

FLORIDA POSTAL HISTORY JOURNAL

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Editor's Notes

Deane R. Briggs, M.D. 1

Homosassa Confederate Usage

Deane R. Briggs, M.D. 3

Micanopy Confederate Postal History

William H. Johnson, D.D.S. 5

Patrick Florida Confederate Usage

Deane R. Briggs, M.D. 8

Long Pond Confederate Usages

Deane R. Briggs, M.D. 9

Middleburg Confederate Usage

Herbert P. McNeal 11

1909 Florida Exposition Cover

Deane R. Briggs, M.D. 13

Stampless Italian Usage to Fort Dallas

Deane R. Briggs, M.D. 14

U.S. Weather Report

Herbert P. McNeal 16

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EDITOR'S NOTES

Deane R. Briggs, M.D.

The **Confederate Stamp Alliance (CSA)** is having a Mid-Year Meeting at the Hilton Riverfront Hotel in Jacksonville on February 10-12, 2006. FPHS President Ed Joyce is hosting the meeting and requests that as many Florida Postal History Society members as possible try to attend. It will be a great meeting and two programs are of special interest to Florida postal history. I will be presenting a talk on Jacksonville During the Civil War. This will cover not only Jacksonville, but also the Battle of Olustee, and the Winston Stephens correspondence, which contributed nearly 20 % of the known Florida Confederate postal history. Member Trish Kaufmann will present a talk on the Madison Provisionals which she so diligently researched and finally had authenticated a few years ago. Ed Joyce has obtained a very nice \$80 room rate for those spending a few days in Jacksonville and information on the meeting and hotel are available on the Confederate Stamp Alliance web page or by contacting Ed at: (904) 744-1089. Lets have a nice show of support for President Joyce from our members.

In an effort to stimulate interest in Florida Confederate postal history, I have added several articles on Florida Confederates in this issue of our journal. Contributions of articles from Herbert P. McNeal and William Johnson, D.D.S. show that there are many of our members with interest in Confederate Florida postal history.

Congratulations are in order for member Vernon Morris who won the **"Champion of Champions"** award at the American Philatelic Society's annual Stampshow held on August 24-27, 2006, in Rosemont, Illinois. His collection and exhibit "Fighting the Fed in Philadelphia: Carrier, Local Posts and Independent Mails 1835-1867" won this prestigious award, in competition with 25 prior-Grand Award winners. This puts Vernon in a class of only a few exhibitors who have ever won this award. I know personally how hard it is to win this award. I have been selected three times in the

past 15 years to participate in the Champion of Champions and have never won. Congratulations to Vernon Morris!!!!



Vernon Morris wins top honors

Vernon R. Morris Jr.'s exhibit "Fighting the Fed in Philadelphia: Carrier, Local Posts and Independent Mails 1835-1867" won the Champion of Champions award at the American Philatelic Society's annual Stampshow, held Aug. 24-27 in Rosemont, Ill. Shown here, Morris receives his award from APS president Janet Klug. Morris was one of 25 grand-award winners at APS national-level exhibitions held from fall 2005 through summer 2006

LINN'S STAMP NEWS – September 11, 2006

FLORIDA POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Florida Postal History Society will be held at 12:00pm on Saturday, February 3, 2007, at the Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition. We will meet upstairs in the Convention Center on U.S. 41, 2 blocks north of the Ritz-Carlton. Installation of new officers will take place. Please try to attend.

HOMOSASSA CONFEDERATE USAGE

Deane R. Briggs, M.D.

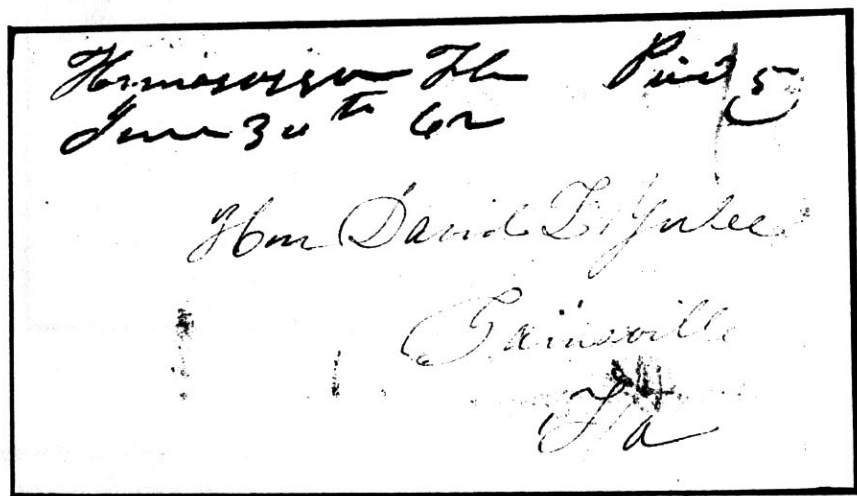


Fig. 1. Homosassa Fla / June 30th 62 manuscript postmark with Paid 5 rate on cover to David Yulee

The cover in Fig. 1 is a newly discovered Confederate stampless usage from Homosassa. It is a "Last Day Usage" of the 5 cent Confederate rate for distances less than 500 miles. Effective July 1, 1862, the rate for a ½ ounce letter was increased to 10 cents for any distance. The other noteworthy aspect of this cover is the addressee, David L. Yulee. He was Florida's first U.S. Senator and was president of the Florida Railroad. He resigned his Senate position with the Secession of Florida and was imprisoned at Camp Warren as a Prisoner of State at the conclusion of the Civil War. He was released from prison in the spring of 1866, at the intervention of President U.S. Grant.

Confederate usage from Homosassa, Florida is previously unrecorded and this and the cover in Fig. 2 are the known examples.

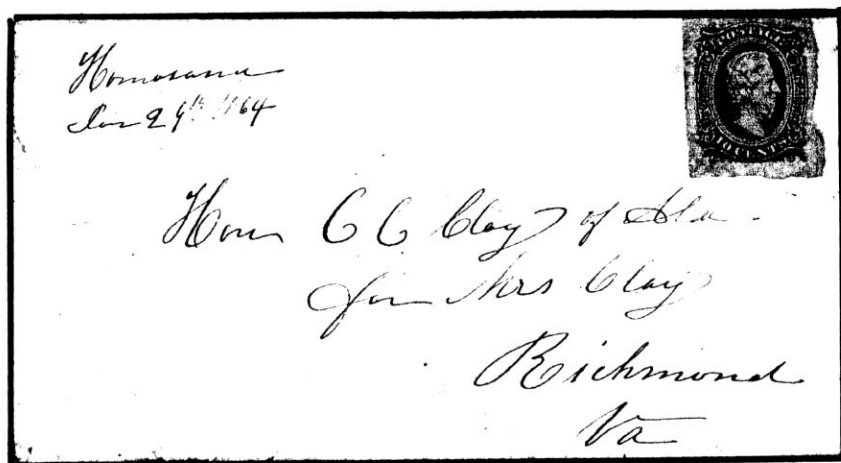


Fig. 2. Homosassa / Jan 29th 1864 manuscript postmark on cover with uncancelled #11, usage to C.C. Clay, Confederate Senator from Alabama.

The above cover in Fig. 2. is the known adhesive Confederate usage from Homosassa, Florida. It was addressed to the Hon. C.C. Clay, the Confederate and prior U.S. Senator from Alabama. In 1860, as U.S. Senator, Clay introduced an indictment against the Republican party listing the causes for secession and in January 1861, led the secession of Alabama. He was asked to be a Confederate cabinet member by Jefferson Davis, but declined due to health reasons. He did however, become a Confederate Senator and close advisor to Jefferson Davis. In 1864, he was sent to Canada in an effort to open up discussions with the U. S. government. He, like David Yulee, was imprisoned after the war with Jefferson Davis and released the following year.

Both of these covers appear to be addressed in the same hand. They are remarkable being the only known examples from the small town of Homosassa and both being addressed to prominent U.S. Senators who were active in the Confederate secessionist movement.

MICANOPY CONFEDERATE POSTAL HISTORY

William H. Johnson, D.D.S.

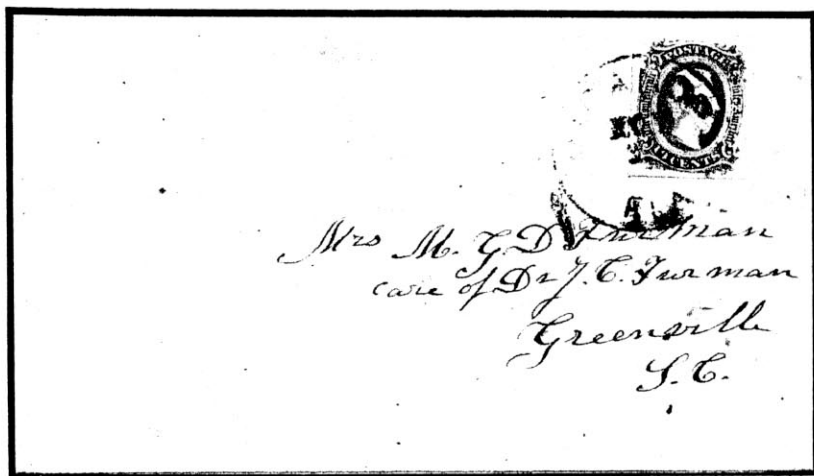


Fig. 1. MICANOPY / FLA. NOV 30 cds ties #11 on cover to Greenville, S.C. A new unrecorded example.

The town of Micanopy, Florida was one of the earliest settlements in what was originally called Middle Florida. Edward M. Wanton, a manager of the Arrenondo's Land Grant, settled it. It was initially nothing more than a store located near a Micanopy Indian settlement and functioned as a trading center for settlers and local Seminole Indians. The town was named Wanton and a post office was established eight miles south of present day Gainesville in Alachua County on 6 March 1826, and called Wanton's or Wanton's Post Office. The post office was the ninth one established in Territorial Florida and was a fairly busy office. During its second year of operation, \$168.82 of postal receipts was recorded. This compared with \$700 for St. Augustine, the most populated town in Florida at that time, and with \$521 for Tallahassee, the capital of the Florida territory. On 3 March 1834, the town and post office name was changed to Micanopy, after the

name of Mico-an-opa, the chief of an Indian settlement located at the site, which dated to before 1800.

The U.S. postmaster of Micanopy at the onset of the Civil War was Thomas J. Leonard. After the establishment of the Confederate postal system on 1 June 1861, Leonard resigned and on 25 July 1861, Postmaster General John H. Reagan appointed Joseph T. Colding as postmaster. Mail to and from Micanopy was handled on Route 6510, Gainesville to Tampa (165 miles) on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. C. A. Ramsey, Gainesville, was the contractor at \$8900 per annum. Service commenced on 29 June 1861, and was divided into three parts in 1863 with Micanopy serviced by the route connecting Gainesville and Ocala, with James Rupell of Gainesville the contractor. A route connecting Micanopy and Wacahootie (12 miles), Route 6512 was omitted in 1861 as unnecessary as was route 6513A from Archer to Wacahootie (6 miles).

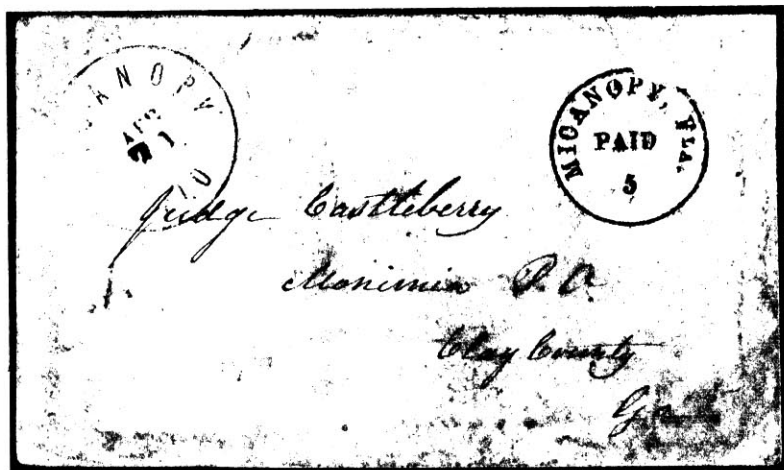


Fig. 2. MICANOPY, FLA. / PAID 5 “Postmaster Provisional” handstamped paid (105XU1) with MICANOPY / FLO APR 21 (1862) postmark on cover with enclosure, ex Oxer, Bogg.

Confederate postal history from Micanopy is quite scarce. The most important cover is the known example of a “Postmaster

Provisional hand stamped PAID" 105XU1 (Fig. 2.) with a MICANOPY, FLA PAID / 5 (Dietz type II) small rate marking and a small MICANOPY / FLO APR 21 (1862) cds postmark on cover to Judge Castleberry in Monisnia, Clay County, Ga. The postmark is struck from a handstamp device with no known prior pre-war usage. The only other stampless example is a March 13 (1862) example with the same small FLO postmark and a PAID / 5 in arc (Dietz type I) rate marking on cover to Hon. M.L. Peterson, Brooksville, Hernando Co., Fla. with enclosure from Thom. King. It is ex. William Bomar, but according to Herb McNeal was stolen before his death and remains at large. Anyone with knowledge of this cover should contact the author or FPHS editor.

There are only 3 known Confederate adhesive usages from Micanopy. This article will record a discovery cover with a previously unrecorded use of a MICANOPY / FLA. handstamp postmarking device (Fig. 1.). This postmark is known with several recorded usages during the pre-war and stampless period dating to 1852, and is listed as type VI in our FPHS reference text, *Stampless Florida Postal History 1763-1861*. The other two adhesive examples have manuscript Micanopy Fla. postmarks, an example of which is shown in Fig. 3. For completeness, the other recorded manuscript example is a June 16 usage with pair of #7, ex. Bogg.

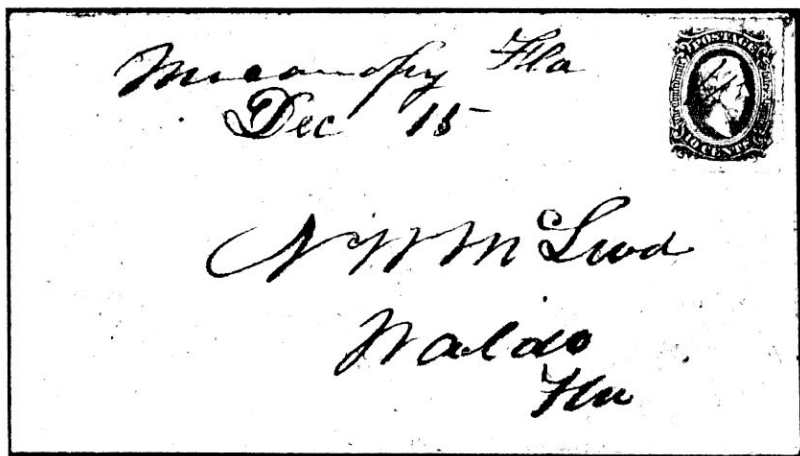
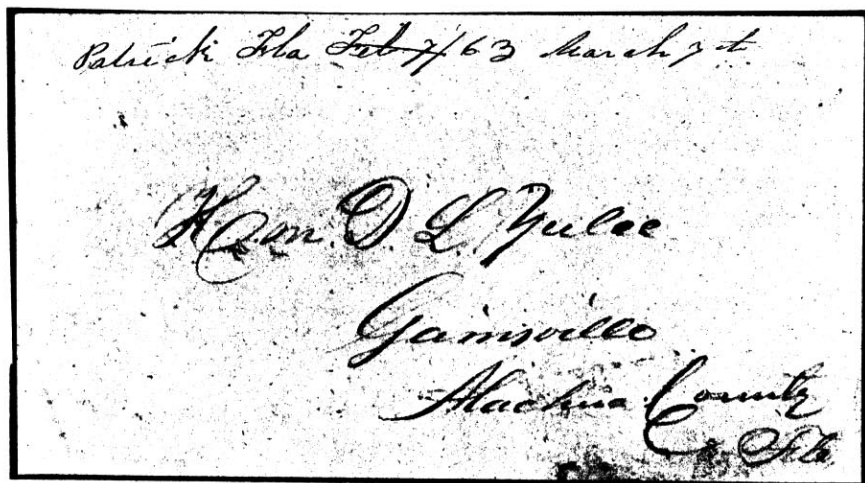


Fig. 3. Micanopy Fla. ms postmark with #11 usage to Waldo.

PATRICK FLORIDA CONFEDERATE USAGE

Deane R. Briggs, M.D.



Patrick Fla March 7th / 63 manuscript postmark on stampless cover with usage to Hon. D. L. Yulee in Gainesville.

The above cover is a newly discovered Confederate usage from the small town of Patrick, Florida. Prior Confederate usage from Patrick is unrecorded. Although no postal rate is noted, the 1863 usage would have required a 10-cent rate to be pre-paid. Although David Yulee was a prior U.S. Senator, "free" franking usage would not have been allowed for this cover. The Patrick postmaster must have had very little business, as he was a week late in remembering that the month had changed from February to March when he postmarked the cover.

The Patrick post office was established as a newly named Confederate post office in Hernando County, as a name change from Cedar Tree on 21 October 1861. The Patrick post office was never re-established after the war, and to date this cover is the known C.S.A. usage from this town. The Cedar Tree post office was re-established after the war on 16 October 1867, but was discontinued on 12 February 1872.

LONG POND CONFEDERATE USAGES

Deane R. Briggs, M.D.

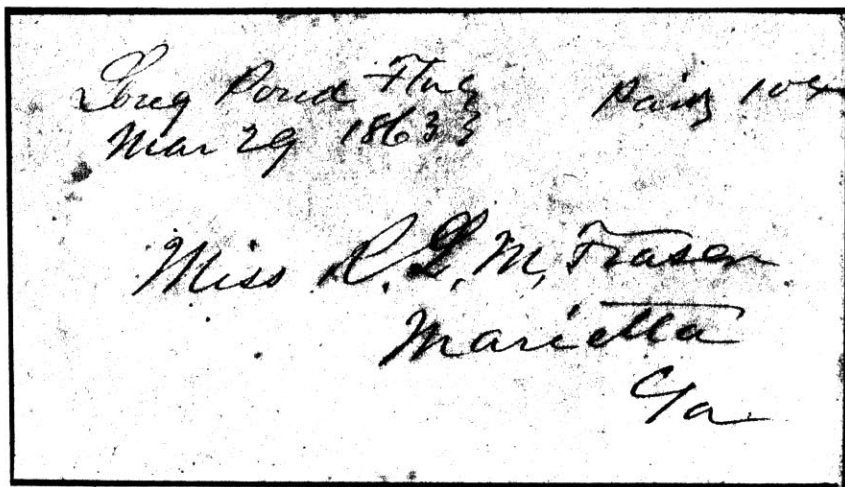


Fig. 1. Long Pond Fla / Mar 29 1863 manuscript postmark with Paid 10 rate on adversity turned cover with inside usage to Dr. John Quincey at Long Pond Florida

In the October 2005 issue of the *Florida Postal History Journal*, William A. Fox reported a new Confederate usage from Long Pond, Florida. Since that article appeared two additional examples from the Fraser correspondence have surfaced and are now recorded making a total of 2 stampless examples and 1 adhesive example. Bill Johnson submitted a photocopy of the known adhesive usage (Fig. 3). All three covers are addressed to Miss R. L. M. Fraser, Marietta, Ga. with the stampless examples having either a Long Pond, F or a Long Pond Fla postmark. With three examples surfacing within the past year, it is likely that more examples from this correspondence will come available in the near future. Since the turned cover was originally mailed from Marietta, Georgia, to Dr. Quincey in Long Pond, it is likely that all of the Long Pond examples were all sent from either Dr. Quincey or someone in his immediate family.



Fig. 2 MARIETTA GEO. / MAR 15 postmark ties pair of #7 as inside usage of turned cover to Dr. John W. Quincey, Long Pond, Florida.

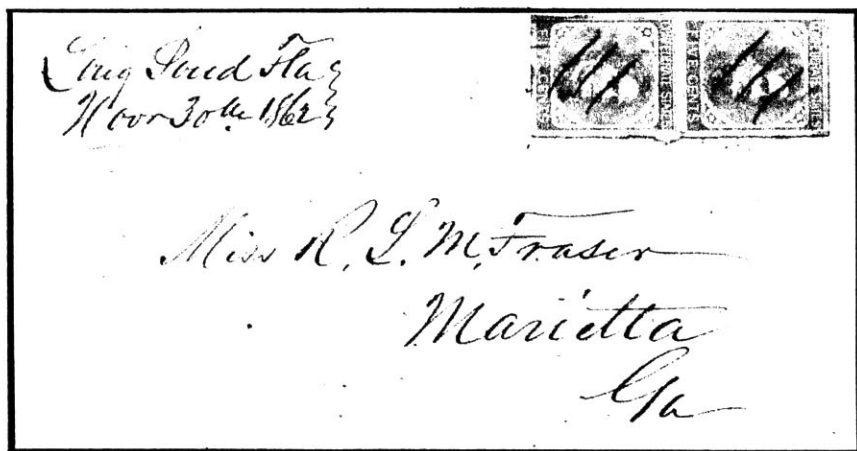


Fig. 3. Long Pond, Fla. Nov 30 1862 manuscript postmark with pen cancelled pair #7 on cover to Miss R. L. M. Fraser, Marietta, Ga. (Submitted by William Johnson, D.D.S.)

MIDDLEBURG CONFEDERATE USAGE

Herbert P. McNeal

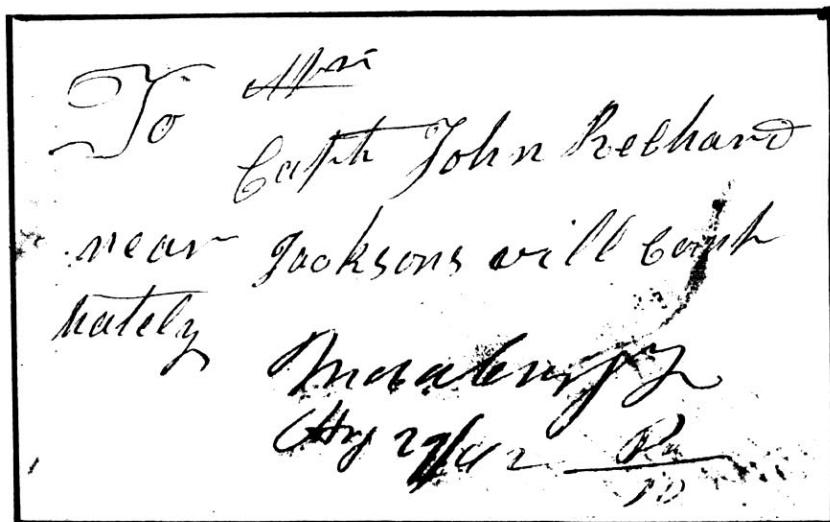


Fig. 1. Middlebrg (sic) F / Aug 29/62 manuscript postmark and Pd/10 rate on cover to Capt John Richard near Jacksonville camp lately.

The above cover appeared to be a Florida Confederate usage with the "F" as the state abbreviation in the postmark, but I could not identify the postmark as a Florida town. Captain John C. Richard was in charge of Company A of the First Florida Infantry Battalion, actively involved in the defense of the Union advances in area of East Florida near Jacksonville and the St. John's River. The cover in Fig. 2. is another example of Confederate usage to Captain Richard, but was carried out of the mails to the Camp near Jacksonville, East Florida and bears no postmark.

It was through the help of our editor that the true identity of the postmark was clarified. The two d's appear to be left open at the top

and following the "le" is an open "b" followed by "rg" and "F" for Florida. Thus we have a misspelled Middleburg F as the postmark. There are only two other recorded manuscript postmarked stampless Confederate Middleburg examples and they do not have any state notation.

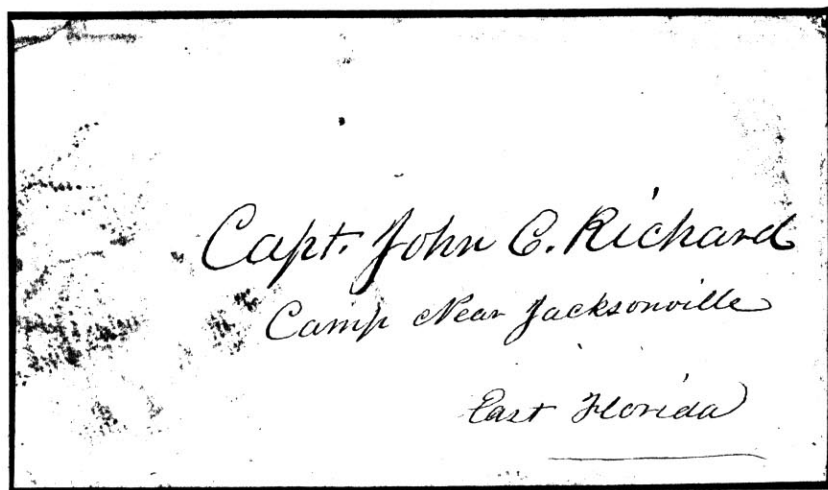


Fig. 2. Confederate cover carried out of the mails addressed to Capt. John C. Richard, Camp Near Jacksonville, East Florida.

Following the Battle of Olustee in February 1864, General Joseph Finnegan was ordered to Virginia with his brigade which had been so successful at Olustee. At this time, Captain Richard was in charge of Company A of the 10th Florida Infantry. They arrived in Richmond on May 25, 1864. They fought at the battle of Cold Harbor and at Petersburg. The 10th Florida surrendered at Appomattox, and Captain Richard was discharged there on April 9, 1865.

1909 FLORIDA EXPOSITION COVER

Deane R. Briggs, M.D.



JACKSONVILLE, FLA. / FEB 4 1909 machine cancel on Kohn-Furchgott Co. corner card cover with Florida Exposition – Fair Association / Jacksonville, Florida, January 20th to March 20th 1909 on reverse, usage to Jensen, Fla.

The above cover is a newly discovered Florida Exposition cover not previously recorded by William Bomar. The front of the cover is not unusual with a common corner card machine cancelled example. The reverse, however, has a beautiful red colored advertisement for the "Florida Exposition – Fair Association / Jacksonville, Florida, January 20th to March 20th 1909". It shows a depiction of the buildings at the fair and is very similar to the ones shown on the 1888 Florida Sub-Tropical Exposition covers which I recorded in the *Florida Postal History Journal* Vol. 8, No. 1, January 2001, and also similar to the ones recorded by Herbert P. McNeal for the Ocala Florida Inter-National and Semi-Tropical Exposition in the Vol. 8, No. 2, September 2001 issue of the same journal.

STAMPLESS ITALIAN USAGE TO FORT DALLAS

Deane R. Briggs, M.D.

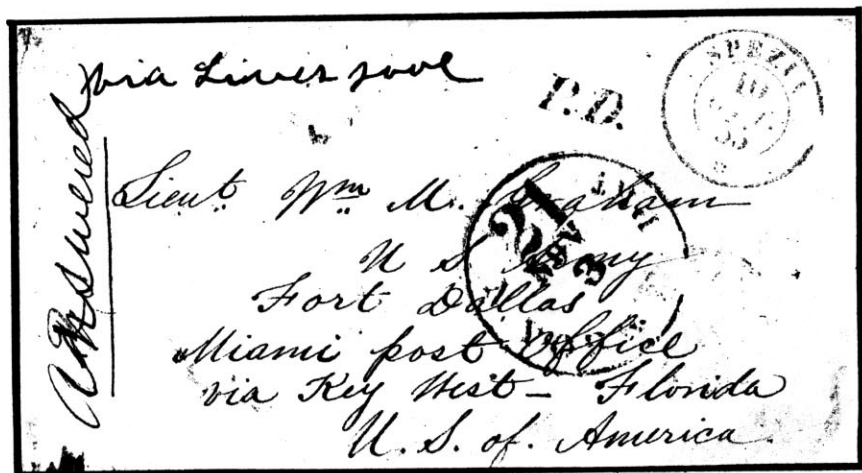


Fig. 1. SPEZIA 10 OCT 1855 postmark with Genoa and Paris transit marking on reverse, cover to Lieut. Graham, Fort Dallas, Miami post office via Key West, Florida U. S. of America. New York Nov 3, 21-cent packet rate credit handstamp on front.

In the January 2002 issue of the *Florida Postal History Journal*, vol. 9, no. 1, I reported the earliest known example with a Miami postmark, forwarded from Fort Dallas (Miami post office) to California. It was a cover originally addressed to a surgeon at Fort Dallas in 1851. These covers in Fig. 1 and Fig. 2 are additional early usages to Fort Dallas during the 3rd Seminole War, equally worthy of recording because of their Italian trans-Atlantic usage. The 1856 example in Fig. 2. should have a Miami forwarding postmark and unfortunately does not, however, at the Miami post office the "Forwarded" in manuscript with rate (due) 3 + 5 (New York 5 due) totaling due 8 was applied.

Lieut. William M. Graham followed in his uncle's footsteps in the U.S. Army. His uncle (also William M. Graham) served in Florida during the first Seminole War with service at Pensacola, Fort Clinch, Seminole Agency, Fort Brooke, and was wounded twice at Withlacoochee. He was stationed in Texas during 1845-47 and died of wounds in Texas at age 49. This Lieut. Graham was stationed at Fort Dallas with the 1st Regiment of the U.S. Army Artillery and was stationed in Florida and Texas before the Civil War. He fought at Gettysburg and under Joseph Hooker at the Battle of Chancellorsville.

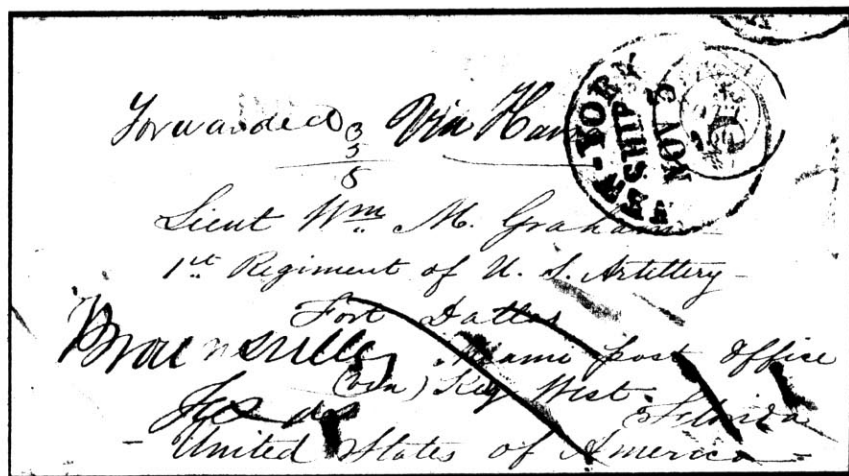
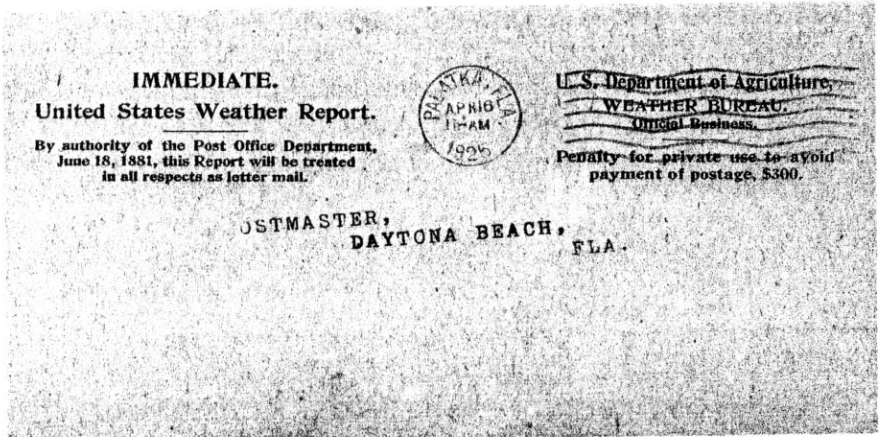


Fig. 2. SPEZIA 3 OCT 1856 postmark with Genoa and Paris transit markings on reverse, cover to Lieut. Graham, Fort Dallas, Miami post office, (via) Key West, Florida. Cover forwarded to Brownsville, Texas with 3 + 5 + 8 (due) rate. New York Ship (due) 5 handstamp on front.

U.S. WEATHER REPORT

Herbert P. McNeal



PALATKA, FLA. / APR 16 1925 mc on U.S. Department of Agriculture, Weather Bureau, Official Business card.

We take for granted that updated weather reports are readily available from all media sources, especially the internet and television. Each television station has its own weatherperson who gives updates hourly. When a tropical storm develops, we are inundated with seemingly continuous “on site” reports for up to a week before a storm hits. In the early part of the 19th century, the only weather forecasts that were available came from the Weather Bureau, a section in the Department of Agriculture. The easiest means of notification of non-threatening weather reports was by mail. The above card is an example of such usage, sent to the postmaster of Daytona Beach. The reverse gives the daily forecast for the entire state of Florida, not a local forecast.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WEATHER BUREAU.

APRIL 16 1925

**FLORIDA MOSTLY CLOUDY TO-NIGHT AND FRIDAY
PROBABLY SHOWERS IN EXTREME SOUTH PORTION
GENTLE TO MODERATE EASTERLY WINDS.**

FLORIDA POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS - 2006

The following members of the Florida Postal History Society have been denoted as "**Contributing Members**" for their additional contribution to the Society. Your additional dues contribution is acknowledged and appreciated and helps underwrite the cost of a third journal issue this year. The continued support of these members keeps our Society financially sound. This enables us to respond to member and non-member inquiries regarding Florida Postal History and furnish copies of our Journal .

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Hector Arvelo
John Beirne
Richard F. Bergmann
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