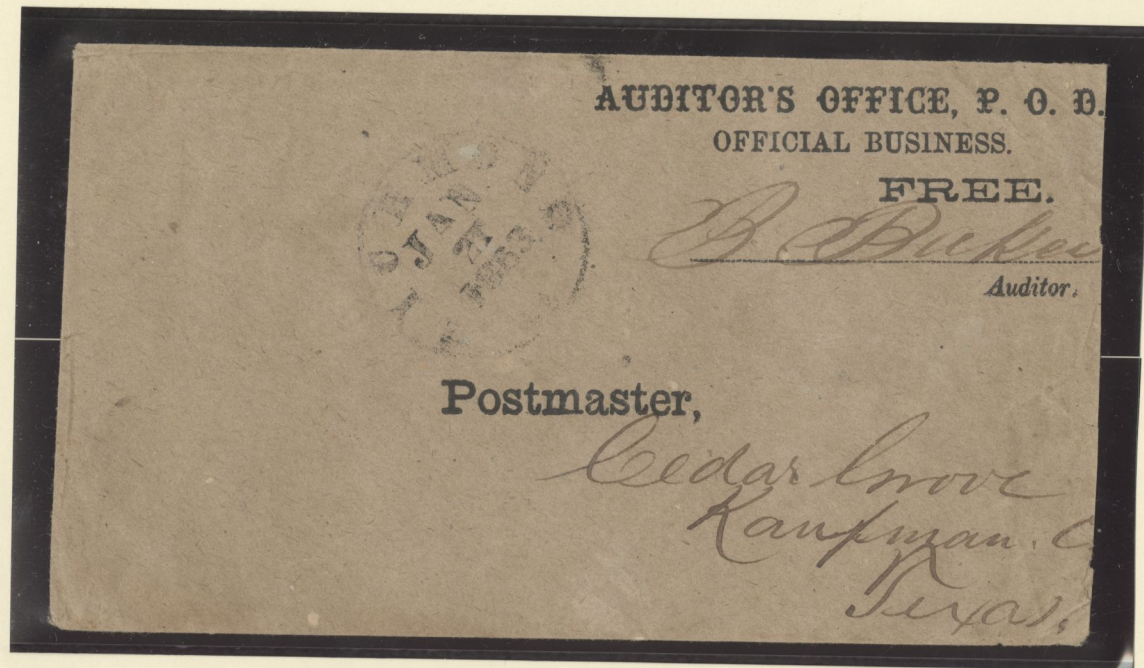


RICHMOND -- THE WAR YEARS



The Federal Army of the Potomac is still stalled along the banks of the Rappahannock River in Virginia. General Burnside is soon to be faced with a decision concerning an effective withdrawal from the area, as rain has been steadily falling for 30 hours. It is only a short time before Burnside realizes that crossing the river is impossible.

With a destination of Texas and the Mississippi River still open, this cover has a long distance to travel.

Official Envelope

Auditor's Office, P.O.D. - Free, Type XI

January 21, 1863

(Type 4a)

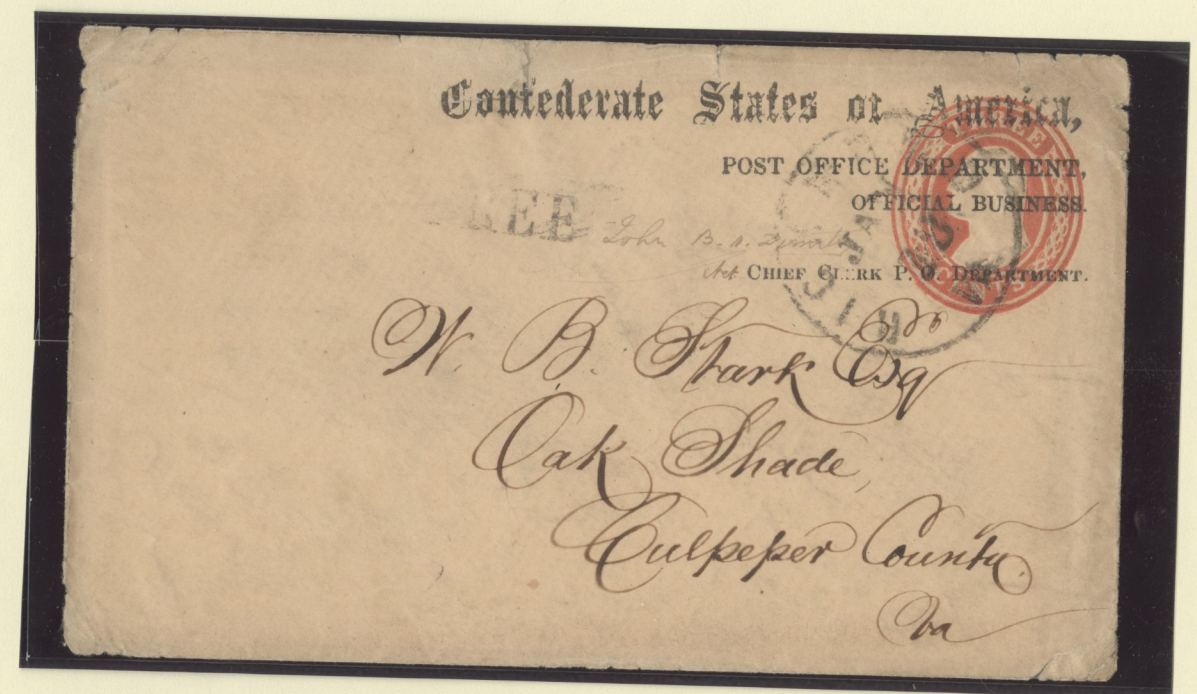
CONFEDERATE RICHMOND - THE WAR YEARS

This official mailing has all the characters in play for it be an official one. It is marked official business, the imprint FREE, and Mr. John B. Dimitry to sign for it. The Powell type 6p postmark dates the cover to 1865.

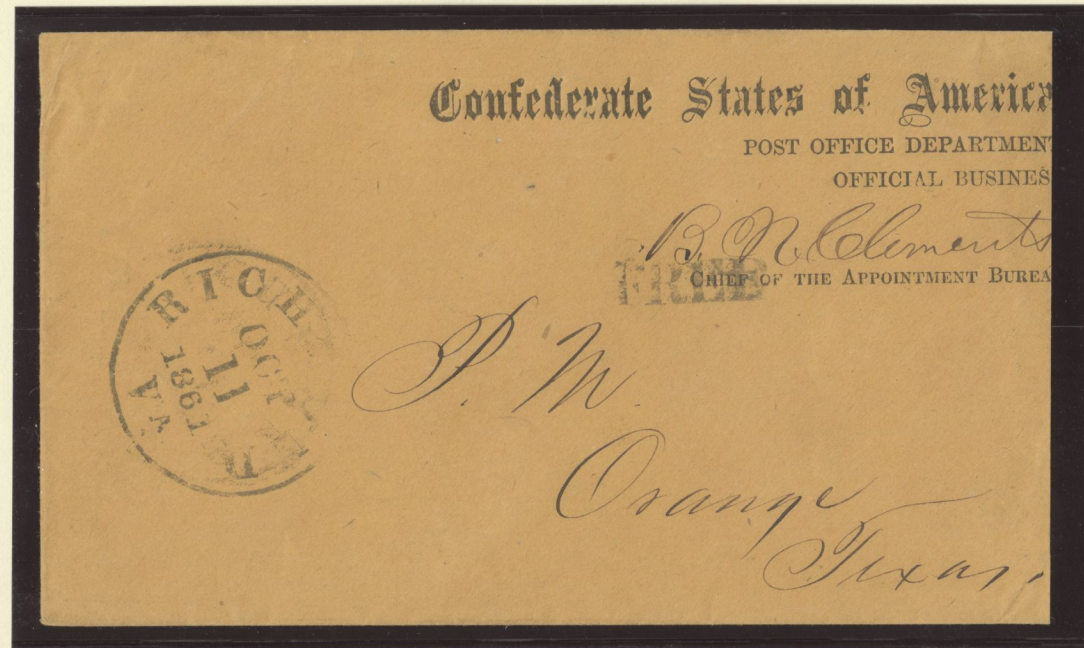
Official Mail - CLK-04

January 13, (1865)

(Type 6p)



RICHMOND -- THE WAR YEARS



The Postmaster General and various other Post Office Department officials were allowed to send official mail free of postage when endorsed "Official Business" over their signatures. There are two distinct groups of official envelopes -- the first, for the Post Office Department at the seat of the government in Richmond, Virginia; and the second, for the Trans-Mississippi Agency, located at Marshall, Texas.

Official Envelope

Appointment Bureau - Type II, Free - I

October 11, 1861

(Type 2c)

RICHMOND -- THE WAR YEARS

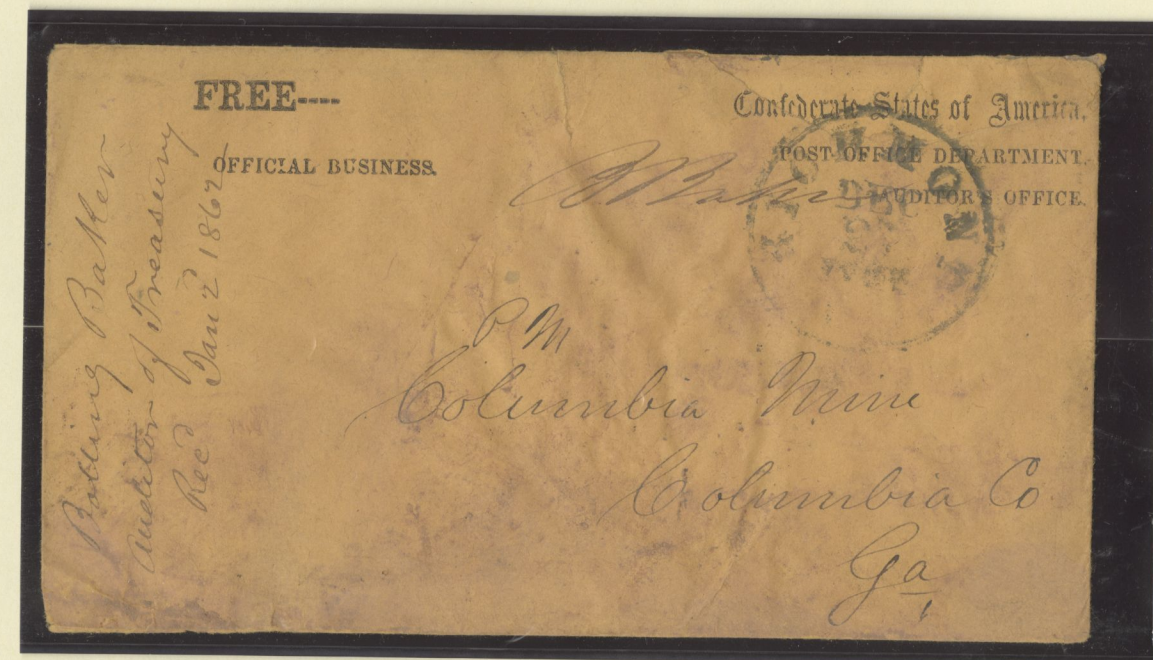
This cover from the Auditor's Office contains a circular requesting an accounting of the unpaid service rendered for the United States Postal Service until the Confederate States Postal Service took over the mail. Mailed late in December of 1861, it is not received until January 2nd, 1862.

Official Envelope

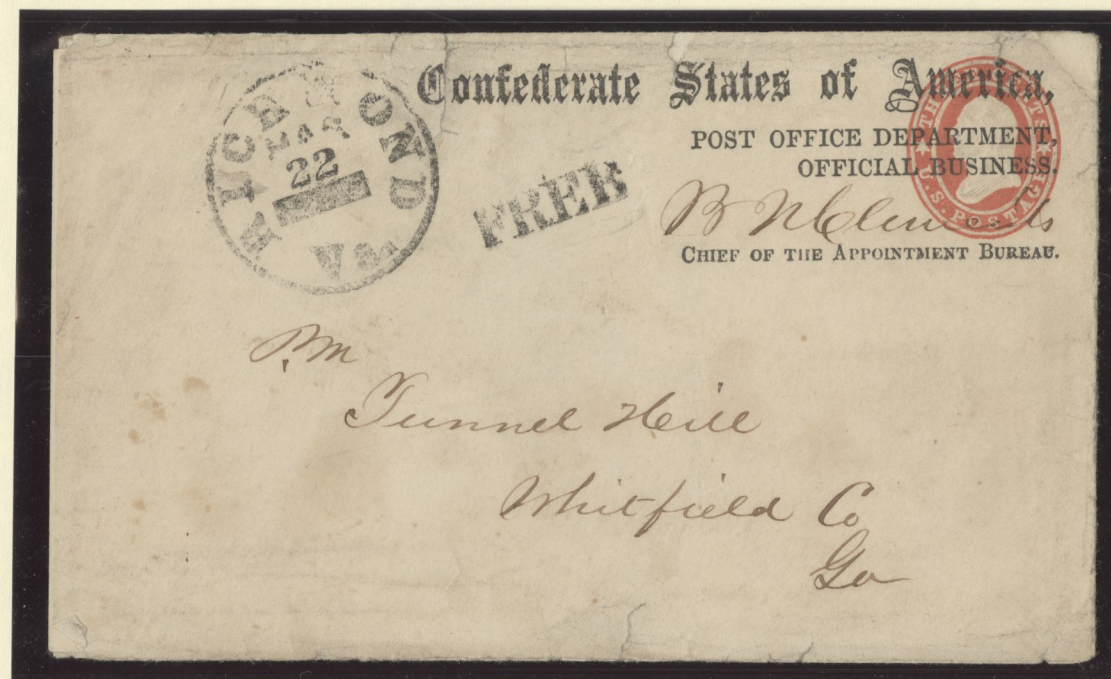
Auditor's Office - Type II, Free

December 2(8), 1861

(Type 2b)



RICHMOND -- THE WAR YEARS



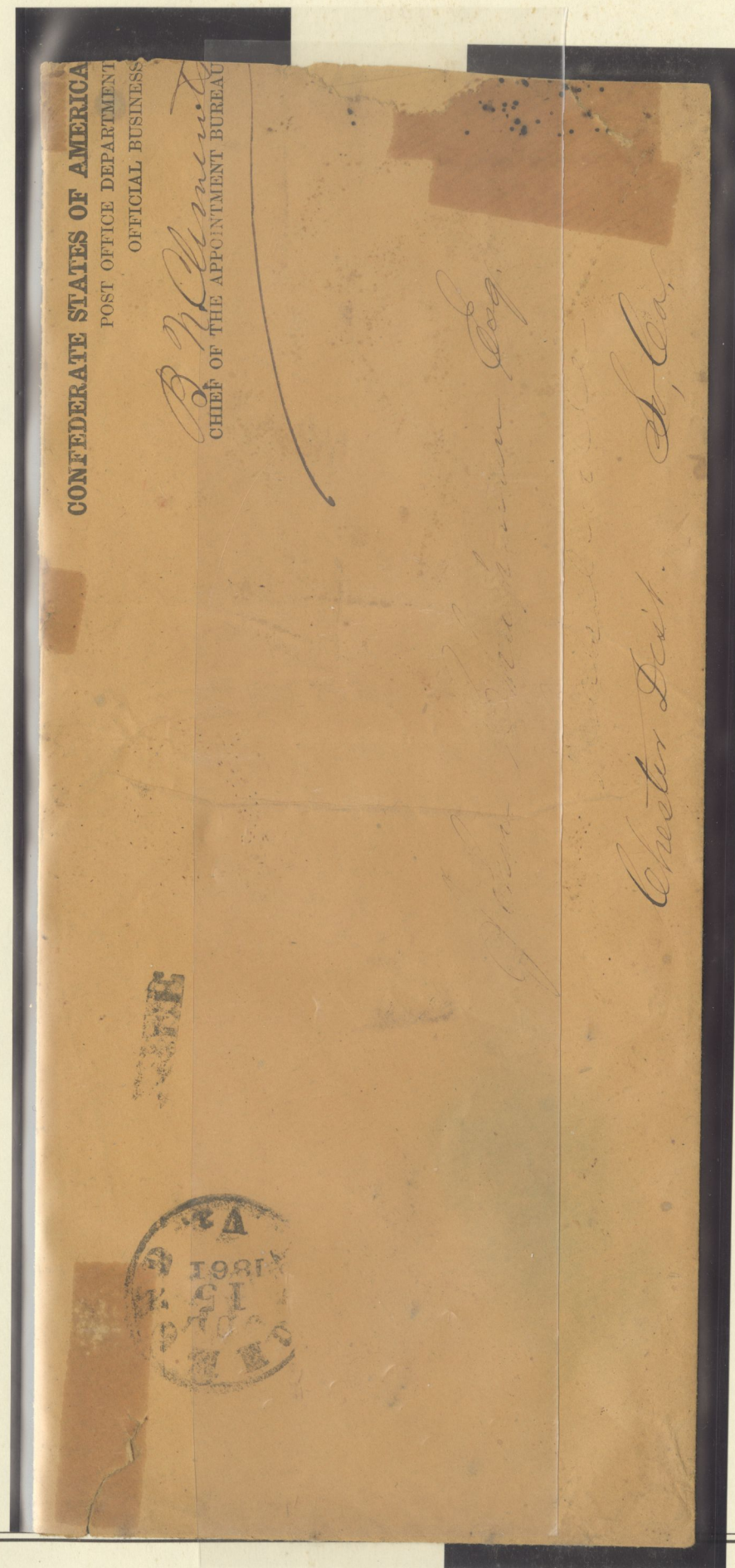
The Confederate Ordinance Laboratory at Brown's Island near Richmond is the site of an accidental explosion. 69 factory workers (62 of whom are women) are either killed or injured as a result of a worker's carelessness. The fact, that such a large proportion of casualties at an industrial site are women, is the direct result of the Confederacy's declining manpower.

Official Envelope

Appointment Bureau - Type II, Free - Type I

March 23, (1863)

(Type 3h)



cm

✓

Confederate States of America,

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

B. Fuller
CHIEF OF THE APPOINTMENT BUREAU.
clerk



FREE

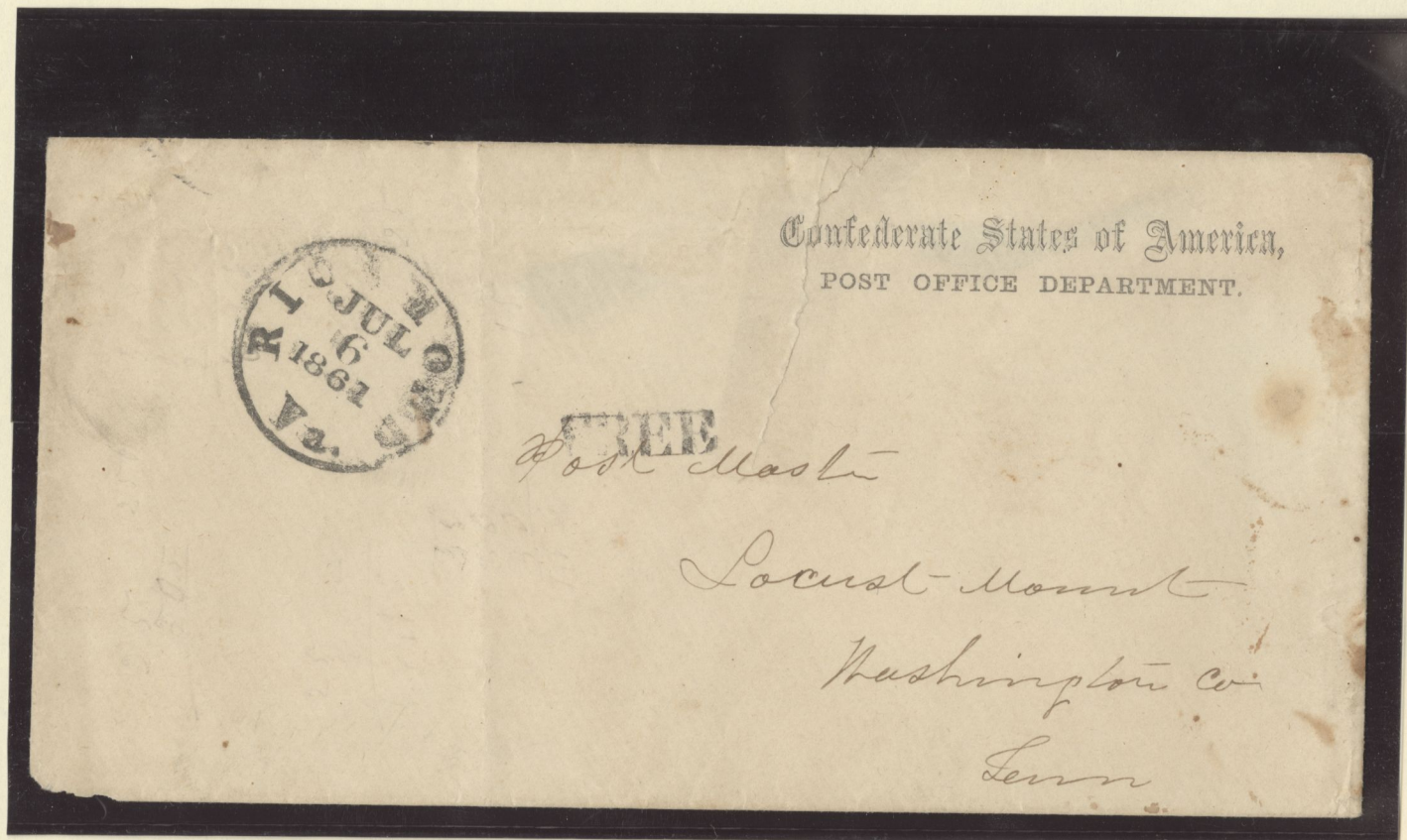
Mr. Wm M. Stone

Peters Creek

Stokio Co.

N.C.

RICHMOND -- THE WAR YEARS



This cover illustrates the free franking of the Post Office Department. This Richmond CDS was used until July 19, 1861 and brought back into use on July 31, 1861, and again on August 4, 5, 6, 1861. These last usages may be attributed to a heavy mail load after the first battle of Bull Run.

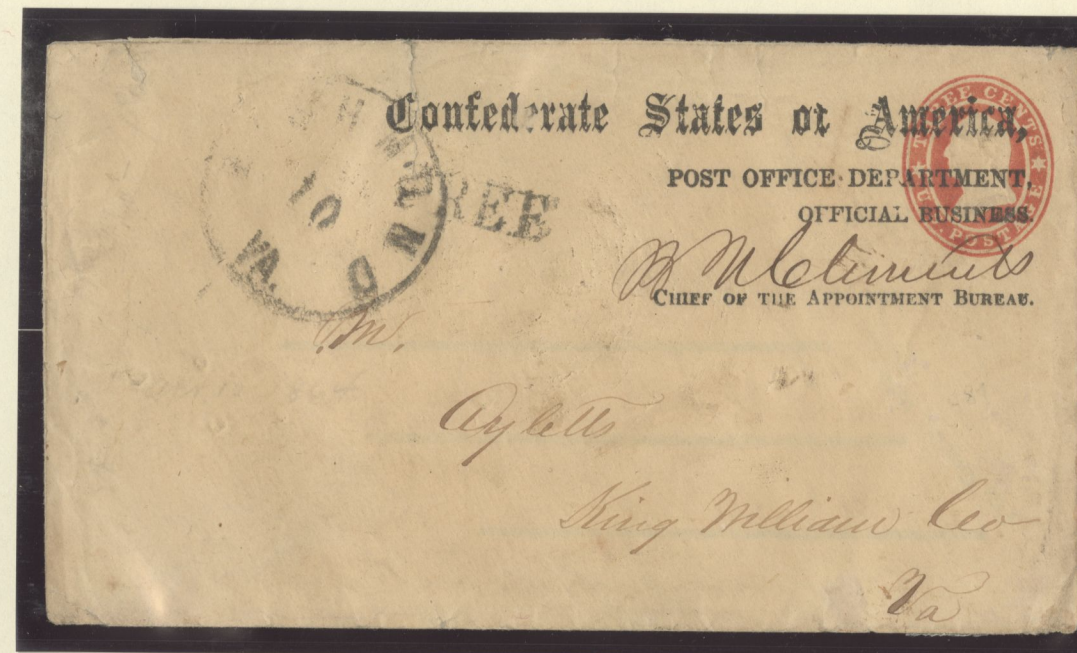
Official Envelope - Post Office Department - Type 1, Free - Type 1

July 6, 1861

(Type 1a)

✓

RICHMOND -- THE WAR YEARS



This official government envelope carries a circular to the postmaster at Aylett, Virginia. Its contents has information about the requisition for blanks and other post office articles. But, inside the circular, is a note stating that this envelope was taken from the rebel mail at Aylett.

General U. S. Grant has begun to issue orders pursuant to his grand strategy of advancing against all the Southern armies on all fronts. Banks is directed to advance on Alabama; Sherman will move against Johnson and the Army of Tennessee in Georgia; Sigel will move down the Shenandoah Valley; Butler will turn toward Richmond; and the Army of the Potomac will advance against Lee and the Army of Northern Virginia.

Official Envelope

Post Office Department - Chief of the Appointment Bureau - Type 5, Free - Type 1

April 10, 1864

(Type 6m)

No. 2123

June 19

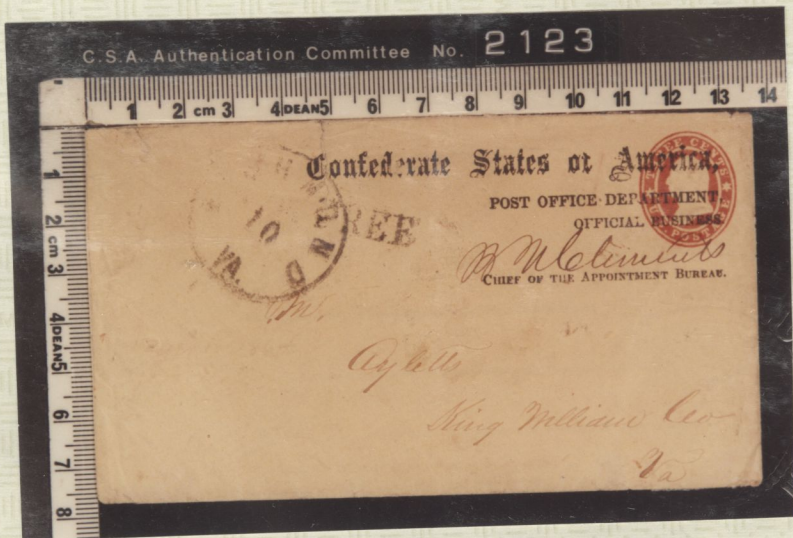
19 90



AUTHENTICATION COMMITTEE

We have examined the enclosed item submitted by the applicant and described as follows: P. O. Dept., Chief, Appointment Bureau (Dietz type 1) on 3c red Star Die on buff (U27), signed by B. N. Clements, Apr. 10, 1864, Richmond, Va., CDS, "Free" to PM at Ayletts, Va., with contents.

of which a photo is attached with seal and are of the opinion that ...
"Genuine"



For the
Authentication Committee

Chairman

Submitted by: CHRISTIE'S

Orders for articles
letter.

The Appointment
Rating

Only offices y

The Inspection
bags, l

The Finance

Taken from a rebel mail
at Aylett near Denmark
on the Mattaponi river Va
May 23rd 1864

ined in the same

e, Marking and

mails; and mail

No. 830

Confederate States of America,

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,

APPOINTMENT BUREAU,

Richmond, Va. April 7 1864.

To the Postmaster at

Aylett

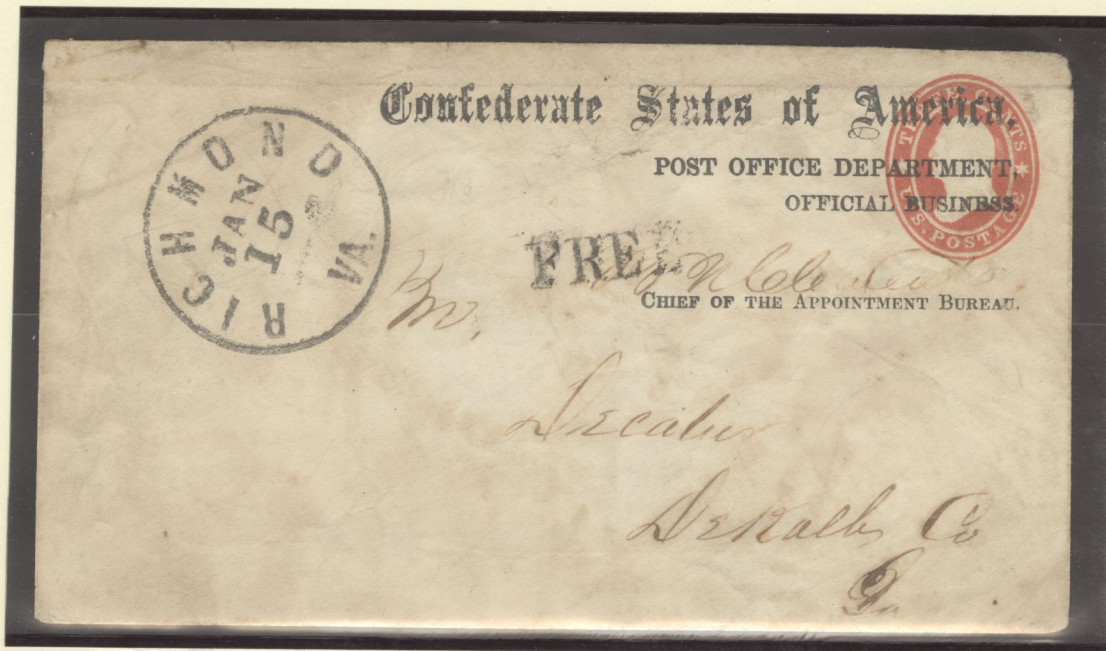
County of

King William

State of

Va

RICHMOND — THE WAR YEARS



Winter has slowed the activities of both Federal and Confederate armies. But the work of the government continues.

Official Envelope

Appointment Bureau - Type I, Free - I

January 15, (1864)

(Type 6)

(US U-26)