



Figure 1: A 'CAMPBELLTON/FLA/JUN 24' CDS postmark with a manuscript Paid 10 rate on a cover addressed to Richmond, Virginia.

Campbellton, Florida: A New Confederate Stampless Listing

By Col. Deane R. Briggs

The cover in Figure 1 is a newly discovered Florida Confederate stampless usage. It had been in the collection of an early Confederate collector who died in the 1940s and only recently was released by the estate.

I have been compiling a listing of all known Florida Confederate usages obtained from auction catalogs and sales data dating to the early 1920s, including those in the Collectors Club of New York library, which is quite extensive.

This cover and eight other Florida usages, from Pensacola, Lake City and Quincy, in the estate were not on my listing and were probably out of circulation since they were acquired near the turn of the century.

The fact that there have been no other Campbellton stampless examples, and only two manuscript postmarked adhesive usages, thus far recorded makes this an exciting new addition to Florida Confederates.

The postmark is a bold strike of the 32 mm handstamp and has serif lettering. The date of use is not docketed and could be from any year

from 1861-1864 since the distance to Richmond was more than 500 miles.

Campbellton, located in Jackson County, was a prewar Florida post office, located on a post road connecting Pensacola with Marianna, with T.D. Brantley the postmaster from 1859. He was commissioned a Confederate postmaster on July 25, 1861, and appears to have served throughout the war. The post office was re-established after the war on February 5, 1866, with Mrs. Josephine Shomaker as the postmaster.

All recorded pre-war Campbellton stampless usages have manuscript postmarks and there are no recorded adhesive usages with this CDS handstamp.

Two Confederate mail routes, 6568/1538 and 6569/1539, serviced Campbellton. The 18-mile Route 6568, Marianna to Campbellton, was serviced twice weekly on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with service commencing on June 1, 1861. J.Y. Register of Geneva, Alabama, was the contractor at \$263.28 per annum, but he

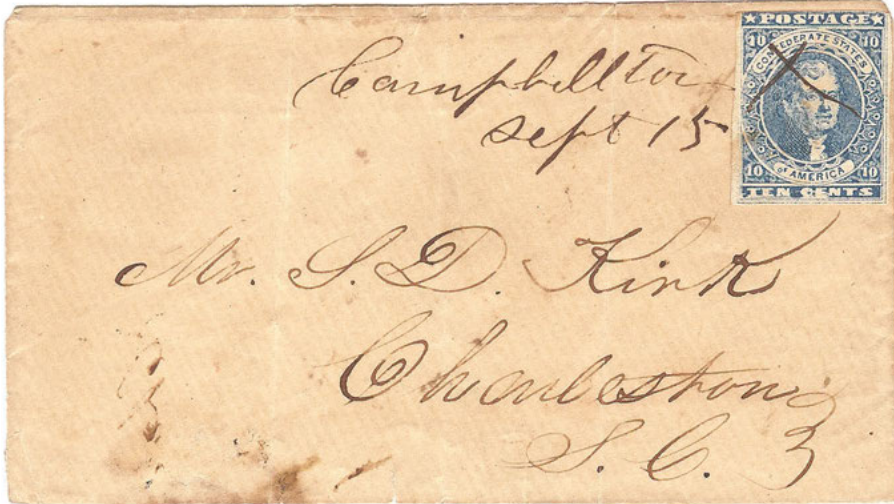


Figure 2: Campbellton September 15 manuscript postmark with a pen cancelled CSA Scott 2 on a cover sent to Charleston, South Carolina.

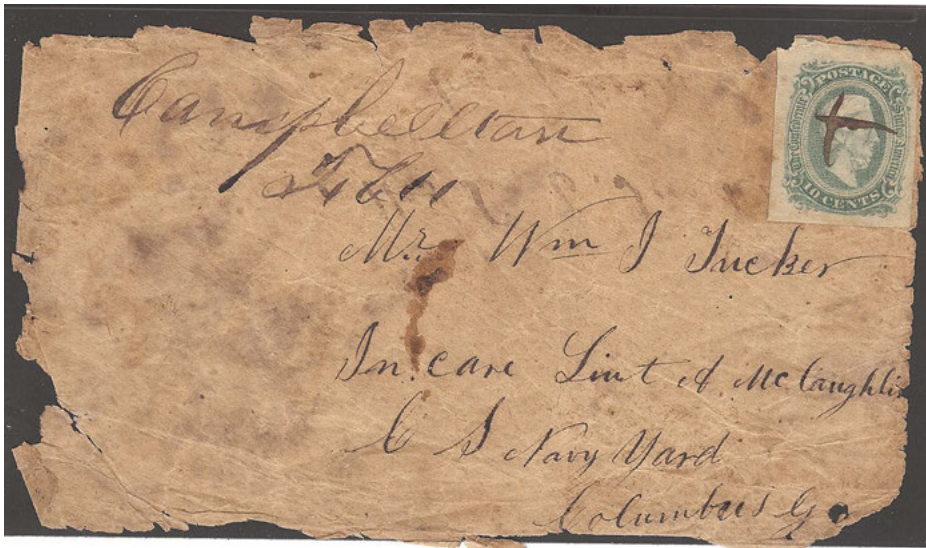


Figure 3: Campbellton February 11 manuscript postmark with pen cancelled CSA Scott 11 on a turned cover front to, ‘Mr. Wm J Tucker/In care Lieut. A. McLaughlin/CS Navy Yard/Columbus, Ga.’

apparently abandoned service and the contract was relet to J. Daniel on November 11, 1861. The route was advertised in 1862 and a contract was awarded to Thomas L. Bevis of Beauregard on July 2, 1863, at \$285 per year.

The second route, 6569, serviced Campbellton with Geneva, Alabama. The 34-mile route had once weekly service leaving each Saturday.

J. Edge of Uchee, Alabama, was the

contractor at \$240 per annum with service commencing on June 1, 1861. The route was relet on June 19, 1863, to B.R. Thompson of Marianna at \$350 per year.¹

Examples of the documented adhesive usages from Campbellton are shown in Figures 2 and 3.

Endnote

¹ Stefan T. Jaronksi, “The Postal Routes of Confederate Florida, Part 2,” *The Confederate Philatelist*, 37(2):