

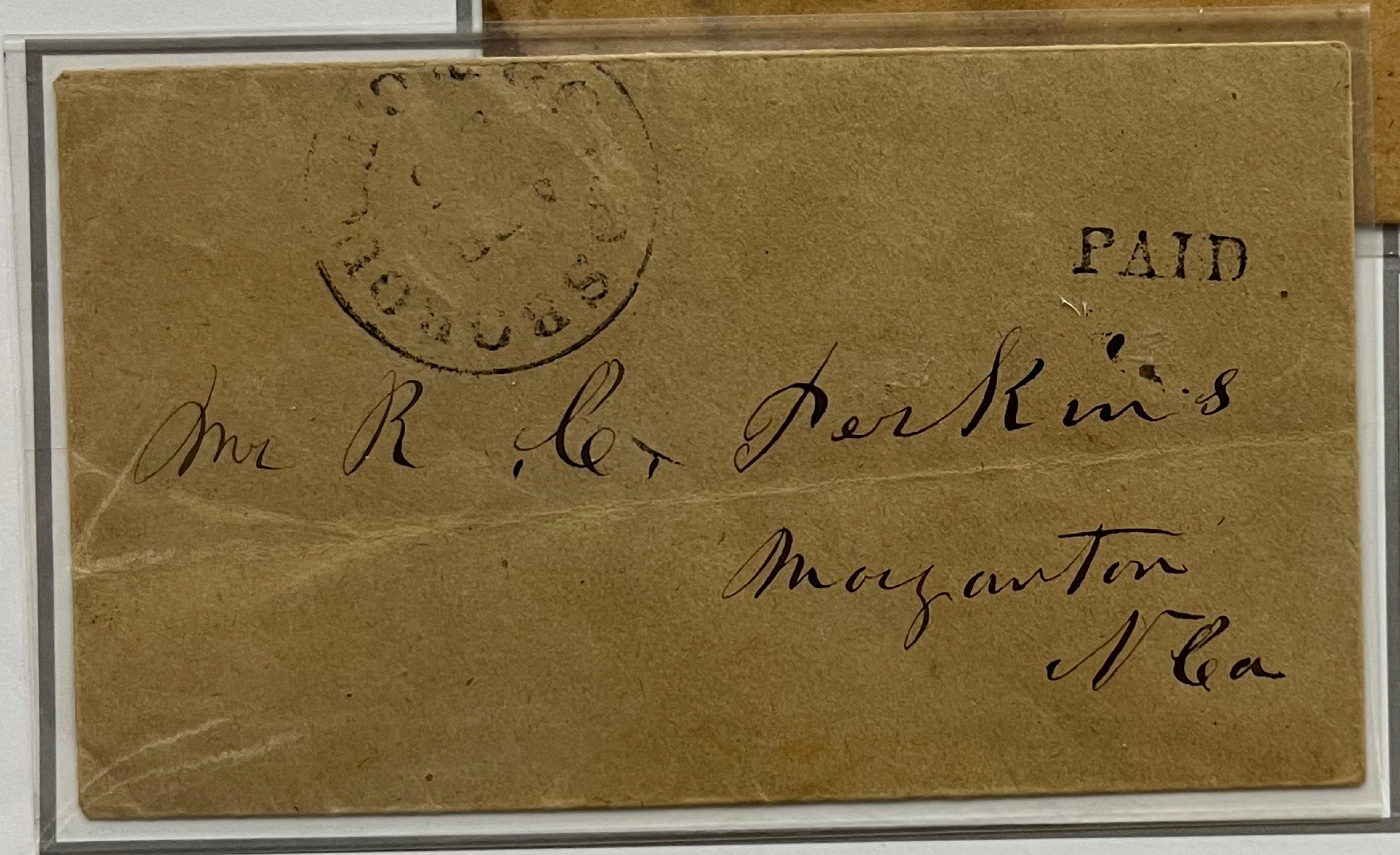
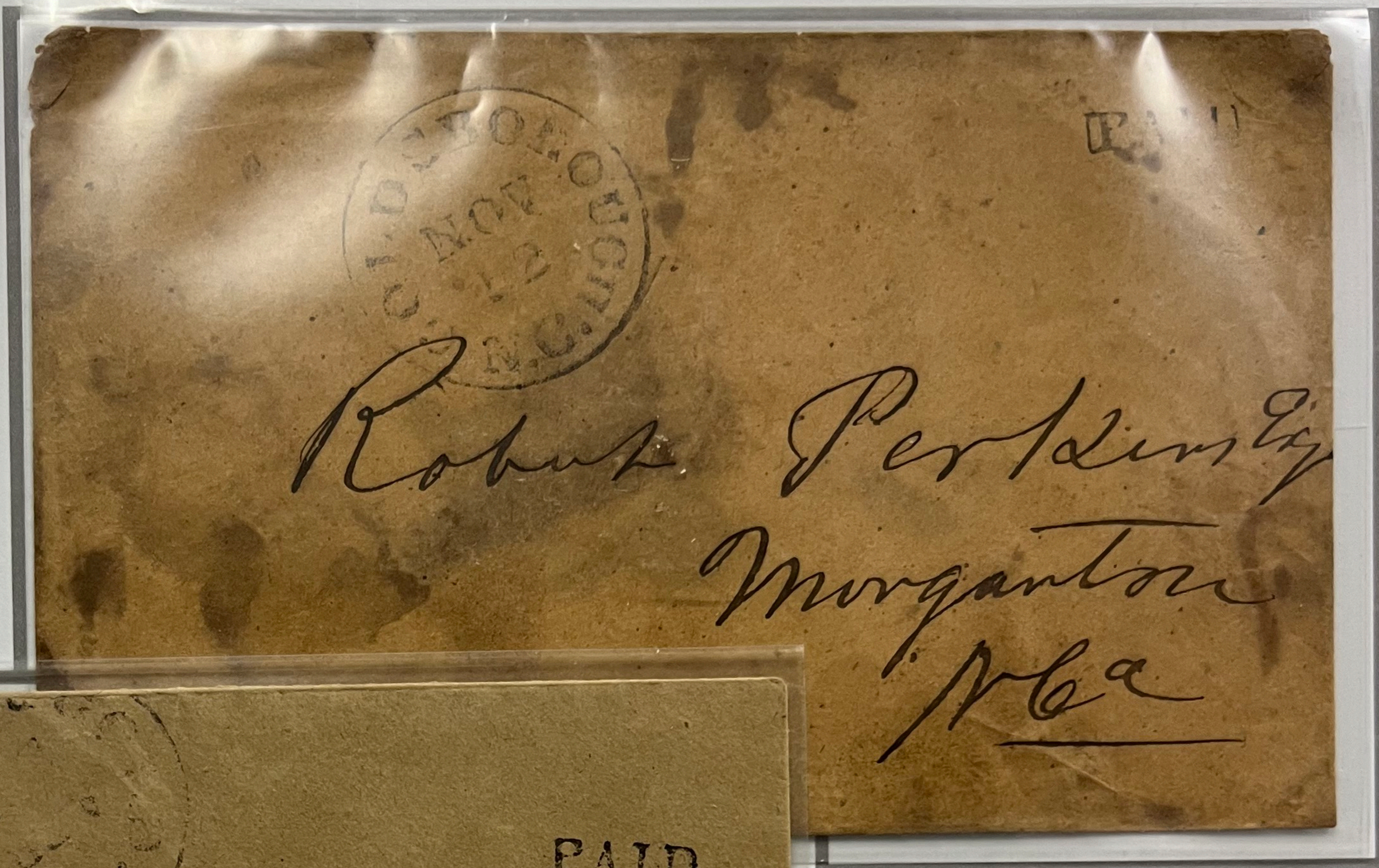
Goldsborough Postmaster Provisional



The post office was located inside the Griswold Hotel built across the street from the railroad platform. John Taylor served as the Confederate postmaster. Toward the end of the war, John Robinson and Hiram Grant replaced him. North Carolina seceded on 21 May 1861 and joined the CSA on 27 May, creating a six-day independent state period. Confederate use of Federal postal paper ended on 31 May. No Goldsborough covers are reported to have survived either of these brief periods. When the CSA Post Office officially took over postal duties on 1 June, it had no stamps to distribute. Postmasters throughout the South dealt with this in a variety of ways. Some produced their own special stamps or markings known as Postmaster Provisionals to indicate prepayment of postage. John Taylor, however, used the prewar "PAID" handstamp as a provisional marker whenever he had no stamps to sell.

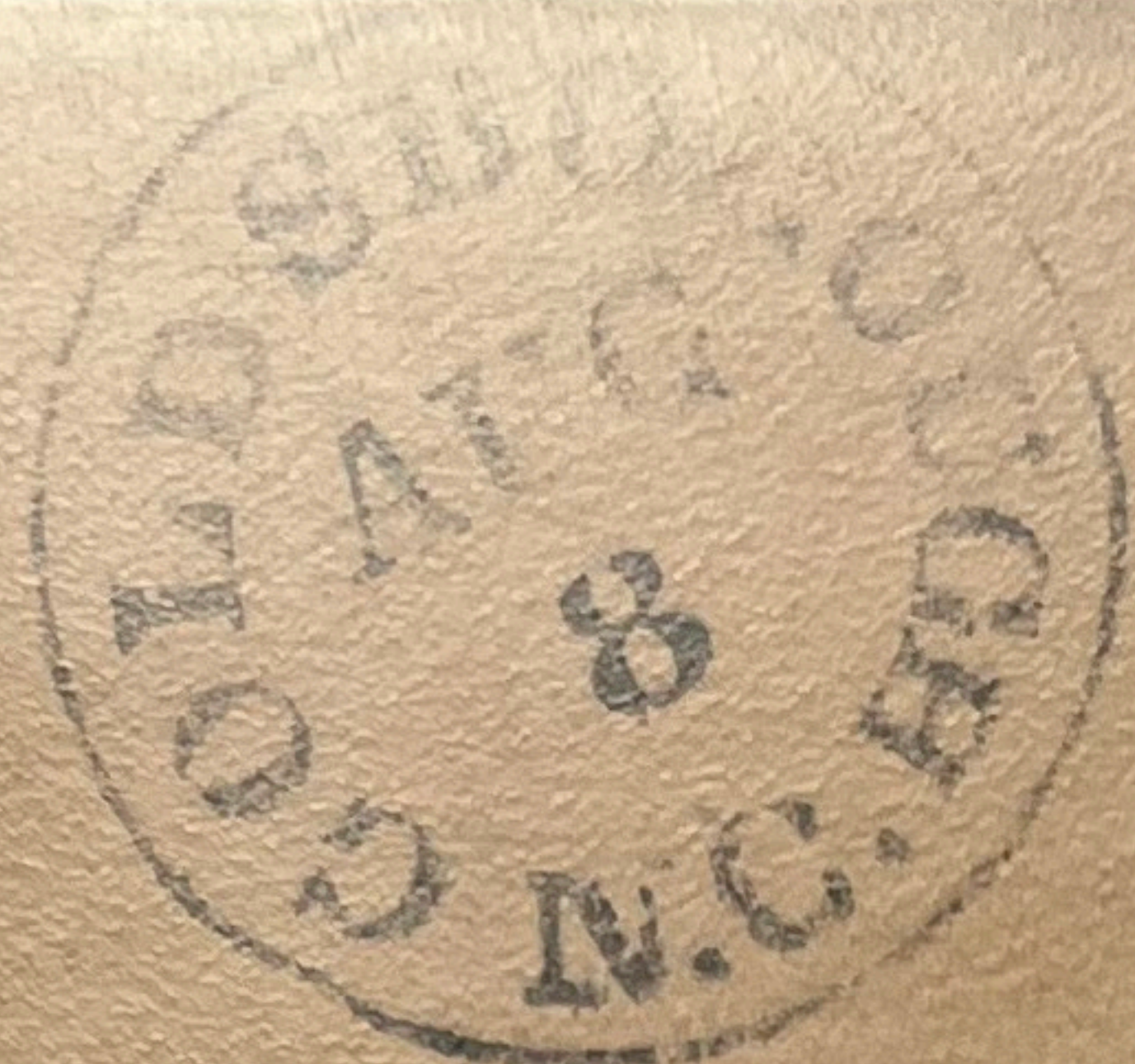


Goldsborough Postmaster Provisional PAID





Goldsborough Postmaster Provisional



PAID

Explanation of Tax Assessment on value of Foreign Credit or Bill of Exchange

Goldsborough to Westbrook, NC

August 8, 1863

Office of Commissioner of Taxes,

RICHMOND, AUGUST 4, 1863.

WM. K. LANE, ESQ.,  
State Collector, &c., Goldsboro', N. C.

SIR:—In reply to the question submitted in your letter of the 29th ult., in relation to the indorsements on credits, I have to state, that section 44 of the Assessment Act is construed as assuming that every credit shall be assessed at its value in Confederate Treasury Notes. It is also assumed, that every holder of a credit is willing to receive the amount which it represents, in Confederate Notes, until the contrary appears. If the contrary should appear to the Assessor, either by patent evidence on the face of the credit itself, or from reliable evidence that the holder values it himself at a higher rate, then it shall be valued accordingly, unless the holder will endorse his willingness to receive payment in Confederate Notes.

The Assessor will not require any one to make such indorsement, unless the tax payer claims a reduction of the valuation placed upon a credit by the Assessor, and in that event, such indorsement will require the Assessor to value it at no higher rate than the amount in Confederate Notes. For instance, if the tax payer returns a Foreign Bill of Exchange, or other Foreign Credit, which the proviso in Sec. 1, of the Tax Act, requires to be valued at the current rate of exchange in Confederate Notes, in this case it would be the duty of the Assessor to rate or assess such credit at the current price of exchange in Confederate Notes on the 1st of July. But the holder, under Sec. 44, Assessment Act, may reduce such valuation by endorsing thereon his willingness to receive the amount called for by such credit, in Confederate Notes, and then it would not be valued at a higher rate. And so with a note or bond, which specifies on its face that it is to be paid in coin or any other currency which bears a higher value than Confederate Notes.

From the foregoing we may deduce this rule:

If upon the face of a credit, or from its peculiar character, there is positive evidence before the Assessor, that it is worth more in Confederate Notes than it calls for, or that the holder values it at a higher rate, then it should be valued accordingly, and to entitle the holder to a reduction of such valuation, he must make the indorsement required.

Very respectfully, your ob't. serv't.

THOMPSON ALLAN,

Commissioner of Taxes.



Goldsborough Postmaster Provisional  
with Additional Markings



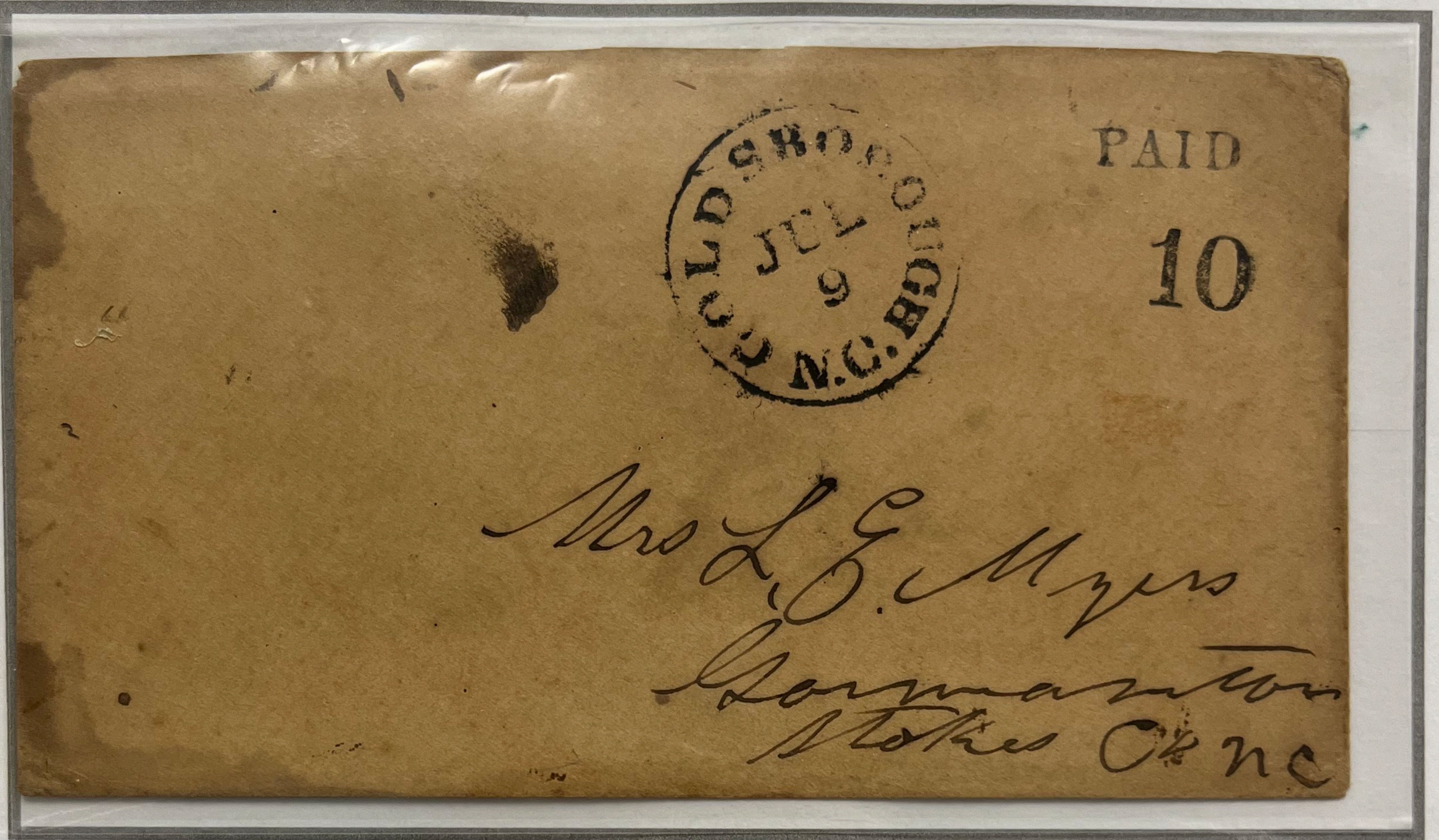
Handstamp **PAID** & Manuscript **PAID**



Handstamp **PAID**  
Forwarded Manuscript **DUE** and **FOR 5**



Goldsborough Postmaster Provisional  
Paid 10



Handstamp **PAID** & Large **10**

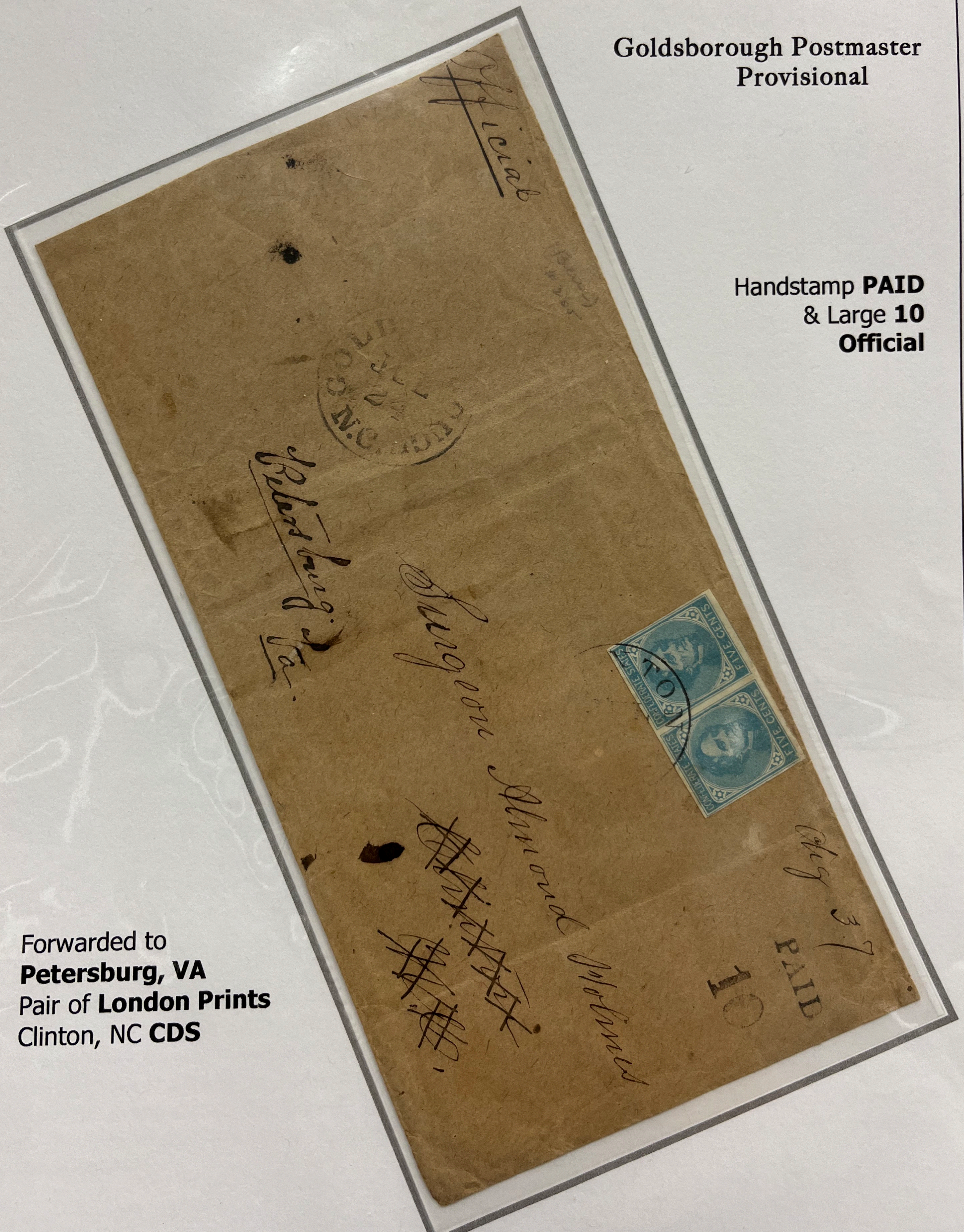


Handstamp **PAID** & Small **10**



Goldsborough Postmaster  
Provisional

Handstamp **PAID**  
& Large **10**  
**Official**

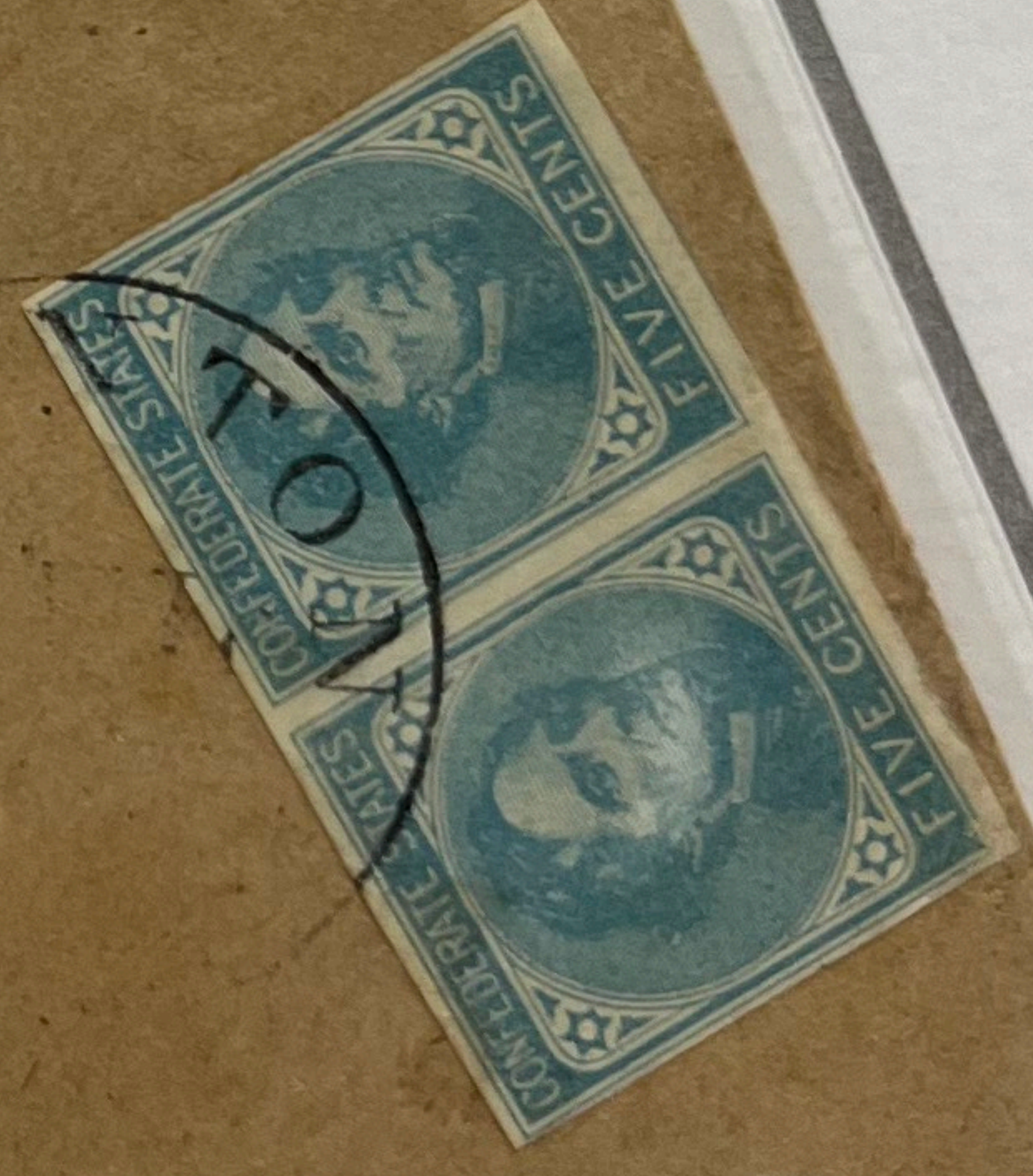


*Official*

GOLDSBOROUGH  
N.C. 1851

*Goldsborough Va.*

*Surgeon General*



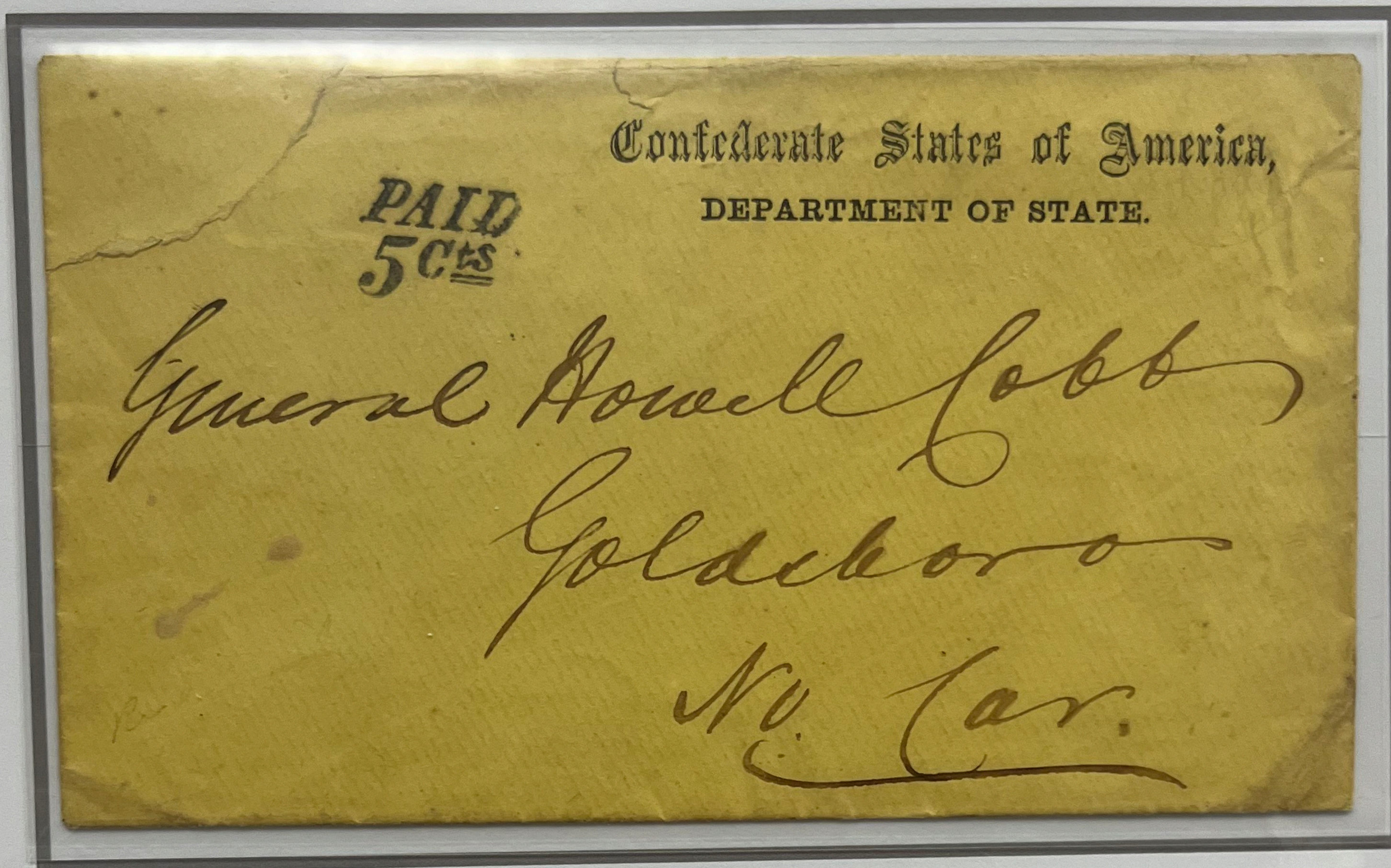
*Aug 31*

PAID  
10

Forwarded to  
**Petersburg, VA**  
Pair of **London Prints**  
Clinton, NC **CDS**



Confederate States of America  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE



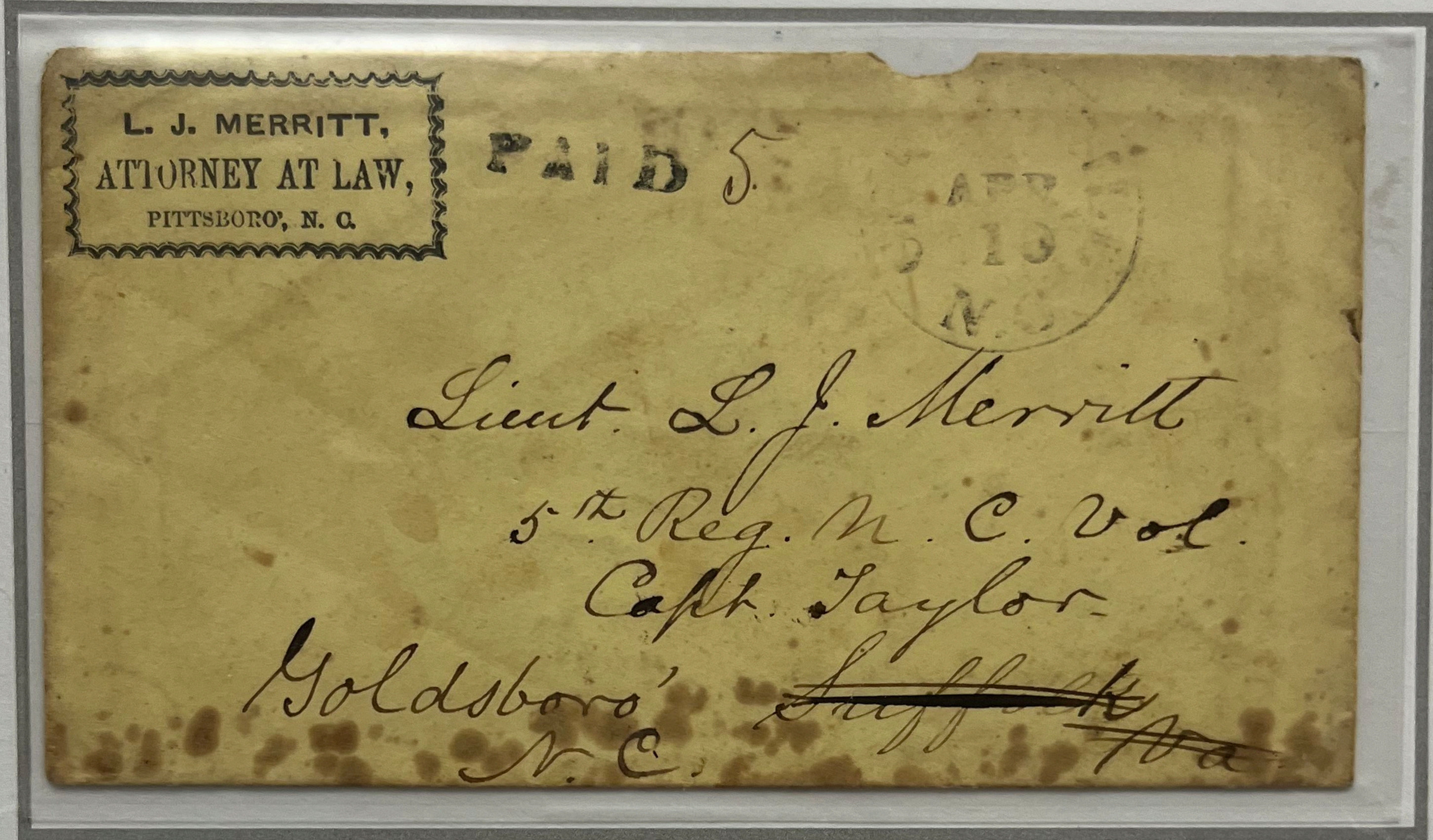
Richmond "PAID 5 cts"  
General Howell Cobb

General Howell Cobb was the President of the Provisional Confederate Congress 1861-62 and served as a Major General. After the fall of New Bern in March 1862, the Confederate government concentrated multiple units including Cobb's Legion in Goldsboro to protect the vital Wilmington and Weldon RR. Rather than advance toward Goldsborough, Federal forces under General Ambrose Brunsides took Ft. Macon. His force was then reduced to reinforce General McClellan in Virginia ending any further offensive Federal activity in Eastern North Carolina for several months.

The Confederate Post Office Department produced the only "Official" imprints that had the "Franking Privilege", but numerous other national government departments, state departments, military units, etc. also preprinted envelopes for official use. But unlike the envelopes produced by the Confederate Post Office, all of these "official" covers were required to show that postage had been paid. These covers are designated as semi-official. Occasionally, a semi-official envelope would be used privately. If that was the case, the "official use" was struck through. And there are even covers that show a manuscript official business notation.



Advertising Corner Card  
Forwarded to Goldsborough



"L. J Merritt, Attorney at Law  
Pittsboro, NC"

Lieut. L. J. Merritt, 5<sup>th</sup> NC Vols.

Chapel Hill **PAID** Manuscript "5" to Suffolk, Va

When a letter to a military addressee arrived at its destination after his unit had moved away, the letter was forwarded to the new location without additional fees. In this example, Lieutenant Merritt had been transferred to Goldsborough, so the cover was forwarded at no charge.



James J. Pettigrew  
Brig. General, CSA

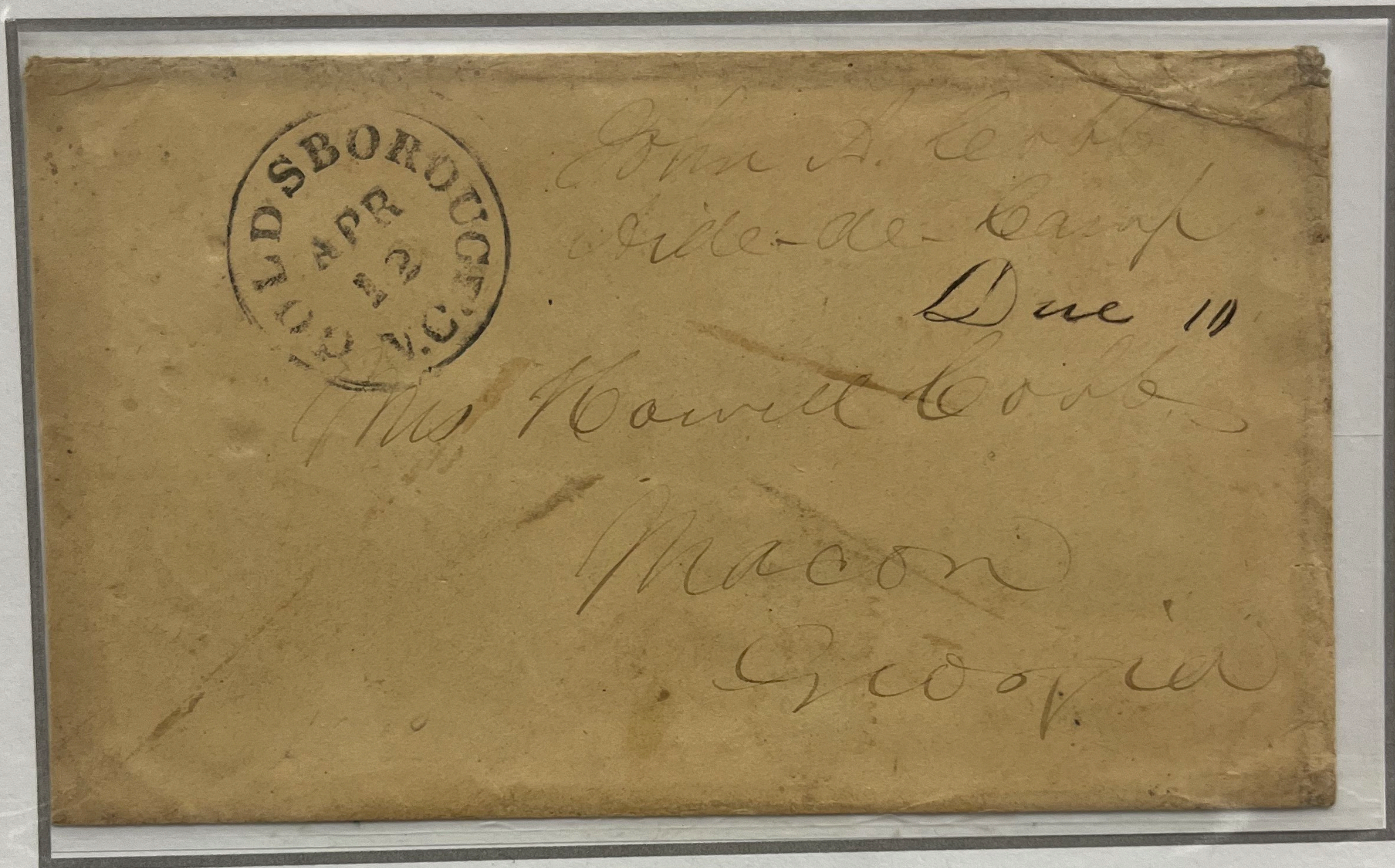


Charleston, SC **PAID 10**

During the winter of 1863, the Confederate army commanded by D. H. Hill attempted to push the Federals out of eastern North Carolina. While this offensive eventually failed, it did permit the unmolested gathering of agricultural stores for the Army of Northern Virginia in eastern North Carolina. Brigadier General James J. Pettigrew participated in the 13 March 1863 attack on New Bern. This cover was mailed from Charleston to General Pettigrew because Goldsborough was the Headquarters for the Department of North Carolina



John A. Cobb, Aide-de-camp  
to General Howell Cobb,  
Cobb's Legion



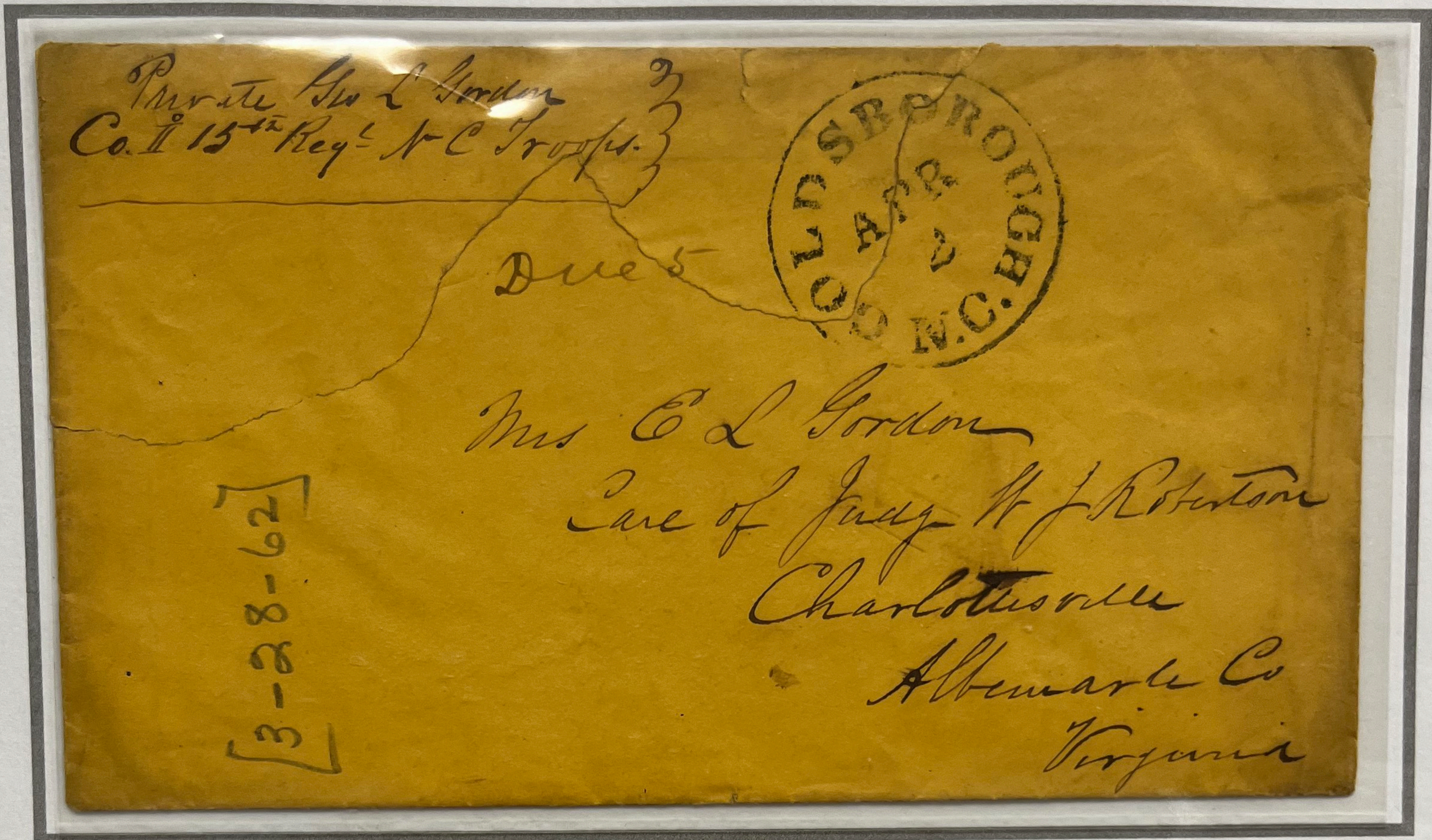
Manuscript **Due 10**  
Double Rate

Initial Confederate postal rates were 5¢ for each half ounce less than 500 miles and 10¢ for each half ounce greater than 500 miles. On 1 July 1862 the differential ended when a universal rate of 10¢ rate took effect. The CSA Post Office created some special rates including a 2¢ dropped letter, a 2¢ circular rate, and a 40¢ trans-Mississippi rate after the fall of Vicksburg.

Virtually all Confederate mail was sent postage prepaid with one major exception: mail from soldiers in the field. To qualify, a soldier had to list his name, company, and regiment on the cover, effectively creating the only return addresses found in Confederate philately. The recipient of the cover paid the postage. Because Goldsborough was a strategic railroad junction, numerous regiments and battalions passed through during the war. Surviving covers reveal both times of troop concentration and the garrison troops assigned to protect the railroad.



After the fall of New Bern - April 1862



Priv. George L. Gordon, Co. I, 15<sup>th</sup> Regiment NC Troops

Manuscript **DUE 5**

After the Battle of Goldsborough Bridge - January 1863



Lieut. J. A. Lindsay, Co. K, 45<sup>th</sup> Regiment NC Troops

Manuscript **DUE 10**



John A. Cobb, Aide-de-camp  
to Col. John B. Lamar

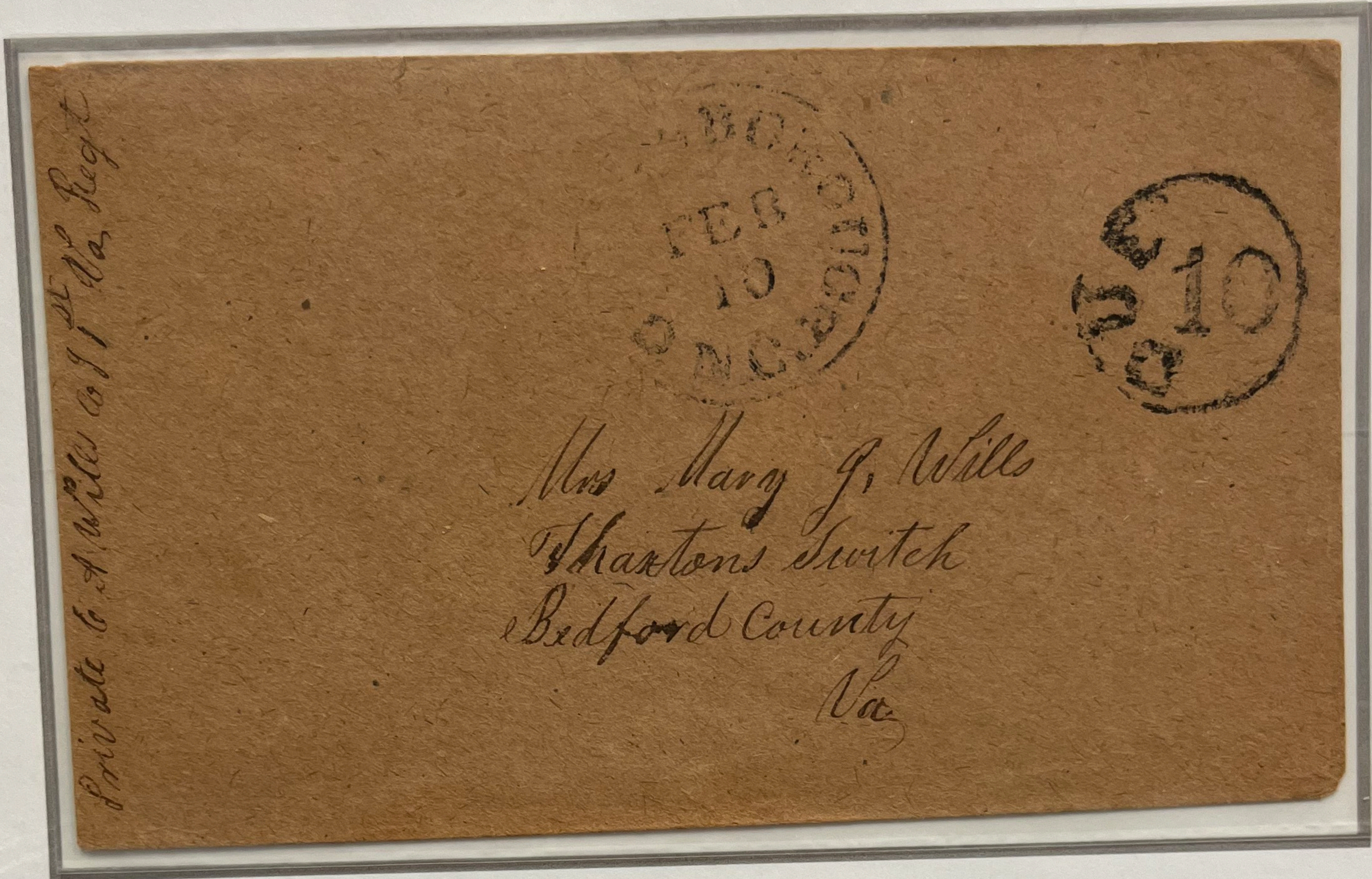


Manuscript **Due 10** over **5**  
Double Rate

Goldsborough to Macon, GA  
April 7, 1862

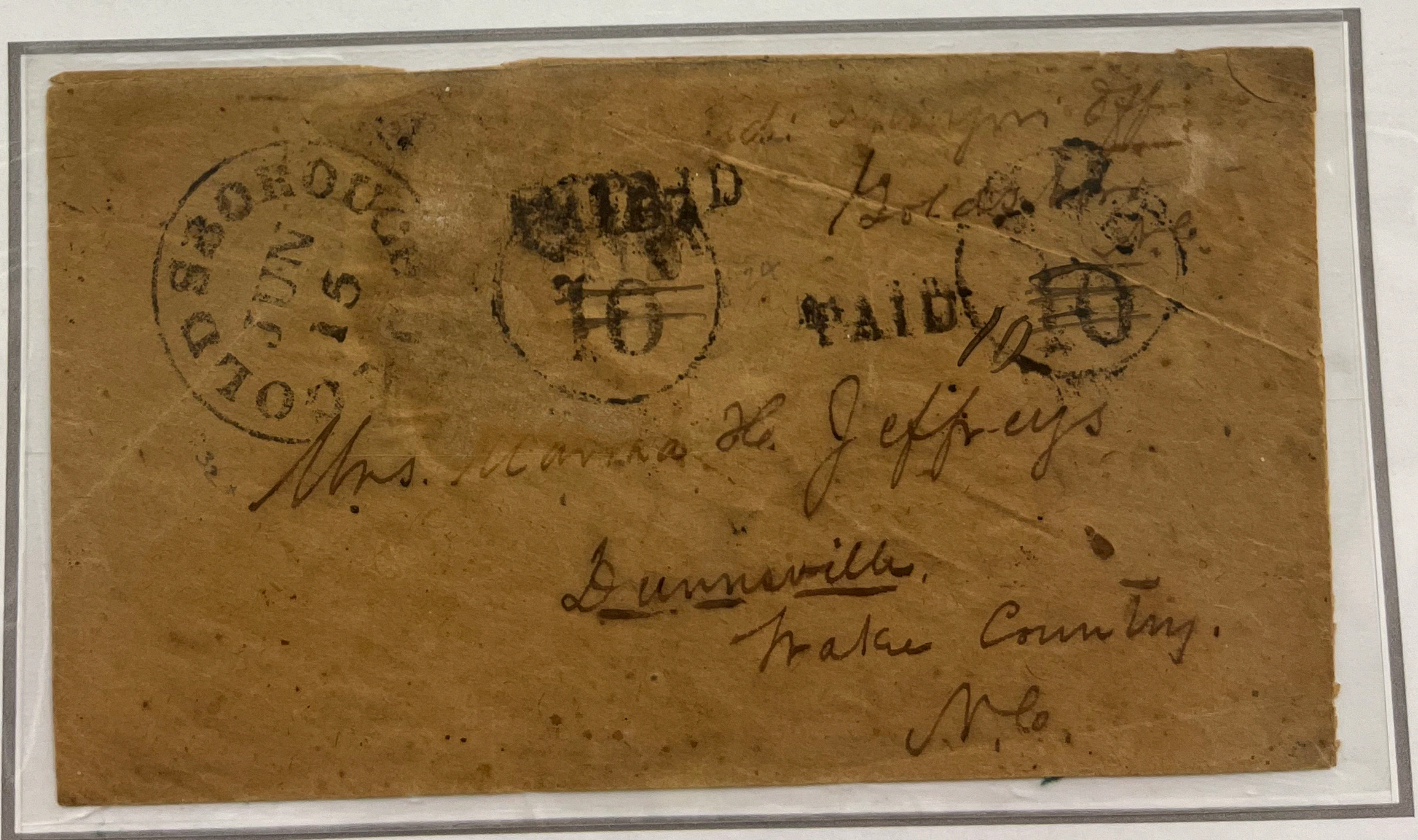


**DUE 10 with Lazy 10**



Priv. C. A. Wills, Co. J, 1<sup>st</sup> Va. Reg.

Handstamps **Due 10** x2, Handstamp **PAID** x3  
Manuscript **10**

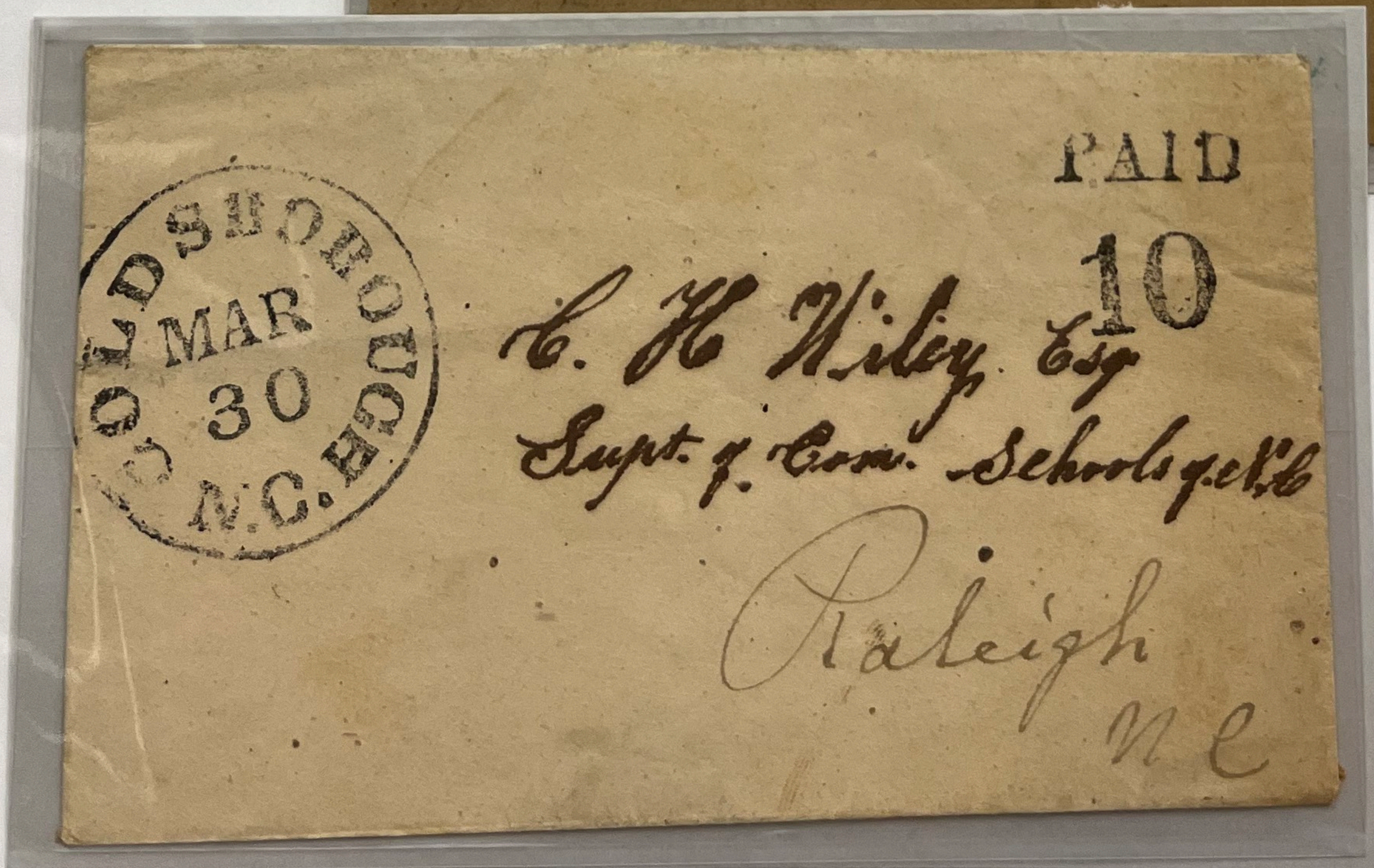


Endorsement Illegible



# Stampless Markings

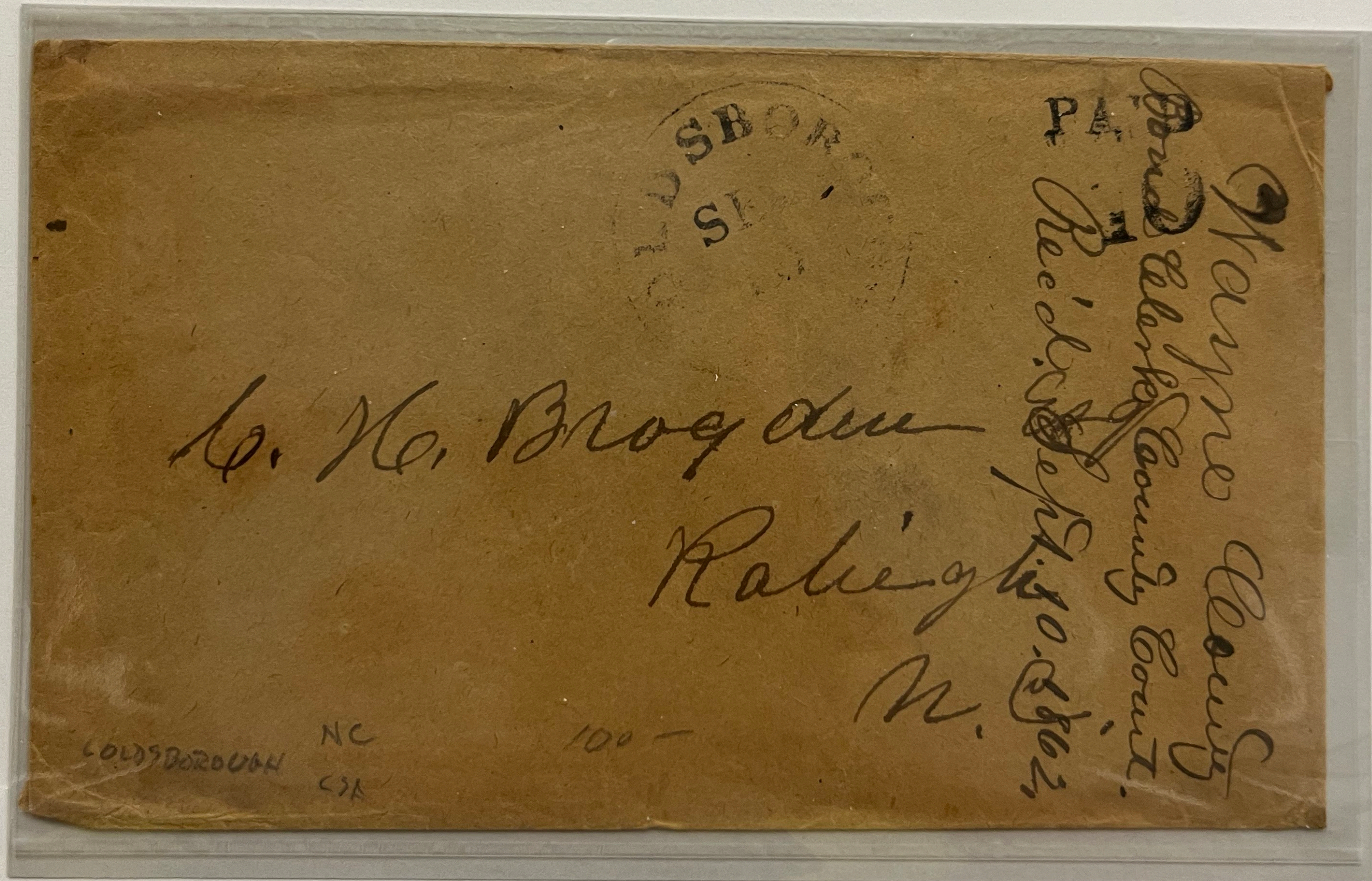
# Handstamps "PAID" & large "10"





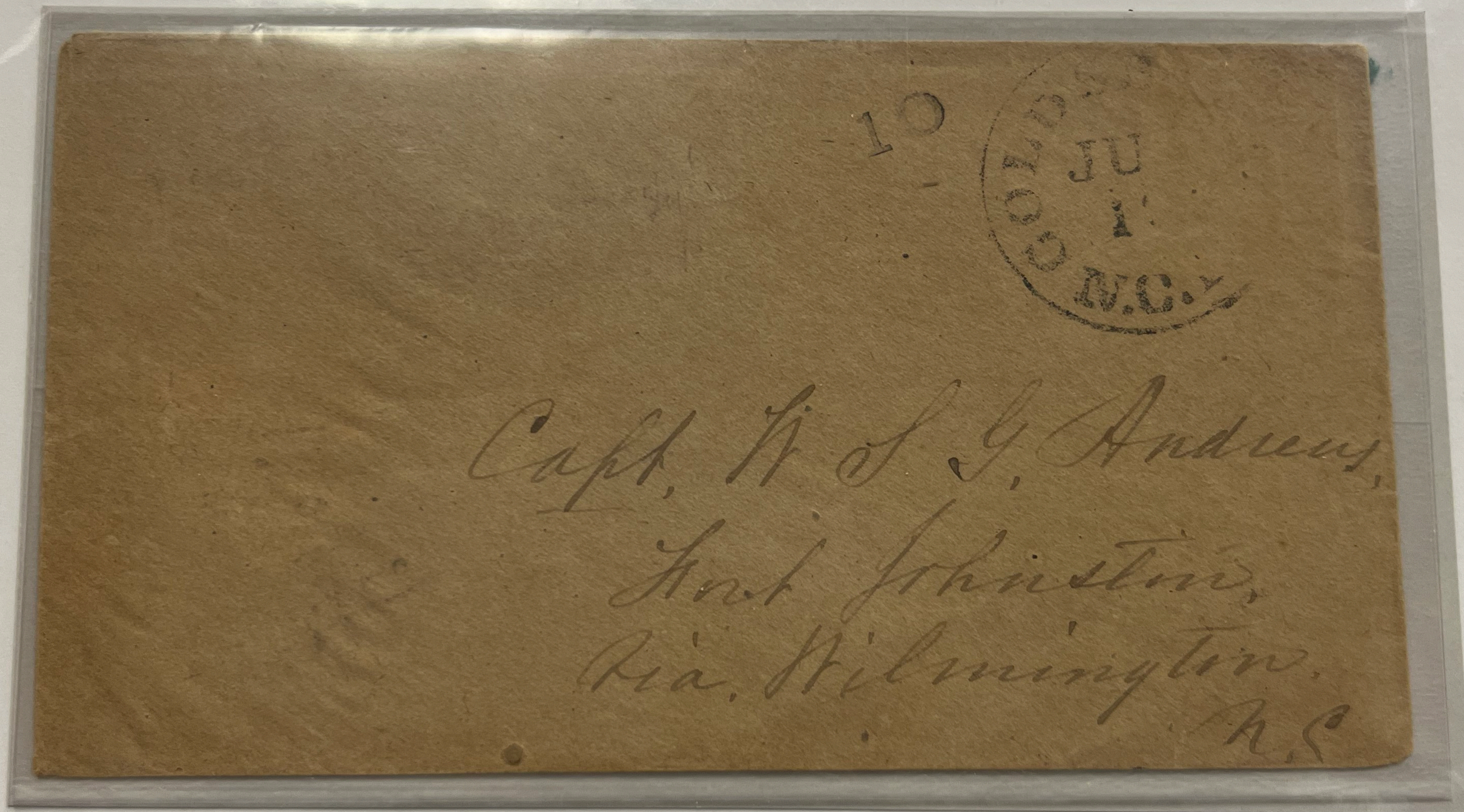
# Stampless Markings

Handstamps  
"PAID" & large "10"





Small "10"



Military Address: Fort Johnston via Wilmington

The stamp may have fallen off the cover before it left the Goldsborough Post Office. The Postmaster used the small "10" marking to show that postage had been paid.



Handstamp "DUE 10"



**Private J. W. Brines**  
**Co. E, Anderson's Battalion**  
**NC Junior Reserve**

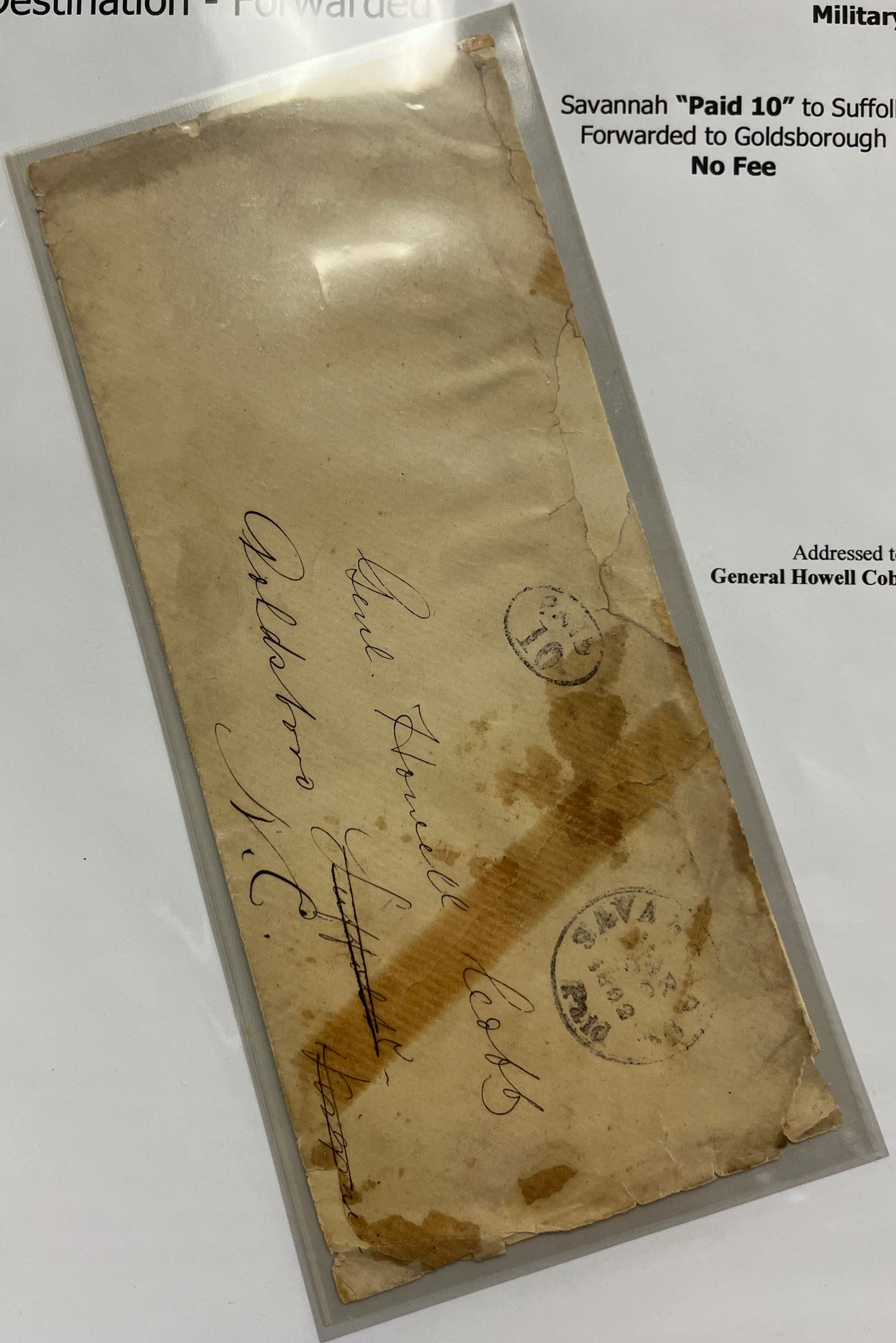


Destination - Forwarded

**Military**

Savannah **"Paid 10"** to Suffolk  
Forwarded to Goldsborough  
**No Fee**

Addressed to:  
**General Howell Cobb**



*Suffolk*  
*Goldsboro N.C.*

PAID

SAVA  
PAID

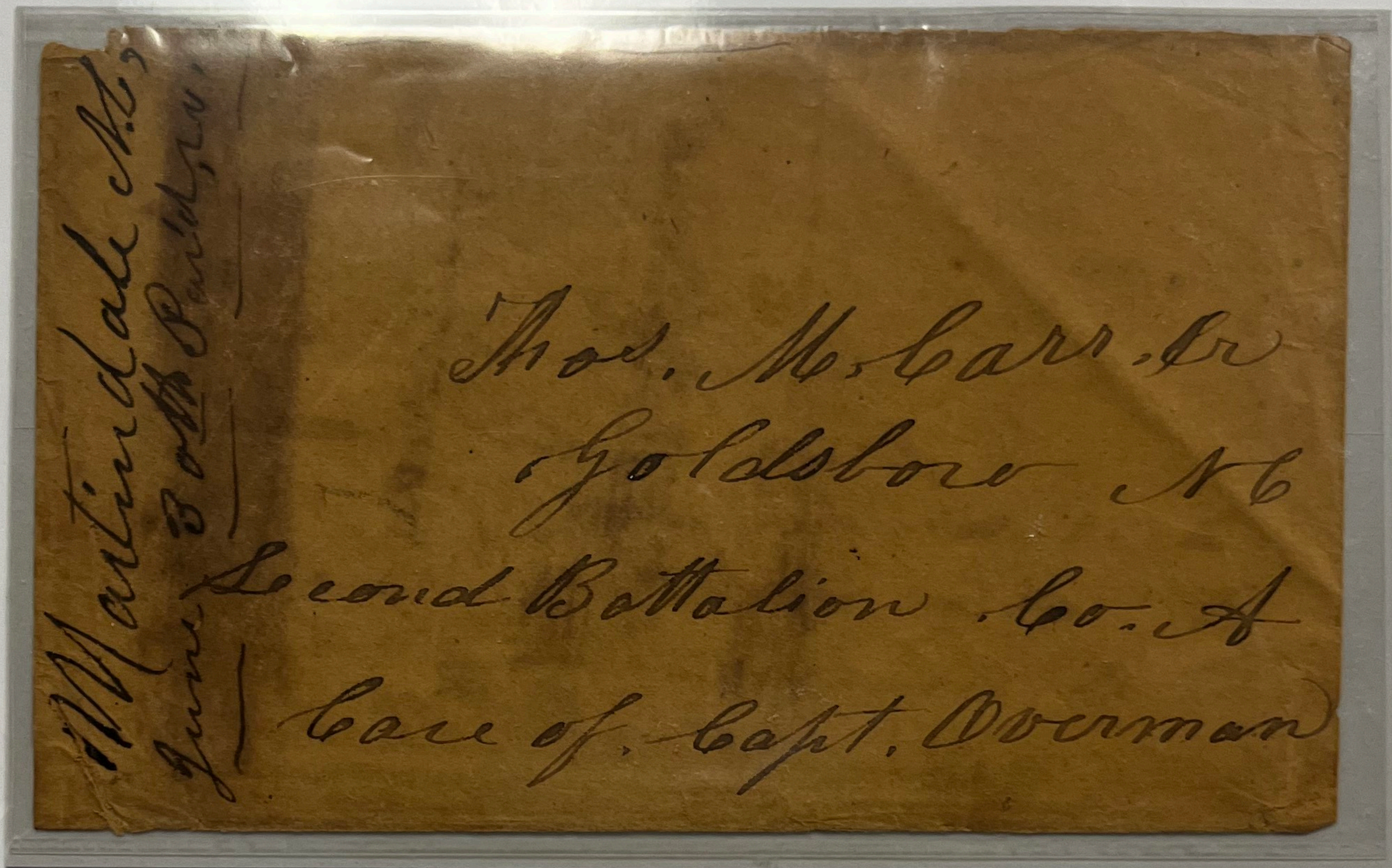
*Cobb*



# Destination Covers

Stampless Markings  
Military Address

Manuscript **Martindale, NC & Paid 10**



Thomas M. Carr, Jr.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, Co A  
c/o Capt. Overman

**Destination** Goldsborough covers are much less common than **Origination** covers. By including Destination covers, however, the scope of this exhibit expands considerably. Some categories of Confederate philately with a Goldsborough **CDS** either have not survived or never existed but do exist as destination covers. For example, other than the handstamp "Paid," there was no Goldsborough provisional, yet many Southern postmasters manufactured provisional stamps or sold pre-stamped envelopes. Examples of both are found in the Destination section of this exhibit. Goldsborough military mail is also enhanced with more units identified confirming the town's strategic importance. Even the modern spelling of Goldsboro appears on Destination covers pre-dating the official name change by many years. So Destination covers improve and expand this exhibit.



**OFFICIAL BUSINESS**  
 Quartermaster's Department  
 RALEIGH, NC



The 50<sup>th</sup> NC Regiment was organized in 1862. Co. B was mostly manned by Robeson County men. The regiment spent most of the war in North Carolina although it was assigned to the Army of Northern Virginia. By 1865 it was part of Hardee's Corp, Hardy's Brigade and assigned to the Joseph Johnston's army.

Raleigh to "Near Goldsboro, NC" (pencil)

"PAID" MAR 1865

Officer Commanding  
 Co. B, 50<sup>th</sup> NC Regiment, Kirkland's Brigade, ANVa

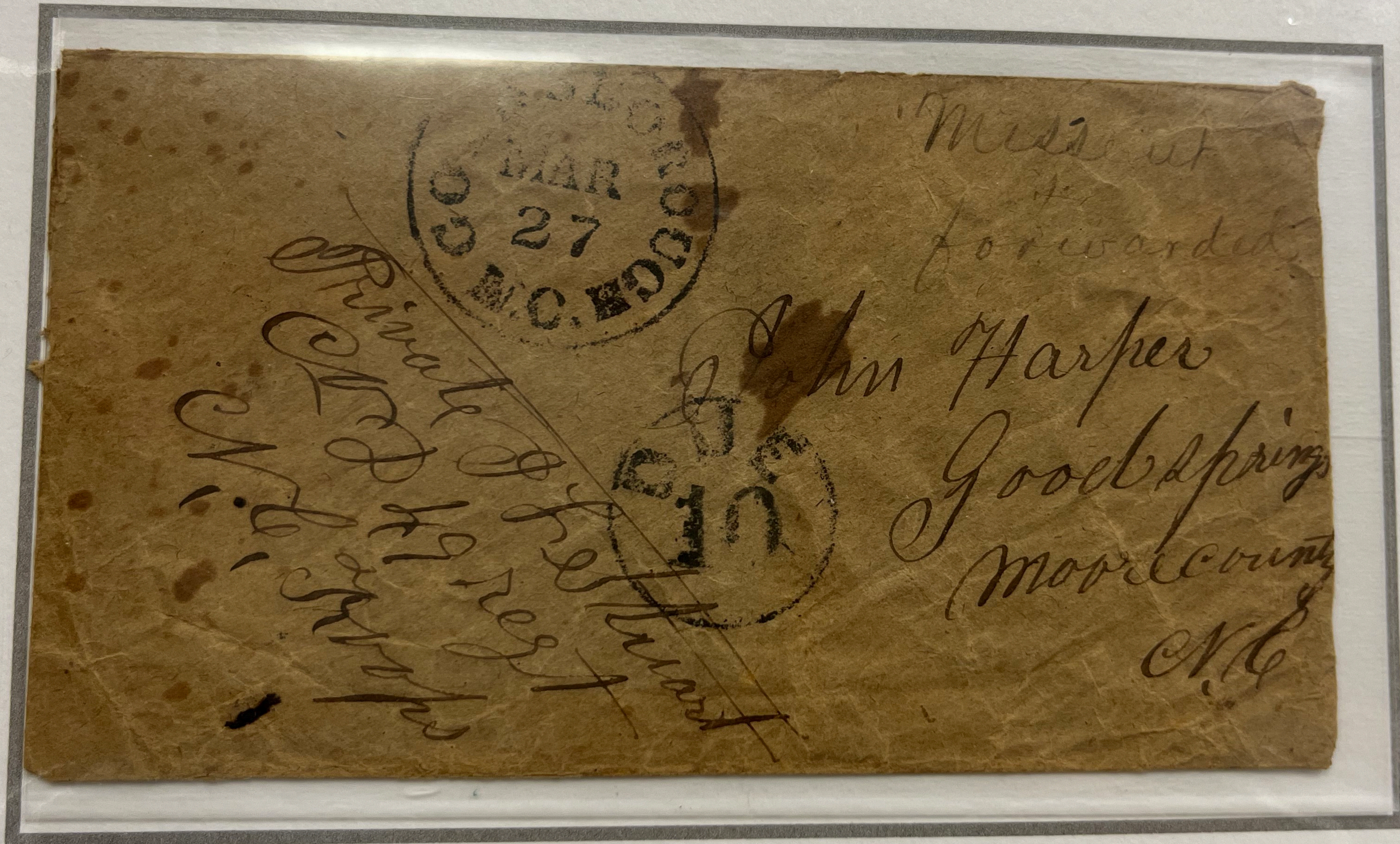
The Regiment participated in both the battles of Averasboro (16 March) and Bentonville (19-21 March). When the armies separated, the Federals occupied Goldsboro while the Confederates concentrated between Smithfield and Goldsboro. Skirmishes continued west of Goldsboro that the Regiment also participated in. Johnston noted that all he could do after Bentonville was "annoy" Sherman. He could not stop him; nevertheless, his depleted force was reorganized. The 50<sup>th</sup> was assigned to Kirkland's Brigade.

The cover is addressed to the "Captain of Co. B., 50<sup>th</sup> NC Regiment, near Goldsboro, NC." The CDS is smudged but "Mar" can be read. Since Goldsboro fell to the Federals on 21 March, the CSA post office closed. It was probably mailed from Raleigh the last week of March 1865. This makes the cover to latest known Confederate "Destination Goldsborough" of the war.

Once the huge Federal army (110,000+) had rested and been resupplied in Goldsboro, it moved west toward Raleigh on 10 April. Johnston repositioned his force to territory between Raleigh and Durham and began the negotiations for the surrender that occurred 26 April ending the war in North Carolina.



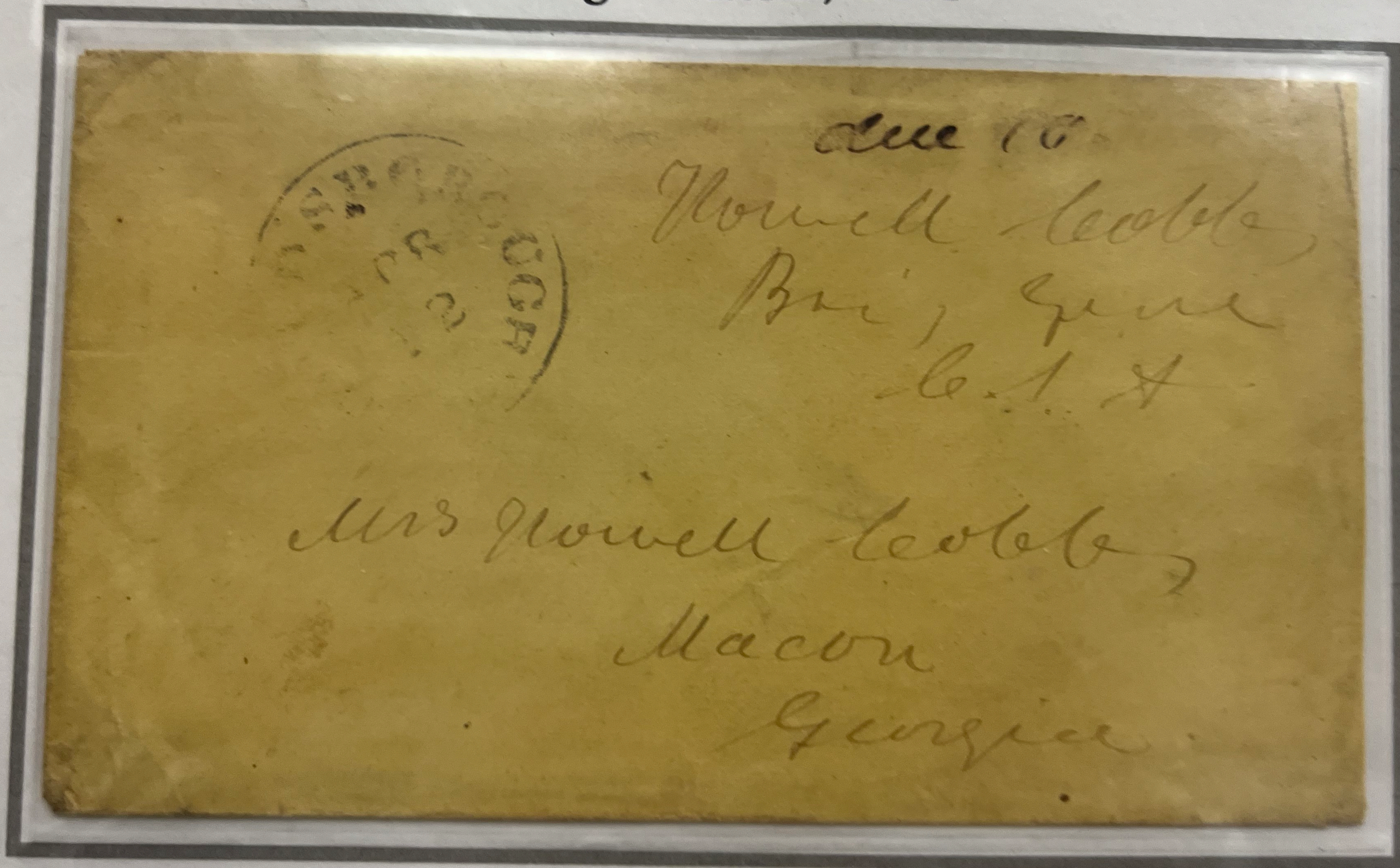
Missent and Forwarded



Priv J. L. Stuart, Co D, 49<sup>th</sup> Reg NC Troops  
Handstamp **DUE 10**



Howell Cobb  
Brig. General, CSA



due 10

Howell Cobb  
Brig. Genl  
C.S.A.

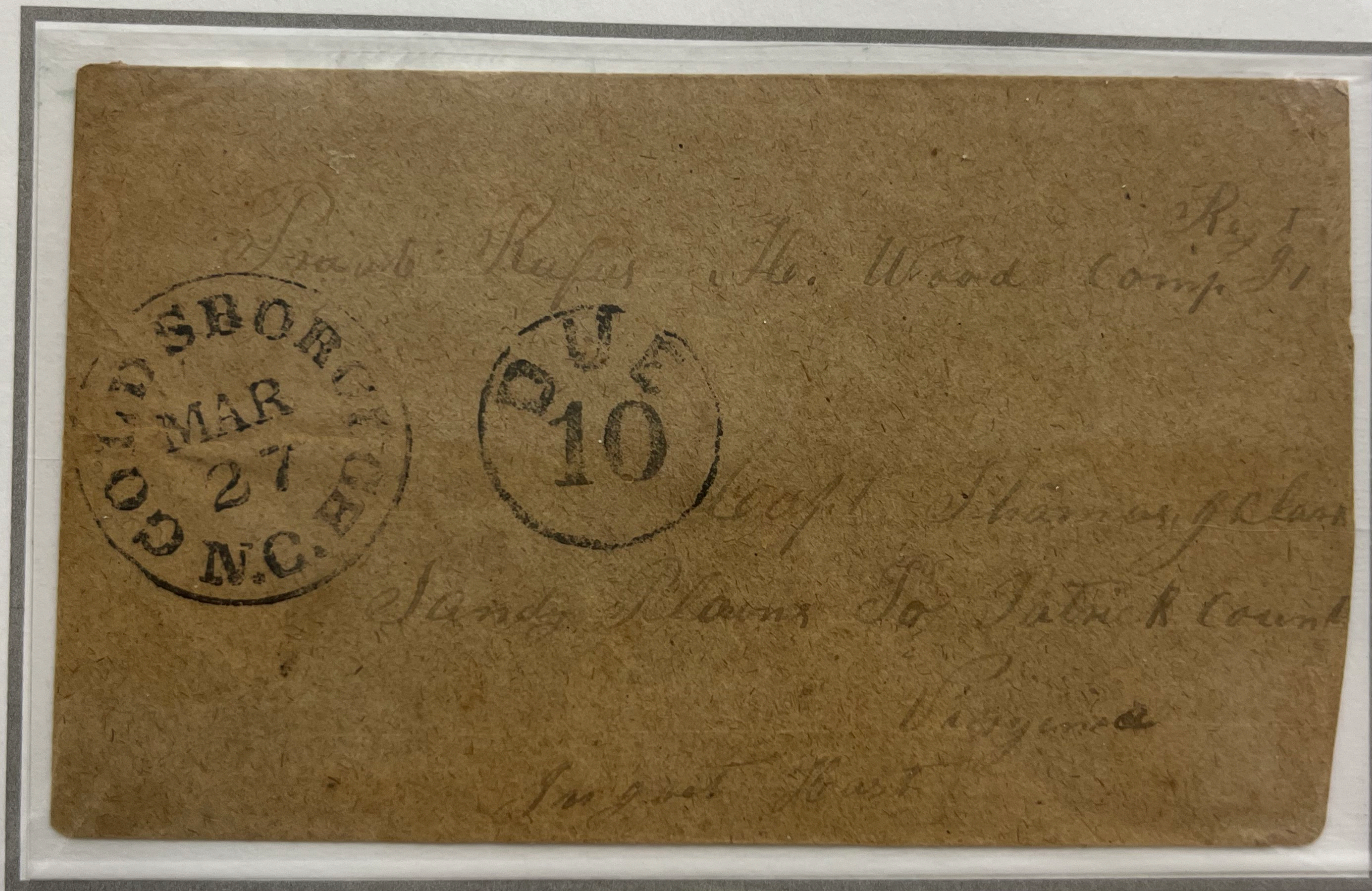
Howell Cobb  
Brig. Genl  
C.S.A.

Mrs Howell Cobb  
Macon  
Georgia

Manuscript **DUE 10**



Confederate forces attacked Federal positions at  
New Bern and Washington March 1863

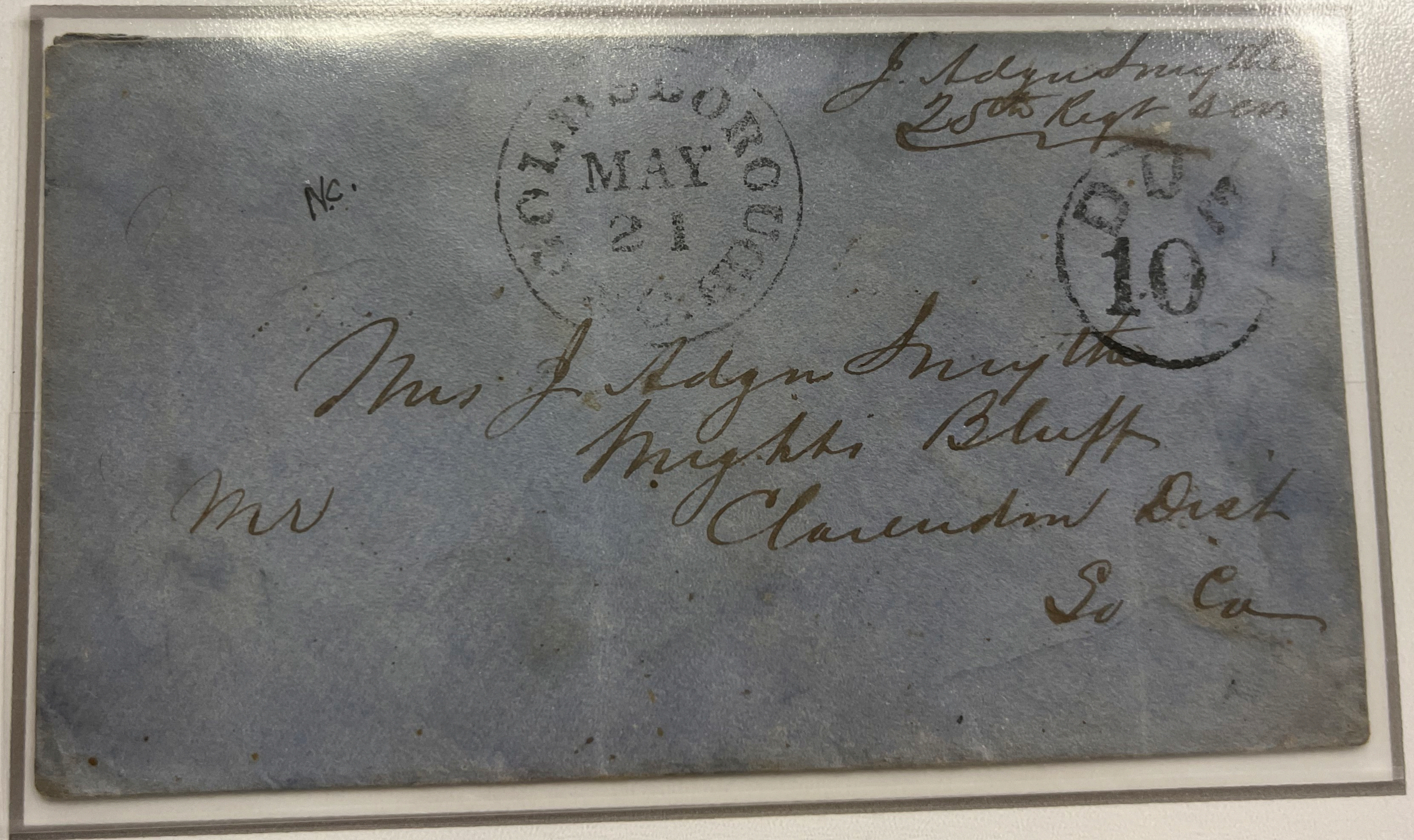


Priv Rufus H. Wood, Co. J, Reg I

Handstamp **DUE 10**



**MILITARY POSTAGE DUE  
HANDSTAMP DUE 10**

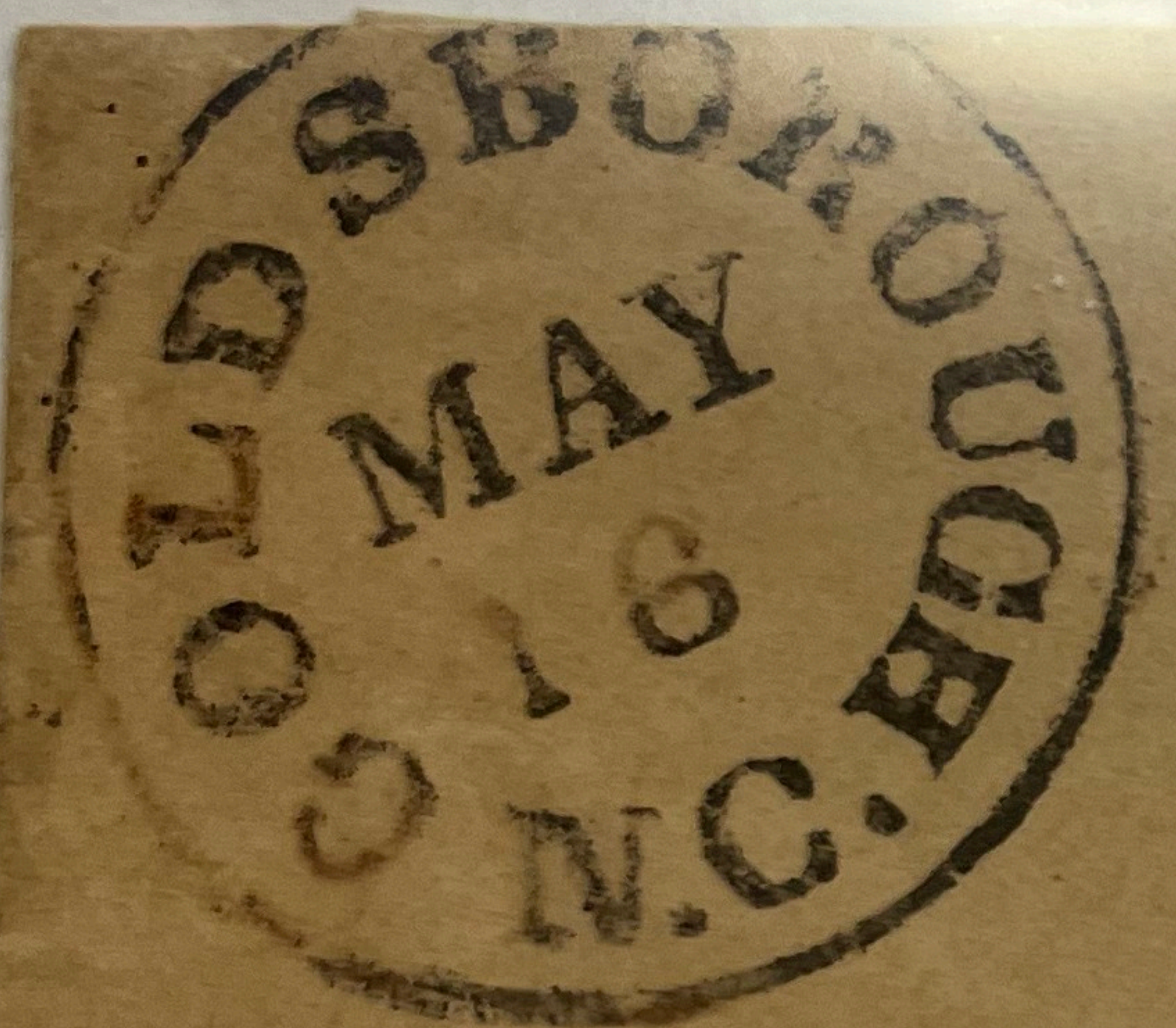


**Goldsborough to Might's Bluff to Charleston**  
 1<sup>st</sup> Use: J. Adger Smythe Co. A, 25<sup>th</sup> South Carolina Infantry  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Use: Capt. W. F, Nance, AAG (hand carried)



Goldsboro Postmaster Provisional

**Paid 10**



Med. Purveyor's Office  
Goldsboro N.C.

PAID  
10

Doct W. H. Harris

Fair Grounds Hospital  
Raleigh  
N.C.

care of  
Surg E. B. Hayward

**ms: Med. Purveyor's Office, Goldsborough  
Goldsborough to Raleigh**