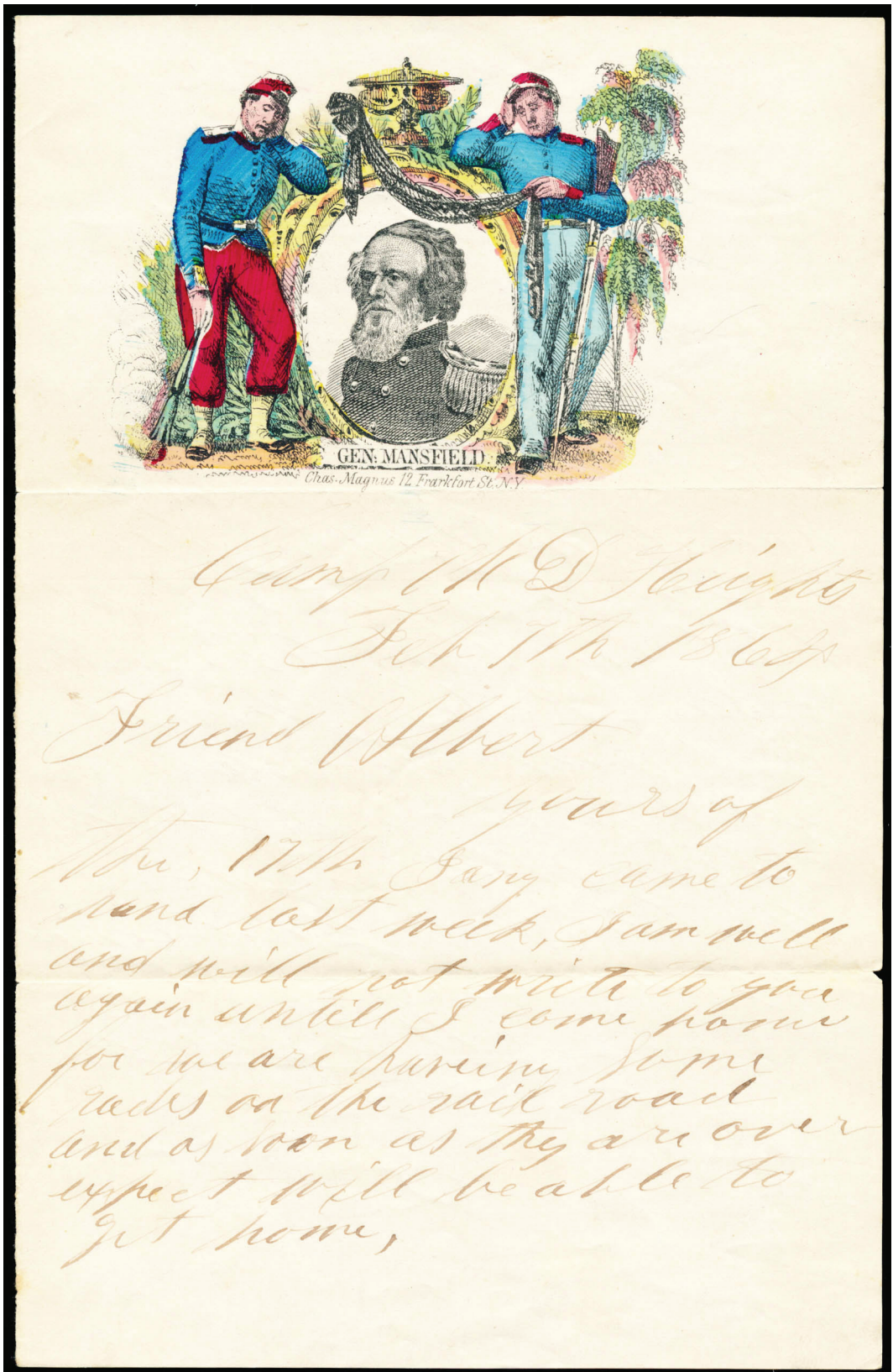
### **Robert Latimer McCook (1827-62)**

McCook was a lawyer from Ohio who was a supporter of policies of the Democratic Party. He organized a regiment, the 9th Ohio Infantry, and became its colonel. He fought under McClellan in a number of battles in West Virginia. He was wounded in the Battle of Mills Springs in January 1862. He returned as a brigadier general, but still suffered infirmity from his wound in Kentucky. In August he was shot in the abdomen and died shortly thereafter.

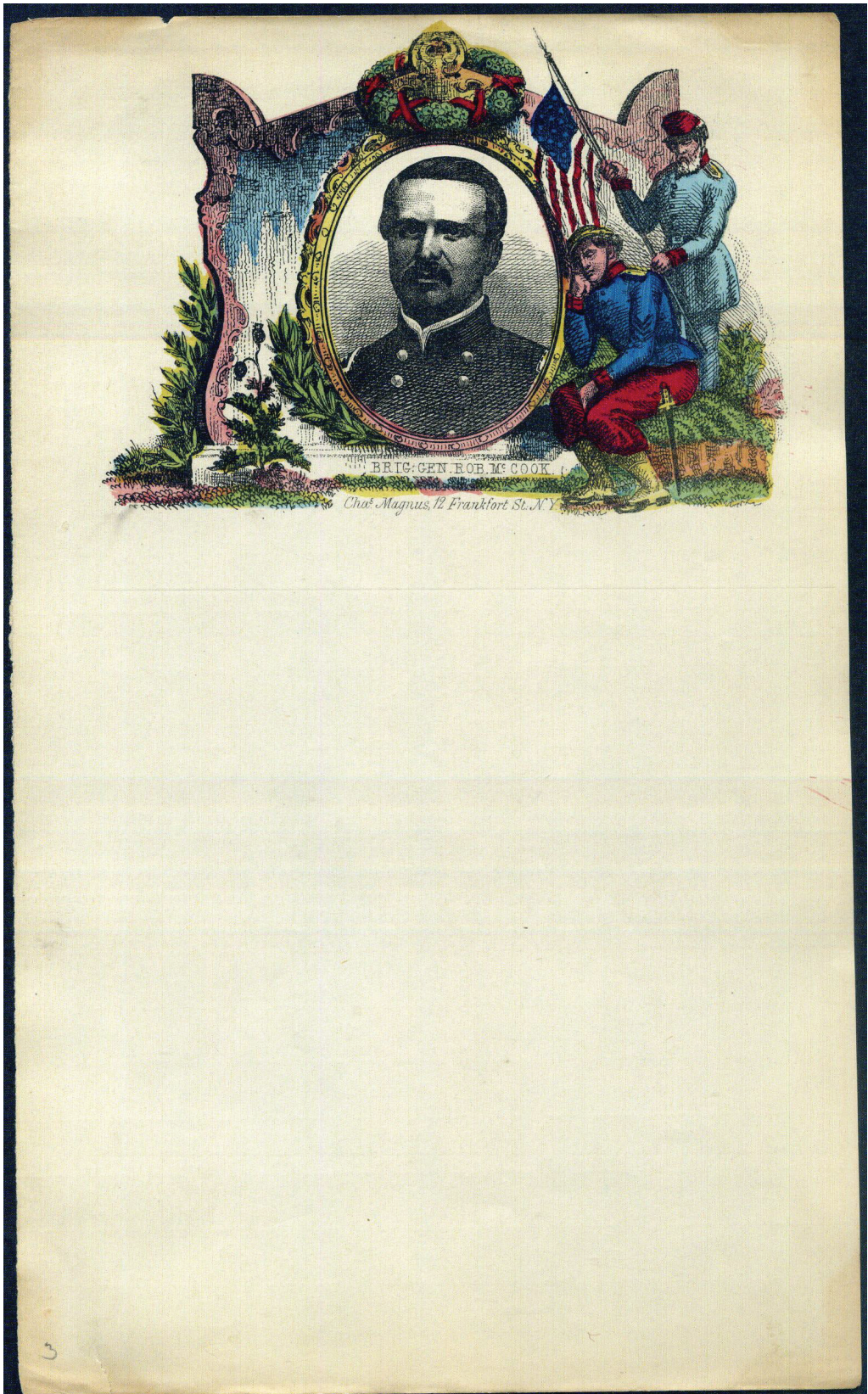
Patriotic stationery exists for McCook while he was a general. Figure 14 shows the top of a Magnus hand-colored unused lettersheet with his portrait in the Type 1 mourning frame. This is a much different image showing him with a moustache.

### **Jesse L. Reno (1823-62)**

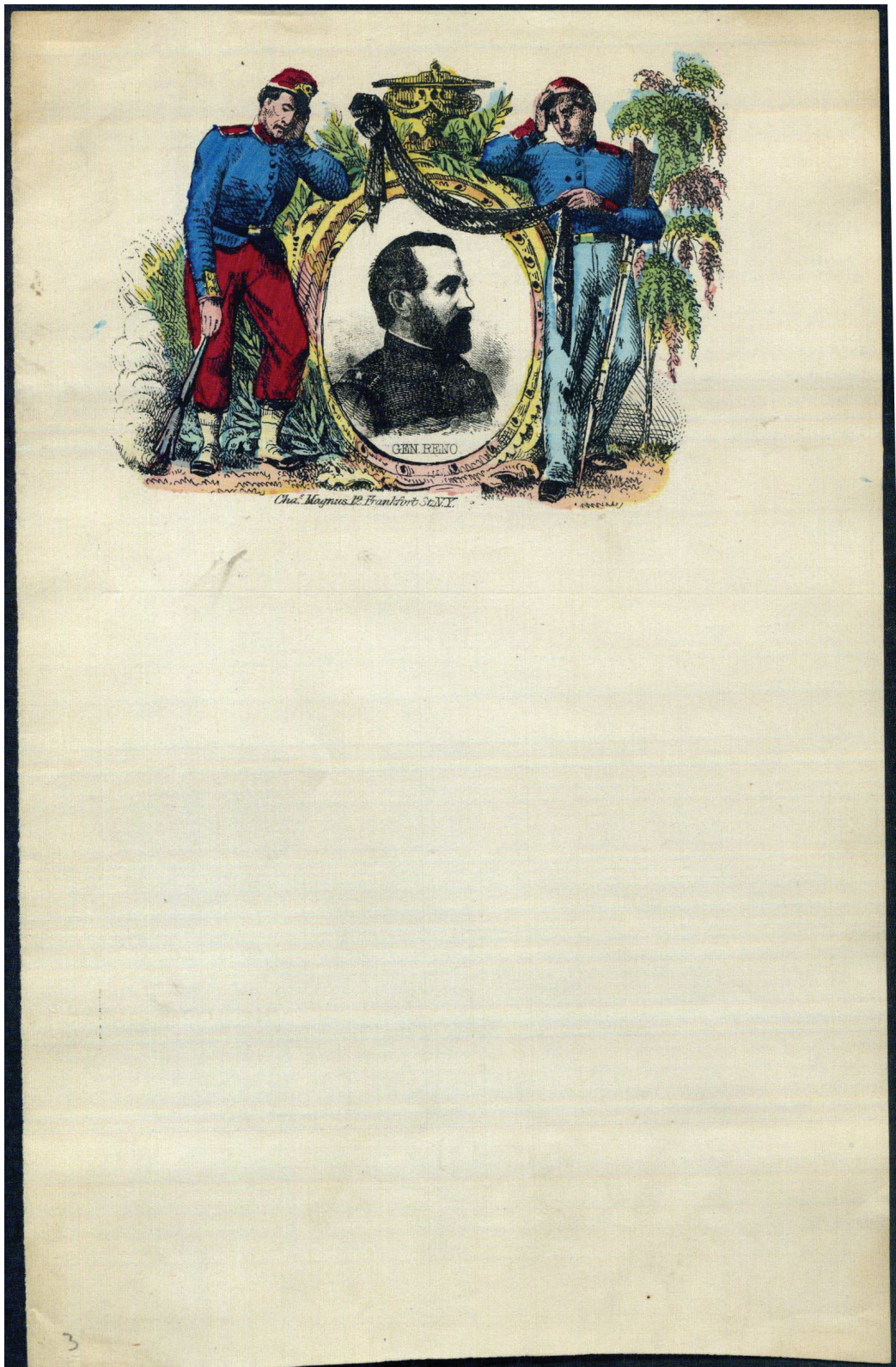
Reno was the descendent of French Huguenots and was born in Wheeling, W.V. He attended the U.S. Military Academy, graduating in 1846. He commanded an artillery battery under Gen. Scott and was present at most of the important battles of the Mexican War, receiving two brevets for his conduct. In 1857 he accompanied Gen. Albert Sidney Johnson as chief of ordnance to Utah Territory (Camp Floyd).



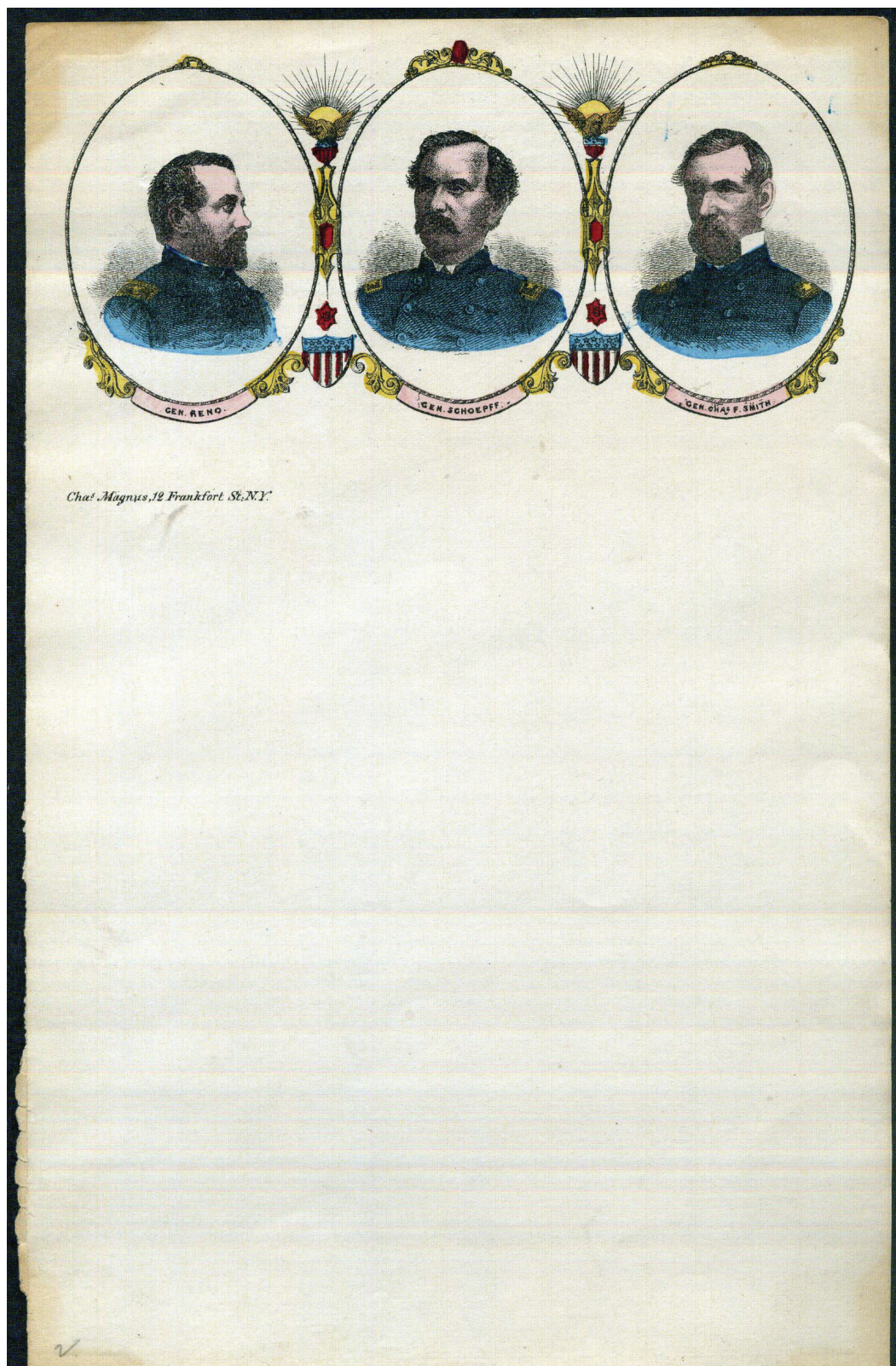
**Figure 13.** Used lettersheet showing Magnus portrait of Gen. Mansfield with the second type of the two mourning frames used by Magnus.



**Figure 14.** Unused lettersheet showing Magnus portrait of Gen. McCook with the first type of mourning frame. These letterheads were all hand colored.

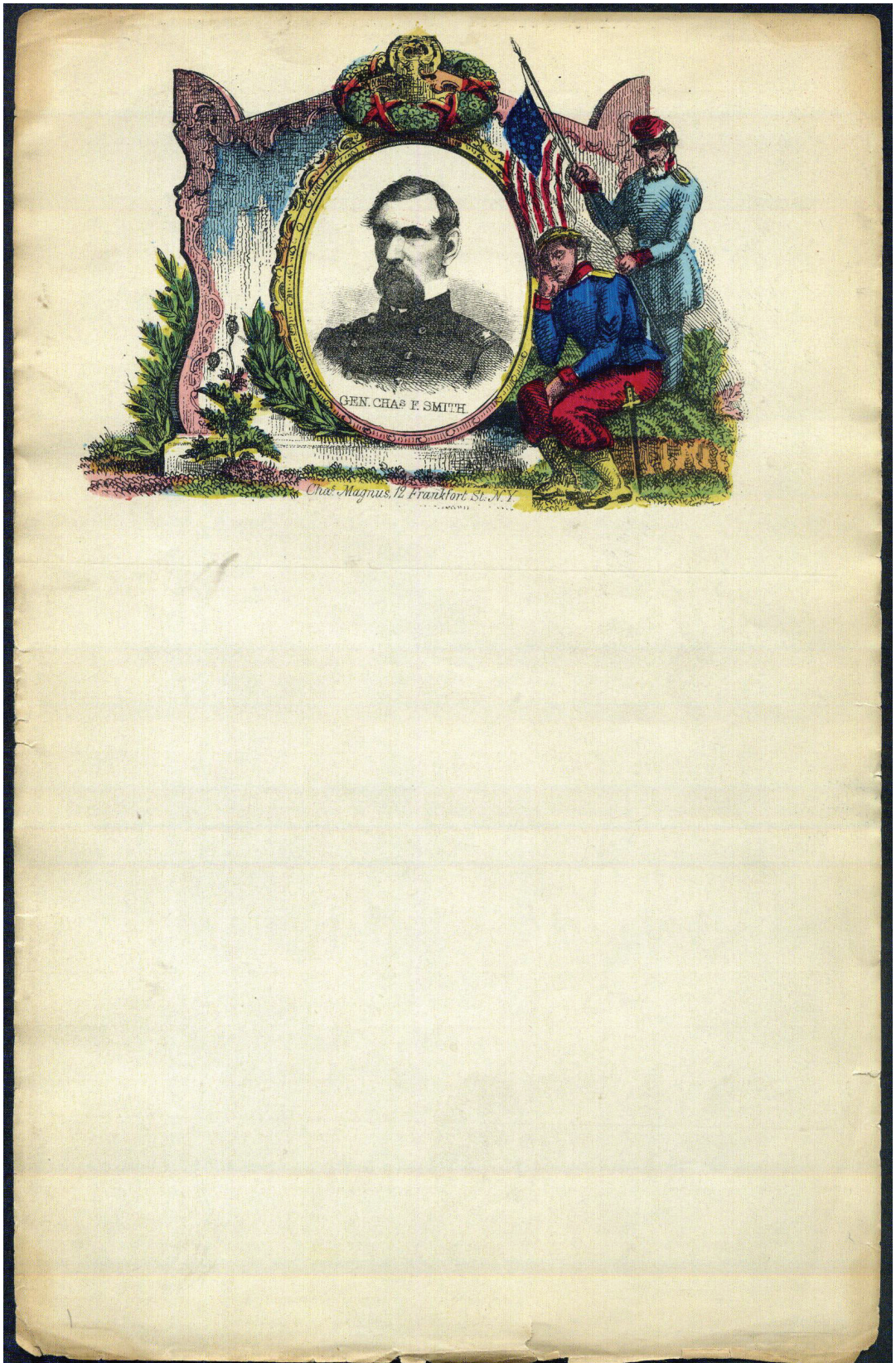


**Figure 15.** Unused lettersheet showing Magnus portrait of Gen. Reno with the second type of mourning frame.

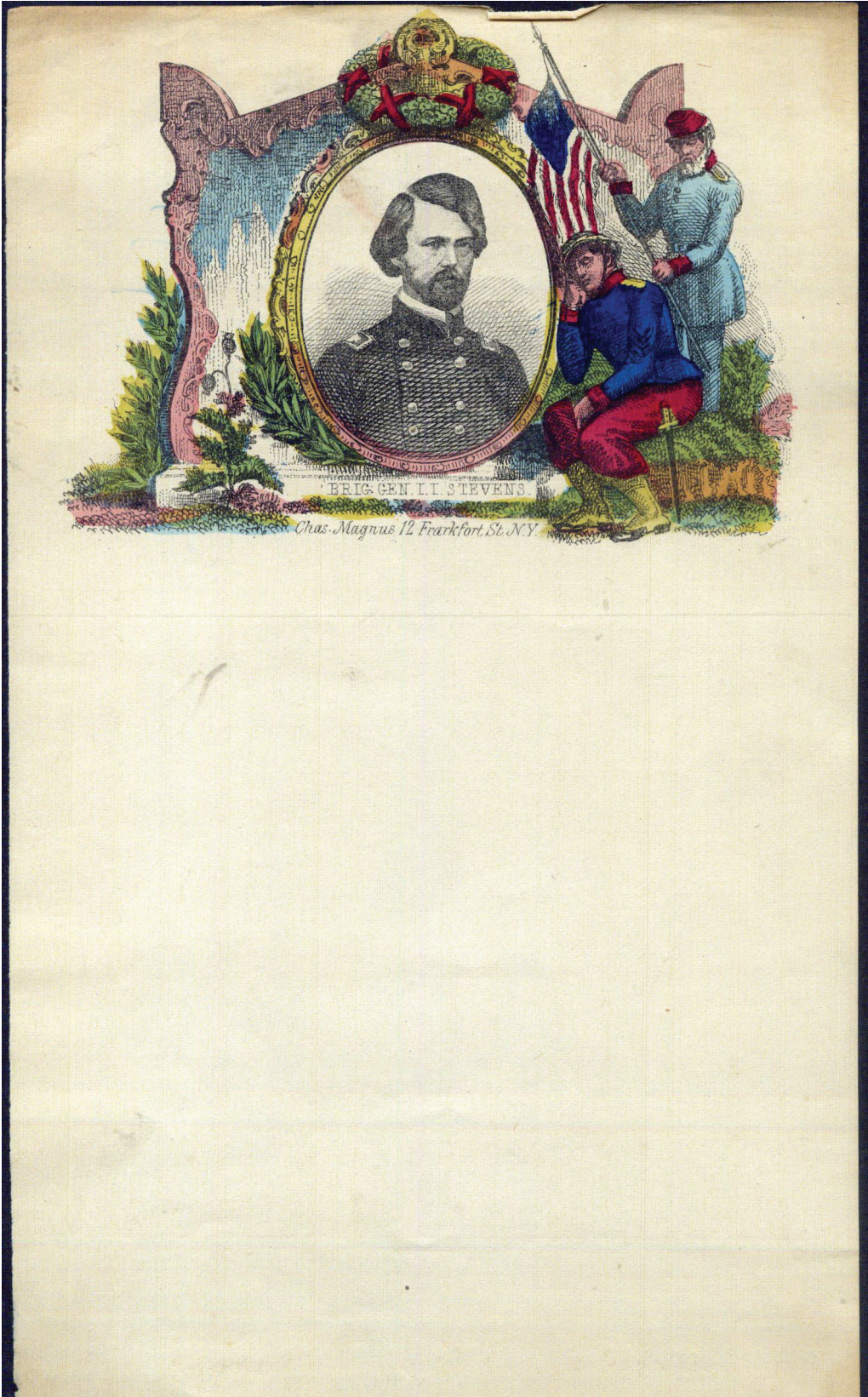


Chas. Magnus, 12 Frankfort St., N.Y.

**Figure 16.** Lettersheet by Magnus showing three generals, two of whom died while in service. In the center is Gen. Schoepff, who was the commandant of Fort Delaware during the war. On his right (left) is Gen. Reno, and on the right is Gen. Charles F. Smith. The images have all been hand colored, which was unusual for a Magnus product.



**Figure 17.** Unused lettersheet showing Magnus portrait of Gen. Chas. F. Smith with the first type of mourning frame.



**Figure 18.** Unused lettersheet showing Magnus portrait of Gen. Stevens with the first type of mourning frame.



Before the Civil War he commanded an arsenal in Alabama, which was forced to surrender to state troops a week before Alabama seceded from the Union. Having received his commission as brigadier general, he joined Burnside's Expeditionary Force. He later fought in a number of battles, including the Second Battle of Bull Run, and was promoted to major general in July 1862. He was shot at Sharpsburg, Md., three days before the Battle of Antietam, with some dispute over who shot him.

His image is known on one of Magnus' map design covers, known only unused. After his death, the same portrait design was incorporated into a Type 2 mourning frame shown in Figure 15. It was also used on one of Magnus' three-general designs, which was probably produced before Reno's death. There he is shown with Generals Schoepff and Charles F. Smith, the latter also dying during the war. This lettersheet is shown in Figure 16.

### **Charles Ferguson Smith (1807-62)**

Charles F. Smith was a career army officer who had attended the U.S. Military Academy, graduating in 1825. He later returned as an instructor. He led an artillery battalion during the Mexican War, fighting at a number of that war's famous battles. He was a lieutenant colonel after the war. One of his duties was to command the Red River Expedition in Minnesota, and he also was with Gen. Johnston in Utah.

During the Civil War he served as a colonel under Brig. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, who had been one of his students at West Point. At the Battle for Fort Donelson he distinguished himself with personal fortitude, rallying the troops when they wavered. He actually replaced Grant for a short period of time, but Grant was restored to the command by Gen. Halleck. He suffered a leg injury while jumping into a rowboat and died afterwards from an infection and dysentery.

The only portrait image that has been seen was one made by the Magnus firm used in the lettersheet already shown in Figure 16. It was again used for a mourning design, which is shown in Figure 17 with the Type 1 frame.

### **Isaac Stevens (1818-62)**

Stevens was another career army officer and was at the top of his class at West Point. During the Mexican War he was the adjutant of the Corps of Engineers and took part in a number of the more important actions. Later, he held several political positions for Washington Territory in the 1850s, including four years as its first governor.

He went back into the Army after the war began and was colonel of the 79th New York Volunteers. Later, he became a brigadier general, serving under Gen. John Pope, fighting at the Second Battle of Bull Run. He was killed while charging with his troops at the Battle of Chantilly on Sept. 1, 1862, being shot in the face while holding a fallen flag of the regiment (making him a target for the Confederates). His son Hazard had just been injured only minutes before at the same battle.

The only known patriotic stationery image is the Magnus mourning lettersheet shown in Figure 18. It is another of the Type 1 mourning frame designs. The portrait is very close to his photographic image, unlike some of Magnus' other productions, including the early image of Grant used on many stationery designs.

*The author would be pleased to learn of other related images. He may be contacted via email at [j-milgram@northwestern.edu](mailto:j-milgram@northwestern.edu).*

# RE-FEDERALIZATION OF CONFEDERATE POST OFFICES

*Daniel M. Telep*

A recent issue of this publication (Second Quarter 2020) commemorated the life of Harvey Teal (1928-2020), who I met almost 60 years ago at the Vapex CSA convention in Richmond, Va. It was October 1961, and I, at 17, was a new member of the Confederate Stamp Alliance. He was in what I called the “Hall of Fame” of Confederate philately; I was in awe. Other giants of Confederate philately were also present. I met August Dietz, David Kohn, Ludwig Simon, Jack Solomon, Scott Gallagher, Bob Wiseman, Earl Weatherly, Morris Everett, Earl Antrim and, of course, Charlie and Lucy Kilbourne. Several of them became good friends to me, an eager teenager drinking in all I could learn from them as I began building my collection and exhibit of Confederates. Eventually that collection was sold by John and Trish Kaufmann in December 1987, but my interest and CWPS membership continue.

Although I previously submitted numerous articles and had them published in the *Confederate Philatelist*, this article serves as my first in many years. It is fitting that this topic, Re-Federalization during Reconstruction, brings me back to publishing in the *CWP*.

The last time I saw Harvey Teal was in Columbus, Ohio, at an American Philatelic Society Show in 2018. As you may know, he had built a powerful collection of South Carolina Postal History. In Columbus he showed me several covers he brought with him, Federal mail after the War. They were what we call “Adversity Usage” and were all spectacular. I was fascinated with what I was holding, thinking about the period of transition back to Federal postage and routes. Might some be available for my purchase? Not a chance, not even in early 2020, when I wrote to Harvey inquiring the same thing about what he had shown me.

Fast forward to a phone call from the executor of Harvey’s stamp holdings. He saw my letter and had permission to liquidate the South Carolina collection; was I interested? I was privileged to acquire a portion of his South Carolina collection, the Re-Federalized items I want to share with you. These recent acquisitions were obviously not included in my *American Philatelist* article on this topic that was published in September 2019.

The Reconstruction period was a painful time for Southern people. The 1993 movie, *Sommersby*, told the story graphically, showing the grave poverty, mistrust, desperation and violence common then. Postmasters and other personnel vied for political appointments and had to swear oaths of allegiance to the occupying Federal authorities. Although the volume of mail was greatly reduced, slowly, mail routes opened. But severe paper and envelope shortages, added to the delay in receiving approved handstamp devices and U.S. stamps, make this area of study a perfect fit with a traditional study of Confederate Postal History.

In Figure 1 the 10¢ green Archer & Daly-printed President Jefferson Davis stamp is hand stamped Bennettsville, S.C., Oct. 30, 1864. The addressee, Mr. W.W. Sellers, refolded and read-dressed this envelope (Figure 2) to send a letter to Mr. Robert C. Hamer at Little Rock, S.C., Jan. 24, 1866. The letter was hand delivered by Robert B. Stackhouse, whose name was noted because the Little Rock post office was not yet opened; it didn’t open until April 17, 1866. The letter enclosed

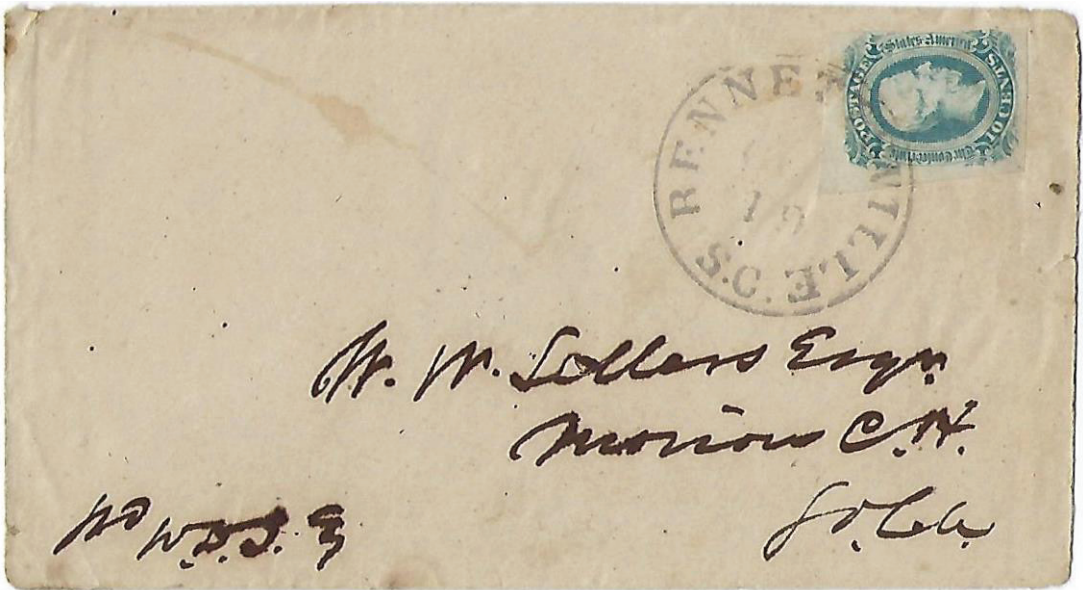


Figure 1.

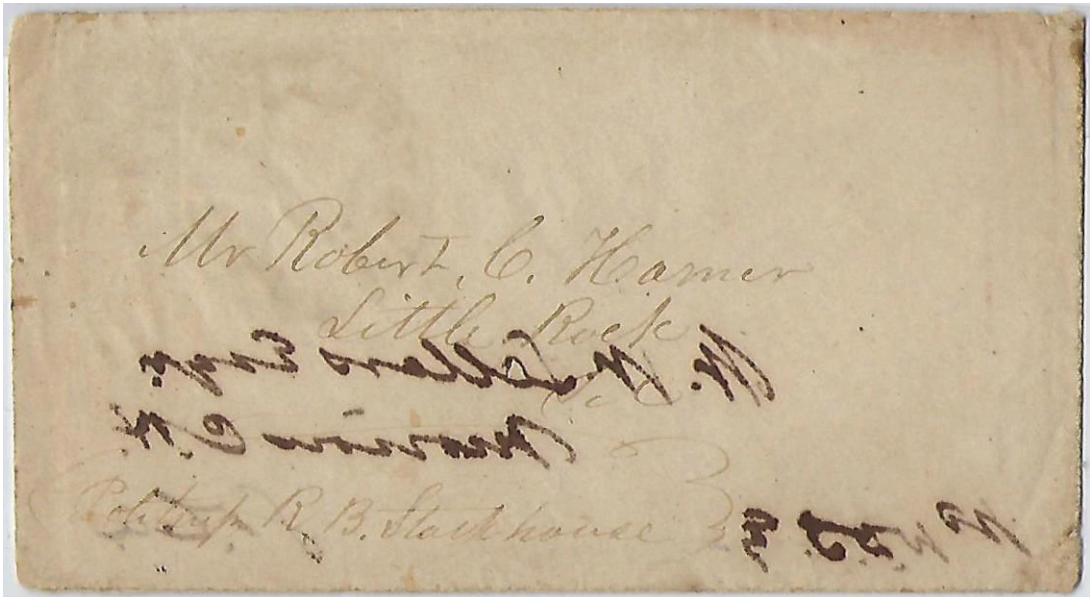


Figure 2.

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discusses the sale of a house in New York, where settlement in the United States courts had not yet been completed. Sellers provides legal advice on what next steps Mr. Hamer needs to take.

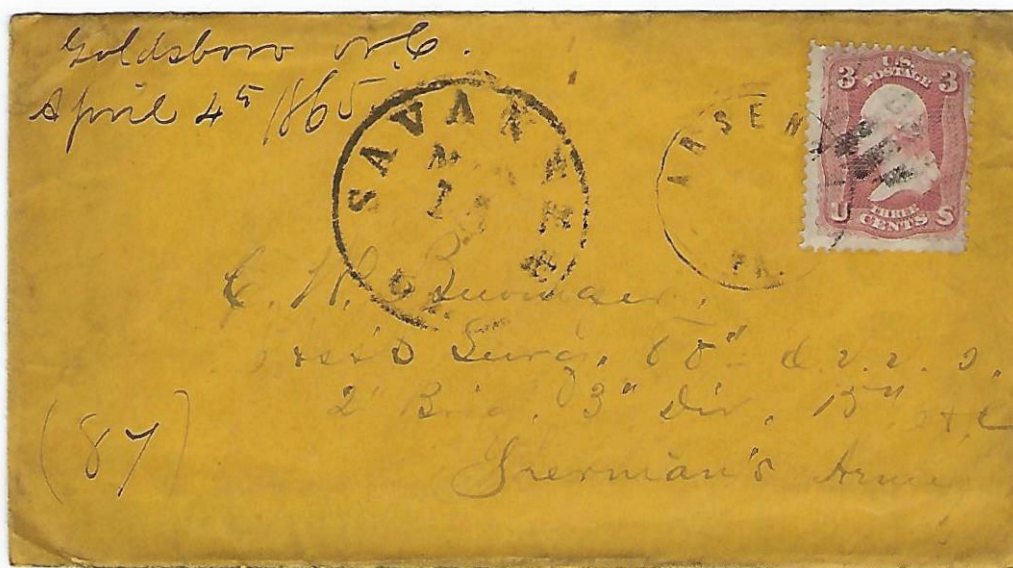


Figure 3.

The 1865 cover shown in Figure 3 is a fascinating item sent from Arsenal, Pa., to a deployed surgeon with the 80th Ohio Volunteer Regiment, 2nd Brigade, 3rd Division, 15th Corps of Gen. Sherman's Army. It entered Divisional mails in Savannah, Ga., on March 15, 1865, and was forwarded from there to attempted delivery and receipt in Goldsboro, N.C., on April 4, 1865. The striking feature and romance of this item is that it sports a Confederate Savannah cancellation mark on a Union envelope! I have not seen another like it.



Figure 4.



Figure 5.

First mailed from Charleston on April 23 to Cheraw, S.C., with an 1861 3¢ stamp, the envelope shown in Figure 4 was turned and reused from Cheraw to Sumter, S.C., Figure 5, without a stamp. Either the Cheraw postmaster didn't have stamps or the sender didn't have money; both conditions were prevalent during Reconstruction! The postmaster used his Confederate handstamp and marked it with pen "Due 3."

Thank you, Harvey Teal, for the two turned covers illustrating this overlooked area of Confederate philately. It looks like you have catapulted me into building a new exhibit: *Re-Federalization during Reconstruction*. Here we go....

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# SIGNIFICANT UNION PATRIOTIC COVER AND LETTERSHEET FROM NASHVILLE, TENN., SHORTLY AFTER OCCUPATION

John Walker



Figure 1.

Nashville, Tenn., was occupied by Union forces on Feb. 25, 1862. The Union patriotic cover illustrated in Figure 1 is franked with a US 3¢ Rose (Scott 65) tied by a Nashville CDS of unclear date, but almost certainly at the end of March 1862, as the enclosed lettersheet is datelined March 27, 1862.

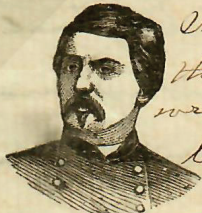
The two-color patriotic cover shows the U.S. flag with 34 stars (the number of all States admitted to the Union at that time) with the words “PROTECT IT!” beneath.

The enclosure is a military lettersheet depicting Gen. George McClellan at top left on the first page (Figure 2). The letter runs to four tightly packed pages, much of which is difficult to read but has clearly been written by a Union officer to his wife Sarah living in Hamilton, Butler County, Ohio.

The letter opens with the officer expressing his apologies to his wife for not having written for a little while, explaining that he had recently been sick and confined to his bed.

The letter was written a little more than a month after the Union occupation of Nashville and goes on to describe the number of escaping black slaves coming through the picket lines, as they attempt to escape from their Southern masters in their flight to freedom.

copy of card made by hand in copy in my 1862  
Camp Van Buren March 27 1862



GEN. McCLELLAN.

My Dear Sarah, you must excuse  
the fancy paper I have taken to  
write a letter on to you. It is the  
best a dishonest army sutler  
will furnish and better than  
secession can furnish. I have delayed  
Co. \_\_\_\_\_ Reg't. \_\_\_\_\_ Volunteers, Camp \_\_\_\_\_  
writing several days because an unusu-  
al amount of writing for the com-  
pany together with poor health have  
made it quite impossible. Yester-  
day my sickness reached its crisis  
& I spent the day in bed. Had a chill  
in the morning, then a severe fever  
and headaches, the fever was allayed  
somewhat by sweating after wards  
but the headache continued till  
night, when by vomiting I threw  
up a quantity of bile & was reliev-  
ed of headache almost immediately.  
Slept part of the night and feel  
better tho. feeble this morning. My trou-  
ble had been coming off for several days  
as indicated by an increasing sore  
ness of mouth, a symptom I've had  
very little of since coming from home last till lately

Figure 2.

should never see her again at the same time  
advising him to take another wife. His  
running off was the result. The people here  
boast of their kindness to their slaves, and  
they are generally well fed and clothed and  
not overworked even this far south, but what  
cruelty can be greater than that a man's  
wife should be sold from him, his chil-  
dren sold from him and all deprived of the  
requisites of an education, and the free-  
dom of thought that is so essential to  
the knowledge of our relative duties to God  
and man, and of the way of salvation.  
A way with that kindness so called that from  
interested motives will at the same time feed  
and clothe the body & starve and dwarf the  
soul. A soldier of the constitution should  
not violate it and disturb the peace of the  
country by enticing slaves from their masters  
but when slaves of their own free will come  
to our picket lines when I am commander, un-  
less ordered by my superiors, I will not for-  
bid their coming into camp. The general pro-  
vision has yet been made for the employment  
of these contrabands. Several have employ-  
ment as cooks & Osters in our Regt but what  
half that come can thus be employed and as  
they must be fed they should be employed  
at fair wages. We certainly will not remain  
so here long. No <sup>work</sup> ~~work~~ this side Nashville & mail  
see comes very irregularly. Yesterday I rec'd yours  
of mailed Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> stating the money had arrived  
safe. I think you must have rec'd the 1<sup>st</sup> old  
bound papers soon after, they will be interesting  
as historical curiosities. We are encamped in a clo-  
ver field quite green tho, the weather rather cool to do  
without fire. Our latest war news a reported victory of  
Benton at Strasburg. Decisive battles at Manassas & Hoxeyville

Figure 3.



The letter contains other references to the passions aroused by the war, but probably the most poignant paragraph is close to the top of its fourth page (Figure 3), which reads:

*“The people here boast of their kindness to their slaves and they are generally well fed and clothed and not overworked even this far south, but what cruelty can be greater than that a man’s wife should be sold from him, his child also sold from him and all deprived of the rudiments of an education.”*

Letters such as this give clear evidence for why it ultimately proved necessary for the war to be fought with all the sadness and tragedy that ensued.

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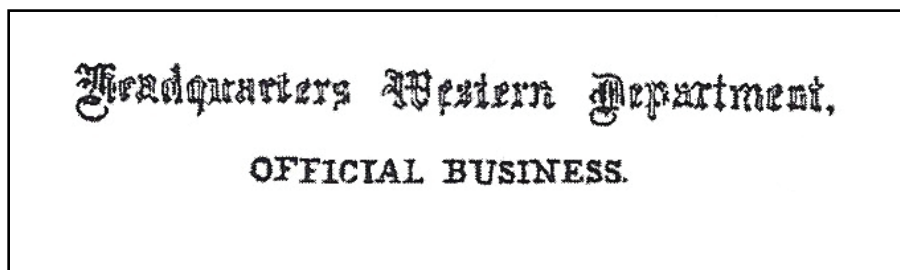
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# HEADQUARTERS WESTERN DEPARTMENT SEMI-OFFICIAL IMPRINT

John L. Kimbrough MD



**Figure 1.** "Headquarters Western Department Official Business" Semi-Official imprint listing in the *Confederate States Catalog and Handbook of Stamps and Postal History*, Type WD-ZA-33.

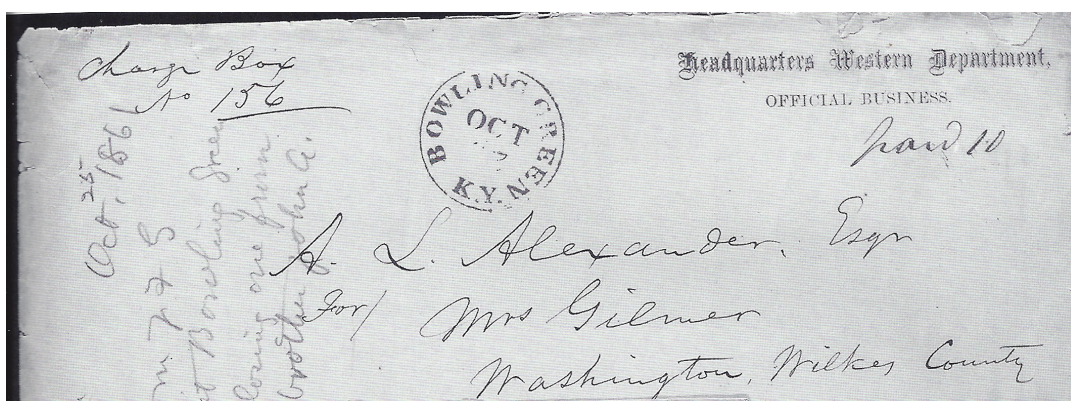
The imprint shown in Figure 1 appears in the current *Confederate Catalog* as a Confederate Semi-Official imprint in the "Military Departments" sub-section. The imprint was first listed by Dietz in his 1959 catalog and was carried over to the 1986 New Dietz catalog, before appearing in the current 2012 Confederate catalog in the same form as illustrated. The basis for the original catalog listing was most likely one of the covers examined in this article. But is it really a Confederate imprint? Could it perhaps be a Union imprint instead? These questions are addressed by further research.

I first acquired the cover shown in Figure 2 in 1999. At the time, I did not think much about the cover except that it was an excellent Confederate postal use from Confederate-occupied Kentucky, and the imprint was catalog listed. I sold the cover and never saw it again until just recently when I reacquired it as an auction purchase. A full analysis is that the postal use has the blue Bowling Green, Ky., postmark dated NOV 9 (1861), with manuscript "Paid 10." The imprint is lined through, indicating private use and not official business use. The cover is addressed to "A.S. Alexander Esqr for Mrs. Gilmer, Washington, Wilkes Co., Georgia." It was sent by Lt. Col. Jeremy F. Gilmer home to his wife, in care of his father-in-law.

Jeremy Francis Gilmer (1818-83), an 1839 West Point graduate, was a prewar U.S. Army Engineer Officer. At the beginning of the war, he was commissioned as a CSA Engineer Officer and served as a lieutenant colonel on the staff of Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston as Chief Engineer of Confederate Military Department No. 2, which at that time included the Western Theater. He was known to have been in Bowling Green in Oct.-Nov. 1861. He was wounded at the Battle of Shiloh but recovered. In 1862 he was promoted colonel and became Chief of the Engineer Bureau in the Confederate War Department. In 1863, he was promoted from colonel directly to major-general without having been a brigadier-general and, later, assisted in the defenses of Charleston and Atlanta. Gen. Gilmer was considered by many to be the best military engineer in Confederate service. After the war, he engaged in railroad activities and was president of the Savannah Gaslight Co. The handwriting on this cover is clearly that of Gen. Gilmer, early in his Confederate service, as there are many available examples of his handwriting with which to compare.



**Figure 2.** “Headquarters Western Department Official Business” Semi-Official imprint lined through on cover with Confederate postal use from Bowling Green, Ky., dated NOV 9 (1861).



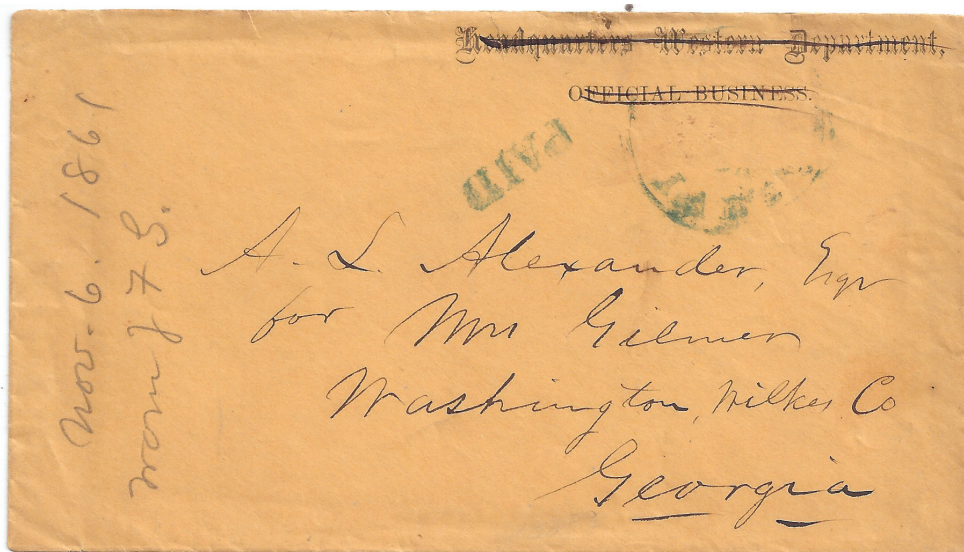
**Figure 3.** “Headquarters Western Department Official Business” Semi-Official imprint – not lined through – on cover with Confederate postal use from Bowling Green, Ky., dated OCT 25 (1861).

On reacquiring the cover, I realized that over the intervening years I had not seen any other examples of this imprint. I had also never heard any references made to a Confederate “Western Department.”

The first thing I did was to search and see if I could locate any other covers with this imprint. I found two additional examples. The cover shown in Figure 3 was offered in a 1998 Robert A. Siegel auction. The image is scanned from the printed catalog, where the bottom of the cover was photographically cut off. The cover is legal sized, with the imprint not lined through. The postal use is, again, from Confederate-occupied Bowling Green Ky., with “Paid 10,” and is from the very same correspondence as the Figure 2 cover. The date is OCT 25 (1861). To my knowledge, this cover has not surfaced since the 1998 auction and may still reside in the buyer’s collection. Incidentally, the Figure 2 cover was also offered in the same auction.

In searching the Internet, I discovered the cover shown in Figure 4 for sale in another dealer’s stock and quickly purchased it. Again, the cover is from the same correspondence as the covers in Figures 2 and 3, but this time the cover was used in Nashville, Tenn., and is dated by docketing as Nov. 6, 1861. Since this date is between the other two covers, it appears that Col. Gilmer traveled to Nashville for a short time and then returned to Bowling Green.

I continued to search for additional covers, but found none. I widened my search to include possible prewar uses of this imprint, but I found none. To my knowledge, these are the only three now-recorded covers with this scarce imprint. There may be others residing in collections, but I am not aware of them. Very likely, additional imprinted covers, if any exist, would come from the Gilmer Correspondence.



**Figure 4.** "Headquarters Western Department Official Business" Semi-Official imprint cover with Confederate postal use from Nashville, Tennessee, dated 6 NOV (1861).

The story is not yet over. What about the Western Department? I had never heard of it, so it was worth investigating. Certainly, one of the great things we have available to us today is the Internet. Information can be obtained very quickly that – not too many years ago – would have taken a very long time. Hours would be spent in libraries and archives, going through books, journals and printed auction catalogs. More hours and days would be spent attempting to find information through mail correspondence. The Internet has changed all that and has now made researching postal history much easier. In my searching, I could find no reference whatsoever specifically to a Confederate military department called the "Western Department." The obvious conclusion is that such a Confederate department never existed. That was not true for the United States. In 1853, the U.S. Army Department of the West was created. This was a major command that oversaw the military activities west of the Mississippi River to Oregon and California. At the beginning of the Civil War in July 1861, the Western Department, under the command of Union Maj. Gen. John C. Fremont, was organized and merged with the Department of the West. The western part of Kentucky was included in the Union Western Department in August 1861. In early September 1861, the Confederate Army entered Kentucky and occupied a large part of the state until February 1862. On Nov. 9, 1861 (the date of Figure 2 cover), the Union Western Department went out of existence. Based on this information readily available on the Internet, I submit that this imprint is most likely not Confederate but is more accurately "Confederate Use of a Captured Union Imprint." It appears that CSA Col. Gilmer, either in Bowling Green or somewhere else in western Kentucky, came across these unused Union imprinted envelopes and used them to write letters home to his wife. Unfortunately, none of the three covers have the letters with them, which may have better explained the circumstances. The evidence for this is largely circumstantial, but is very compelling. Absolute proof of this would be finding one of these imprinted covers with Union use very early in the war. If any examples exist, I was not able to find one.

# A CORRECTION 50 YEARS ON

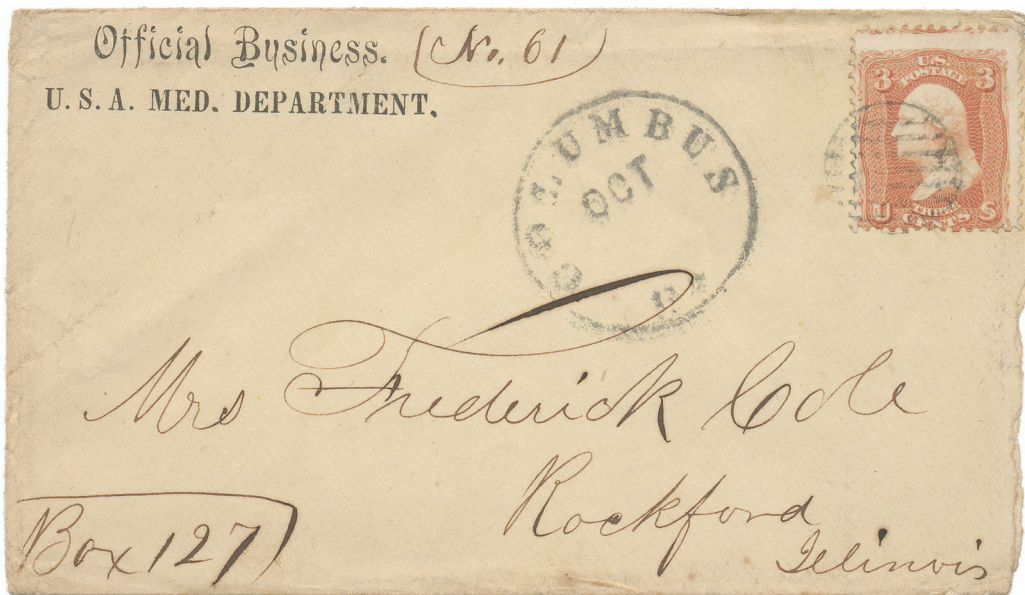
*Francis J. Crown Jr.*

In the July/August 1968 issue of the *Confederate Philatelist*, I had an article on the postmarks of Columbus, Ga. In that article I speculated that the “COLUMBUS / GA.” postmark described as Type I (Figure 1) was lost in a fire that destroyed the Columbus post office in January 1863.

Over the years I found several Confederate covers bearing the Type I postmark, but none could be dated after the January 1863 fire. Then, during the past 20 years, I began to see the postmark used on postwar covers, such as the example shown in Figure 2. However, I was skeptical of the marking surviving the war, since I had never seen it on a Confederate cover with the postmark dated after January 1863.



**Figure 1.** Two examples of the “COLUMBUS / GA.” Type I postmark



**Figure 2.** A postwar use of the “COLUMBUS / GA.” postmark on a U.S. Army Medical Department envelope. Author’s collection.

Then in the last year I found an example of the 10¢ Archer & Daly stamp tied on a cover by the Type I postmark (Figure 3). The earliest-recorded date of use of this stamp is April 1863. This proved the postmark did survive the fire, and post-January 1863 Confederate uses as well as post-war uses are authentic.



**Figure 3.** Use of the "COLUMBUS / GA." postmark on a cover postmarked after the fire of January 1863. Author's collection.

Looking back, the reason the Type I postmark was so elusive was that it was not used nearly as often as the Type II postmark. For whatever reason, the clerks in the office favored the Type II postmark. By the end of the war, the canceling device may even have been set aside from the other office markings. This might account for the postwar uses of the Type I postmark.

## RECORDING NEW CSA FINDS

New Confederate finds are still being documented for future editions of the *CSA Catalog*. In addition to new, unlisted finds, I am seeking quality images to replace old black and white tracings or poor-quality images that were used in earlier catalogs. It is important that new images be quality 300 dpi .tif or .jpg files if they are to be used in future editions.

**For questions or to send your digital images and information:**  
Trish Kaufmann  
trishkauf@comcast.net

**If you are not a computer user, please send color photocopies to me**  
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	Accountant Fees (tax prep)	425.00
2,676.00	Authentication	1,408.01
	Awards	200.00
	<i>Confederate Philatelist</i>	16,032.20
6,048.00	<i>Confederate Philatelist</i> Ad Sales	
	CSA Operations	1,541.39
20.50	Dividend Income	
12,824.00	Dues	
3,559.00	Donations	
	Fees & Charges – Banking & PayPal	152.70
3,304.80	Interest (Wells Fargo)	
	Wells Fargo – Yearly Banking Fee	175.00
95.82	Interest (Money Market)	
	Office Expenses and Postage	852.78
3.00	Rapid Scan	
	Refunds	10.00
2,860.58	Stewart Education Account (Book Sales)	
	Website	9,071.25
31,391.70	Totals	29,868.33
Overall Total (GAIN)		1,523.37

## Balance Sheet: As of Dec. 31, 2020 (Cash Basis)

### ASSETS

Money Market XX9535	
Money Market	44,190.45
Stewart Education Account	34,157.71
CSA Awards	4,650.00
DAC Account	12,775.00
<b>Total Money Market</b>	<b>95,773.16</b>
Primary Investment Account – Wells Fargo	170,954.79
Checking XXX5758	20,893.60
PayPal Checking XX5766	2,036.11
Authentication Checking	8,200.58
PayPal Account (online)	5,486.35
<b>Total Cash and Bank Accounts</b>	<b>303,344.59</b>
Other Assets	
CSA Reference Collection	20,000.00
Dietz Copyright	10,000.00
Stewart Fund Publications Inventory	9,956.18
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>39,956.18</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>343,300.77</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Equity</b>	<b>343,300.77</b>
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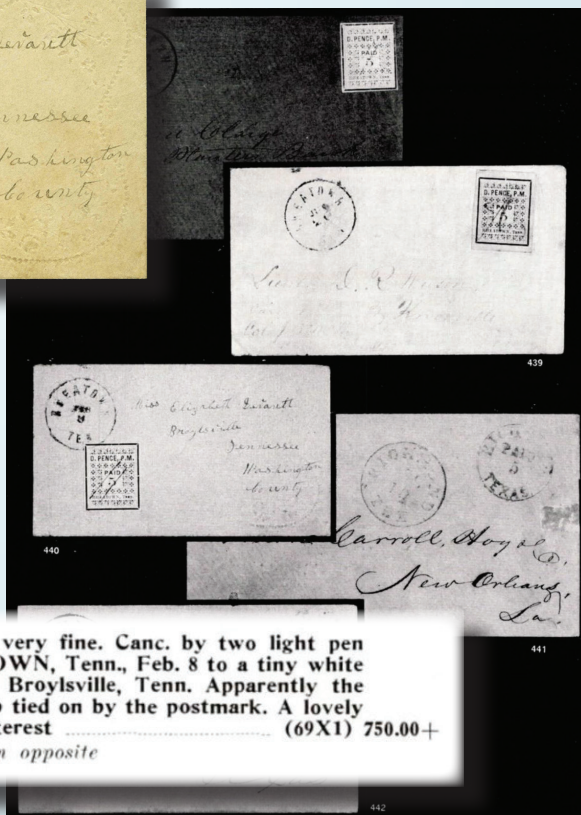



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