



FLORIDA POSTAL HISTORY JOURNAL

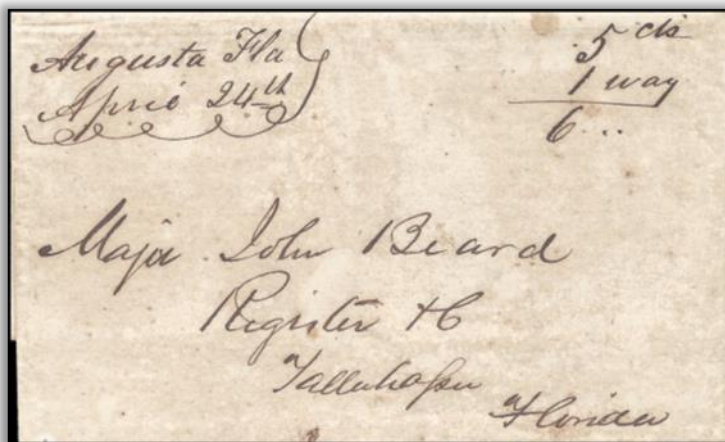
Promoting Philately in the Sunshine State



Vol. 28, No. 3

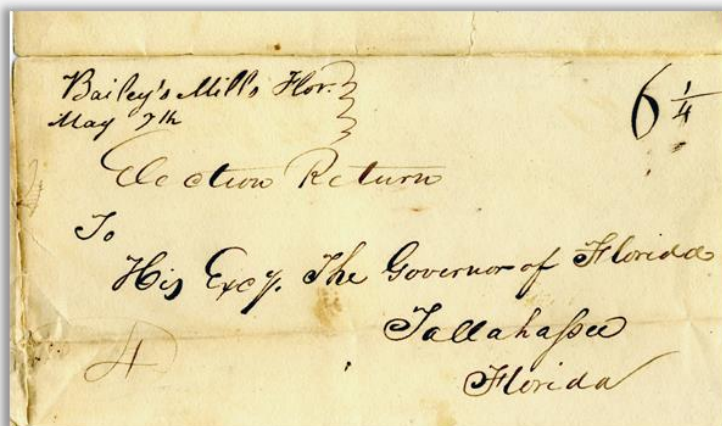
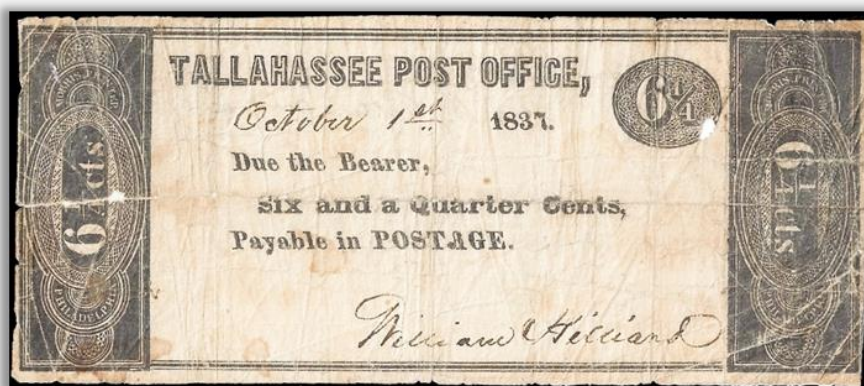
SPECIAL EDITION – July 2021

Whole No. 78



**Florida
“Way” Covers**

**Florida Post
Office Scrip
1837 - 1840**



**Florida 6¼¢ Postal
Rate Census**

FORWARD

With great pleasure, the Florida Postal History Society offers a Special Edition of the *Florida Postal History Journal* to its membership and other interested collectors. Such editions seek to showcase lengthy articles reflecting outstanding original Florida postal history research and composition.

In this edition, Deane R. Briggs, M.D. discusses in “*Florida ‘Way’ Covers*” Spanish West Florida, territorial, and statehood Florida Way covers. Thomas Lera proposes the reasons why “*Florida Post Office Scrip 1837 - 1840*” was issued payable in postage at the Tallahassee Post Office. Phil Eschbach presents twenty-five covers comprising the “*Florida 6¼¢ Postal Rate Census*.”

We hope you will enjoy these offerings and we look forward to the opportunity to present additional articles to the Florida society membership and others in the philatelic community.

Vernon R. Morris, M.D.
President, Florida Postal History Society

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FLORIDA “WAY” COVERS

By Deane R. Briggs, M.D.

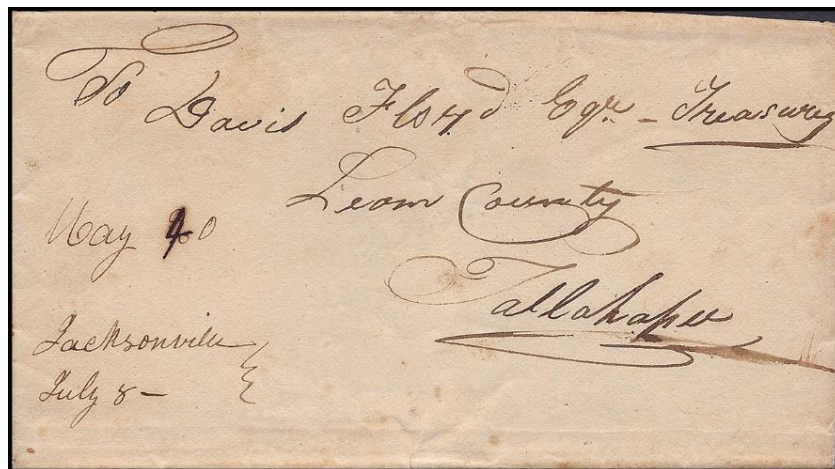


Figure 1. Jacksonville July 8- (1827) type I manuscript postmark with Way 20 rate, corrected to 40 on cover to Tallahassee. (ex Briggs, Johnson)

INTRODUCTION

Way rated covers are extremely uncommon from territorial or statehood period Florida with only one Florida recorded example in the American Stampless Cover Catalog.¹ This article will discuss the various Way usages from Spanish West Florida, four currently known territorial and three known statehood Florida usages. The article will conclude with a listing census of these very rare usages.

Prior to Florida becoming a territory of the United States in 1822, mail was handled at nearby U. S. post offices, St. Marys, Georgia for East Florida and Fort Adams, Pinckneyville and Natchez in the Mississippi Territory for West Florida. Incoming mail for West Florida might also be received at New Orleans for delivery to settlers in West Florida. Most of this mail would be taken personally or by a favored person to and from these post offices with normal postal rates based on the distance from point of entry of the mails. Most of this mail was sent unpaid with postage to be collected from the recipient. This offered some assurance that the mail would arrive and not be lost in-route.

POSTAL REGULATIONS ESTABLISHING WAY FEE

Mail might also be picked up or delivered by a post rider or mail carrier at a plantation or home on his route and taken to the next U.S. post office on his route (on his “way” so to speak). The Act of May 8, 1794, effective June 1, 1794, stated:

“Sec. 15. And be it further enacted that the deputy-postmasters and other agents of the Postmaster-General, shall duly account, and answer to him, for all way-letters, which shall come to their hands. And for this purpose, the post riders and other carriers of the mail, receiving any way-letter or letters (and it shall be their duty to receive them, if presented more than two miles from a post-office) shall deliver the same, together with the postage, if paid, at the first post-office, to which they shall afterwards arrive, where the postmaster shall duly enter the same, and specify the number and rate or rates in the post-bill, adding to the rate of each way-letter, one cent, which shall be paid by the deputy-postmaster, to the mail-carrier from whom such way-letter shall be received.”

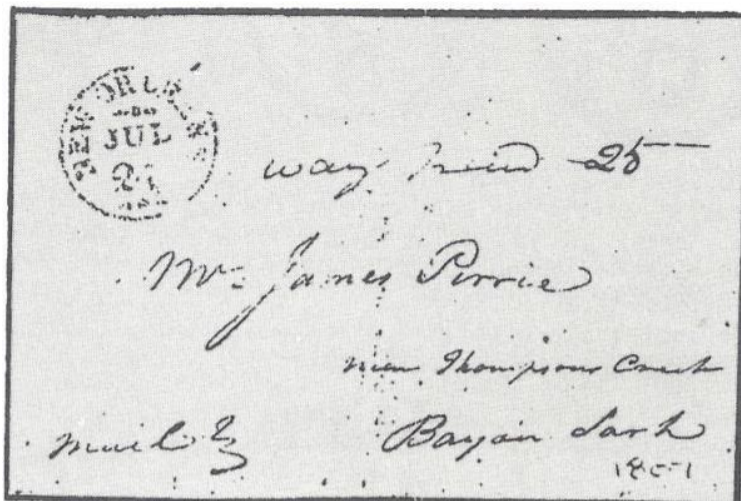
The Postal Laws and Regulations of January 1, 1798, contained additional instructions that “The word way is also to be written upon each way-letter.”

For this service, the mail carrier or route agent would receive a “Way” fee of 1 cent added to the postage from the location of mail pickup to the destination post office. The next post office on the route would calibrate the rate not from that post office but from the actual distance from the pick-up and denote “Way” on the cover. In some cases, this would increase the total postage rate due by the recipient to the next higher level due to the new longer total distance. The additional 1 cent was often added to the total rate but not always. The Way notation itself implied an additional 1 cent to be collected by the recipient when that was not included in the rate on the cover. There are many examples of both Way 25 and Way 26 to the same destination, especially in Spanish West Florida.

SPANISH WEST FLORIDA WAY COVERS

The Postal Regulations of 1804 also provided for the “delivery” of Way letters by carriers in-route between post offices. The mail carrier of such letters was “allowed to demand (from the addressee) and receive two cents, to his own use, besides the ordinary postage.” These instructions allowed mail carriers carrying mail pouches across Spanish territory between Natchez in the Mississippi Territory and New Orleans to deliver letters on their route.

The service of delivery of “Way” letters for residents of Spanish West Florida was initiated at the direction of the postmaster of New Orleans in 1807 and continued until at least 1811. All such delivered way letters were “prepaid” in advance before the letters were handed over to the mail carriers for delivery along the New Orleans - Natchez mail route. Occasionally, mail for Spanish West Florida from New York, Philadelphia or other northern cities would arrive at New Orleans with an unpaid 25 or higher multiple rate. An agent in New Orleans would pay the unpaid rate as well as the additional rate from New Orleans to the location in Spanish West Florida and note Way Paid 25+ an additional rate for delivery.² Thus, we have both “Way” letters picked up on the route and a specific “Way” pre-paid delivery service which benefited United States citizens living in Spanish West Florida. The success of this service is confirmed by the existence of more than 200 examples of delivered “Way” letters, most located in archival collections.



The American Stampless Cover Catalog volume II reproduces the cover in **Figure 2** as an example of the pre-paid Way delivery of letters to Spanish West Florida. The ASCC also records rate markings of Spanish West Florida usages with manuscript Way 12 with a PAID handstamp, manuscript Way paid 12, Way paid 12½, Way paid 25, and Way paid 112½ reflecting unpaid 75 to New Orleans and 37½ triple rate for delivery to Bayou Sarah.²

Figure 2. NEW ORLEANS / JUL 24 (1807) postmark with manuscript Way paid 25 rate to Mr. James Perrie, near Thompsons Creek, Bayou Sarah (Spanish West Florida).²

The David Bradford correspondence, of which eight examples were in the 1985 David Phillips auction of the Charles F. Meroni collection³, is worth documenting. This sale contained the vast majority of all Spanish West Florida covers currently known in philatelic collections.

Bradford was a leader of the Whiskey Rebellion of 1794, which tested the recently established United States Government's ability to enforce its laws. He was a successful businessman, lawyer and Deputy Attorney General of Washington County, Pennsylvania. He and others organized resistance to the Congressional Act of 1791, which levied an excise tax on distilling of whiskey, a thriving and widespread industry in western counties of Pennsylvania. Despite assaults on federal marshals in Pittsburgh, mass meetings of protest, and spreading violence, the Governor of Pennsylvania refused to enforce this excise tax law. In the face of threats by these rural counties to secede from the Union, President Washington was authorized by Congress in August 1794, to call a 15,000 men militia to join Washington, Generals Daniel Morgan and Henry Lee and Col. Alexander Hamilton to quell the rebellion. It quickly collapsed and David Bradford made his way to Spanish West Florida and settled at Bayou Sara, where he received a land grant from the Spanish government in 1797.³

Most of the Bradford letters are addressed to David Redick, Bradford's attorney in Washington, Pennsylvania, and were likely carried on the Natchez Trace postal route to Nashville for eventual delivery to their destination. In one letter, Bradford notes "The post is the only conveyance of certainty. Address me at Natches (sic) or Bayou Sarah – the postmaster at Natches (sic) knows where I live and all letters will be forwarded."

The covers in **Figures 3, 4, and 5** were written to David Redick and picked up by the mail carrier at Bayou Sarah and taken on his route to the post office at Fort Adams in the Mississippi Territory. They were postmarked and rated Way 26 and Way 52 (for double weight). They would then be carried to Natchez where they would continue to Nashville on the Natchez Trace for eventual delivery in Pennsylvania. The total transit time would be about 60 days.

Figure 3. F-Adams, July-26 straightline postmark with Way 26 rate to Washington, Pennsylvania. Meroni sale lot 19.

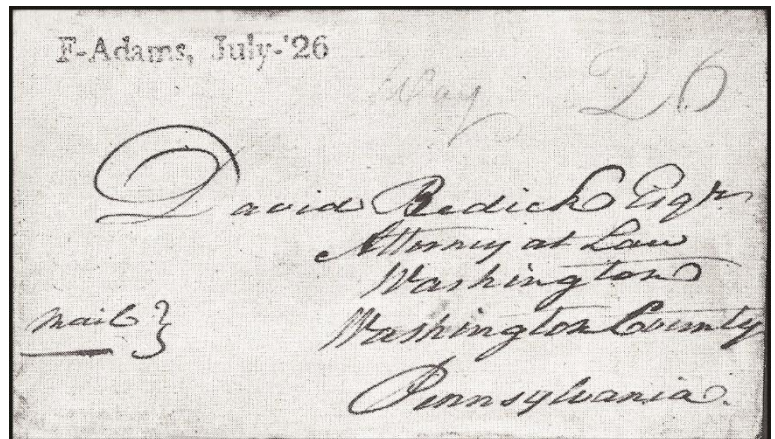


Figure 4. F-Adams, July 26 (1805) straightline postmark with manuscript Way 52 rate on double weight cover to Washington, Pennsylvania. (Courtesy of Rumsey Auctions)

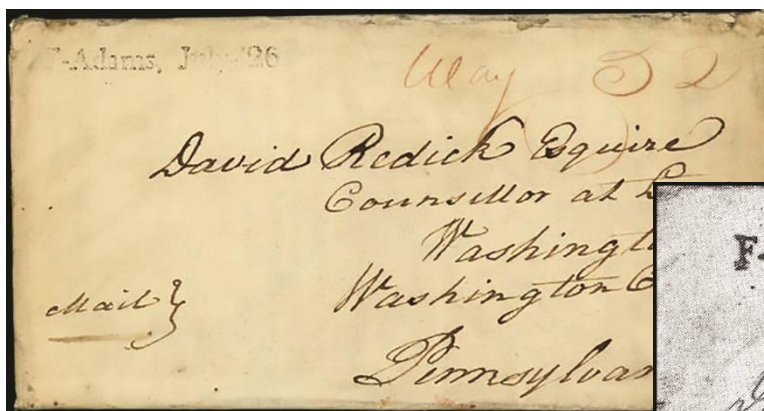
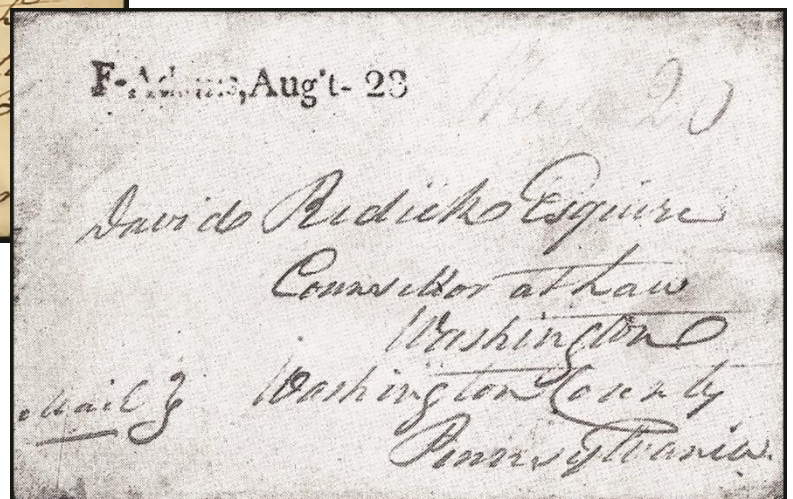


Figure 5. F-Adams, Aug't-23 (1805) straightline postmark with manuscript Way 26 rate to Washington, Pennsylvania. Meroni sale lot 21.





The Meroni Sale also contained four “Way” covers postmarked in New Orleans and addressed to other residents in Bayou Sarah or Baton Rouge in Spanish West Florida. The cover in **Figure 6** was rated Way paid 12c reflecting the 10-cent 40-90 mile rate plus the 2-cent Way delivery fee.

Figure 6. NEW ORLEANS / OCT 9 (1807) postmark with manuscript Way paid 12c to Mr. Philip Hicky, Baton Rouge. Meroni sale lot 23.

Letters in **Figures 7** and **8** were addressed to James Perrie and rated Way paid 25. Both covers were Way delivered covers with an additional 2 cents collected by the mail carrier from James Perrie at Bayou Sarah. These were written by agents Flower & Faulkner regarding cotton prices and were double rated for the 90-150 mile distance from New Orleans to Bayou Sarah.



Figure 7. NEW ORLEANS / NOV 18 (1809) postmark with manuscript Way 25 rate to Bayou Sarah (Spanish West Florida) with “Way paid by Negroe Ratler” on reverse. Meroni sale lot 25.

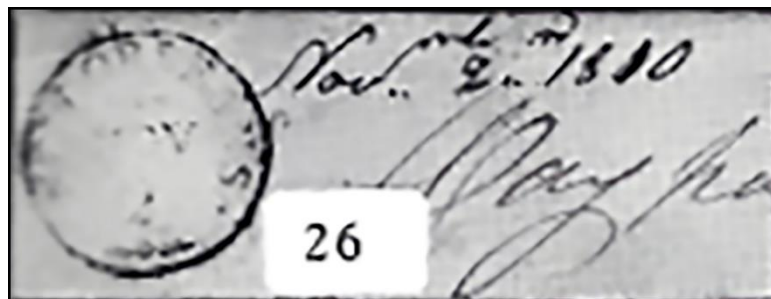
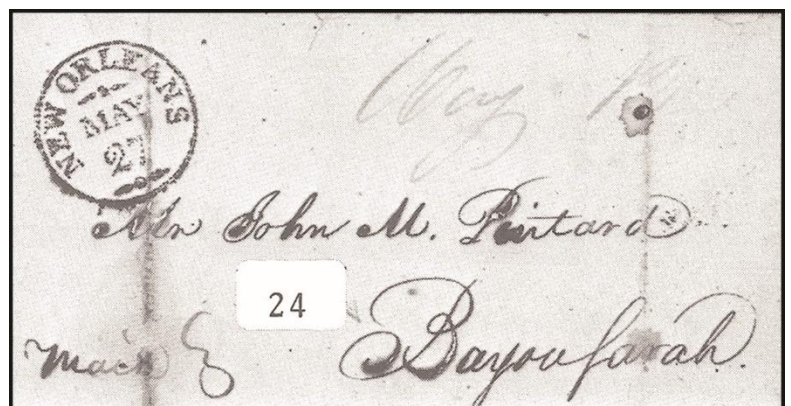


Figure 8. NEW ORLEANS / NOV 2 (1810) postmark with manuscript Way paid 25 rate to James Perrie, Bayou Sarah. Meroni sale lot 26.

The cover in **Figure 9** was addressed to John M. Puitard at Bayou Sarah and rated Way 12½ for the 90-150 mile distance. It was likely picked up by the mail carrier on his way to New Orleans where the postmark and total distance rate was recorded. The carrier would collect the 12½ cent postage and 1 cent way fee from Mr. Puitard as this was not a paid delivery Way cover.

Figure 9. NEW ORLEANS / MAY 27 (1810) postmark with manuscript Way 12½ rate to Bayou Sarah (Spanish West Florida). Meroni sale lot 24.



I have been keeping census data on Florida covers for over thirty years and, in addition to the Way covers sold in the Meroni sale of 1985, I have only come across one more example from Spanish West Florida. **Figure 10** shows a Way 26 rated cover datelined at Bayou Sara (sic), Spanish West Florida to Cincinnati, Ohio. It was carried from Bayou Sarah to Pinckneyville in the Mississippi Territory where it was postmarked and rated (unpaid) Way 26. The letter was subsequently taken to Natchez and along the Natchez Trace to Nashville for distribution to its final destination in Ohio.

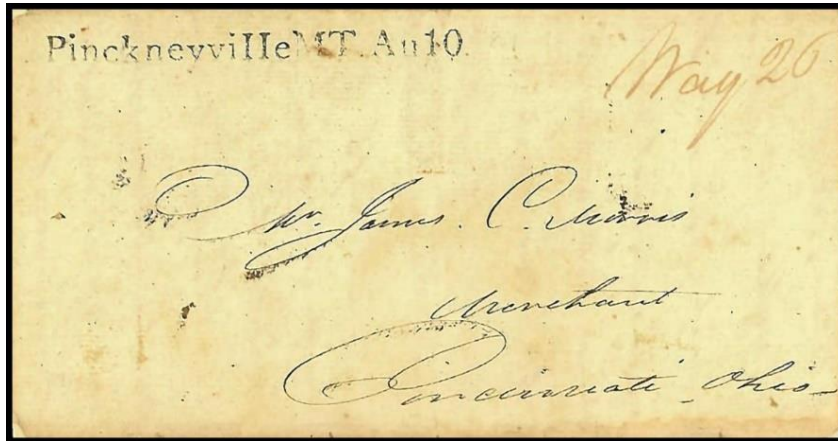


Figure 10. Pinckneyville MT. Au 10 (1807) straightline postmark with manuscript Way 26 rate to James Cikorris, Cincinnati, Ohio. (ex Briggs)

Two other Way covers postmarked at Pinckneyville in the Schuyler Rumsey files may well have originated in Spanish West Florida for delivery to Muskingham, Ohio. These are not listed with dateline enclosures but were mailed at Pinckneyville on November 3, 1808, and September 27 without year date. Both were rated Way 26.

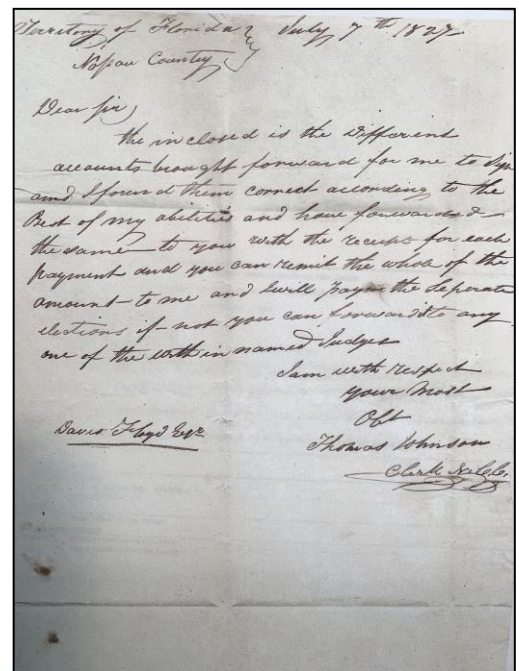
There are a number of other Way covers postmarked in the Mississippi Territory, but none appear to have originated or were delivered in Spanish West Florida.

FLORIDA TERRITORIAL WAY COVERS

The Adams-Onís treaty of cession of February 22, 1819, by which the United States would receive from Spain the lands east of the Sabine River which included Spanish East and West Florida, was ratified by the United States Senate on February 24, 1819. In return, the United States assumed the Spanish debts to United States citizens which claims totaled some five million dollars. Diplomatic delays required a second ratification on February 22, 1821, with the land formally transferred at Pensacola on July 10, 1821.⁴ No Way covers are recorded during the Military Government (pre-territorial) period. Florida became a territory of the United States on March 30, 1822.

As mentioned at the beginning of this article, the American Stampless Cover Catalog records only one Florida Way cover, the Jacksonville type I, July 8 (1827) Way 20 revalued 40 cover (**Figure 1**) and reproduced on page 177 of the book *Florida Postal History 1763-1861*.⁵ The dateline on the inside is from Territory of Florida, Nassau County, July 7, 1827. (**Figure 11**.)

Figure 11. Dateline and inside request for payment of Nassau County judges accounts by the clerk of Nassau County Courthouse. (Courtesy of William H. Johnson, D.D.S.)



The letter requests payment by the treasurer of Florida, David Floyd, for payment of judges accounts for Nassau County which was an additional enclosure. It was signed Thomas Johnson, Clerk N C (Nassau County Courthouse). At this time, Nassau County Courthouse was the county seat for Nassau County but did not have a post office until 1835. There are, however, letters manuscript postmarked Nassau Court House as early as 1832. The above letter must have been picked up by the mail carrier on route 2451 from St. Marys, Georgia, via Nassau Court House, and Frink's to Jacksonville where it was postmarked and rated for the total distance to Tallahassee (150-400 miles) at 18¾ cents plus the 1 cent Way fee and rounded to 20 cents. At Tallahassee it was corrected by the Tallahassee postmaster, Isham G. Searcy, to double rate for the enclosure. Searcy is known to have corrected postal rates of many covers coming to or even just passing through Tallahassee. (See articles by Tom Lera and Philip Eschbach in this journal issue for other uprated examples).

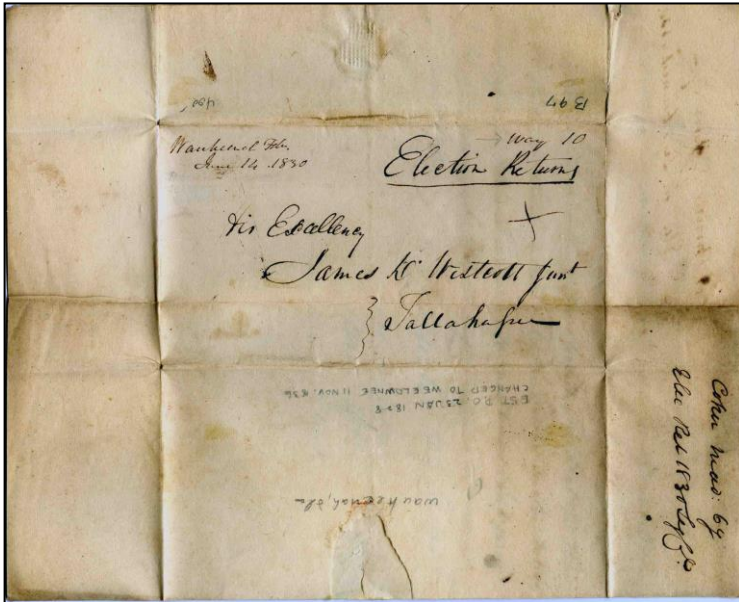


Figure 12. Waukeenah, Fla June 14, 1830 manuscript postmark with unpaid Way 10 rate on cover to James D. Westcott at Tallahassee. ex Briggs. (Courtesy of Philip Eschbach)

The **Figure 12** cover is listed as the earliest known cover from Waukeenah in the American Stampless Cover Catalog (1) but not with the Way rate marking. Waukeenah was the “Joachina” plantation owned by John Gamble who was also the postmaster. Only two covers are recorded from this small post office during its 8-year territorial period existence.

This cover is unusual with the Way 10 rate which initially confused me until Steven M. Roth offered clarification. The distance from Waukeenah to Tallahassee is about 14 miles, so the rate should have been 6¼ cents (under 30 miles) plus 1 cent for the Way carrier not 10 cents. Waukeenah was a stop on mail route 2455, Jacksonville to Tallahassee, via Alligator (Lake City), San Pedro, West Hill, Waukeenah, and Lipona, 190 miles. The route was once a week leaving Jacksonville on Wednesday at 6am, arriving at Tallahassee on Monday at 5pm, taking over five days to complete.⁶

The **Figure 13** cover contained election results for the Legislative Council from Jefferson, Madison and Hamilton Counties. The election was held at the home of a Mr. Silas Coker in Madison County on the first Monday in June. The results showed 12 votes for A. Bellamy and no votes for Asa Townsend. The results were certified on June 7, 1830, by Josiah Stewart, Silas Coker and Stephen Godwin, Inspectors of Election. June 7 was a Monday.

This letter was collected by a mail carrier at the Stewart home or nearby, a location in Madison County, well East of Waukeenah. It was likely picked up on the route from Jacksonville several days later than the (Monday) June 7 date on the certified results, possibly as late as Saturday, June 12. When the carrier arrived on June 14 at Waukeenah, the next post office on the route, the letter was postmarked there, and the rate from where the letter was picked up in Madison County to Tallahassee determined the single sheet 10-cent rate for 30-80 miles. The Way marking denoted that 1 cent was due by the recipient in addition to the 10-cent postage rate. As mentioned earlier in this article, it was not required to add the 1-cent Way fee to the rate; just the notation “Way” sufficed.

This day being the first Monday in June, an election was held, generally by law, for a member of the Legislature Council, for the Counties of Jefferson, Madison, and Hamilton, at the House of Mr. Coker, Madison County, at which place the following old and new Candidates A. Bellamy and J. Townsend

	Bellamy	Townsend
Wright Snapp	1	
David Snapp	2	
Wright Snapp	3	
Paul Popwell	4	
Mr. Evans	5	
W. Johnson	6	
Amos Coker	7	
Wm. Gattet	8	
L.B. Richardson	9	
Silas Coker	10	
Stephen Godwin	11	
Amos Coker	12	

Figure 13. Letter dated 7th June 1830 from Josiah Stewart with certified election results of first Monday in June at home of Mr. Coker, Madison County.

We the subscribers, inspectors of election for County of Madison for a member of the Legislature Council for the Counties Jefferson Hamilton and Madison, do hereby certify that at the said election, held at the House of Mr. Coker, in the said district, there were taken votes a list of whose names is hereto annexed and that said votes were given for A. Bellamy

7th June 1830

Josiah Stewart
 Silas Coker
 Stephen Godwin
 Inspectors of Election

The cover in **Figure 14** is an unusual use of the Way rate without the postmark of the office where it was delivered by the Way carrier. There are examples from other states similar to this one. The letter, **Figure 15**, is datelined Hamilton County May 6, 1832, and contains the 1 Precinct Election for Delegate to Congress. It lists 7 voters, the first of which is Appleton Rossetter. He was also one of the three Inspectors of the Election which was likely held at his home.

Way - 6 1/4

Joseph Bryant
 Clerk of the County
 Court for Hamilton
 County Florida

Figure 14. Way - 6 1/4 manuscript notation on cover to the Clerke (sic) of the County Court for Hamilton County Florida. (Courtesy of James Milgram, M.D.)

Figure 15. Letter datelined Hamilton County May 6, 1832 from Appleton Rosseter with election returns for 1 Precinct.

Rossetter's Ferry did have a Hamilton County post office at this time which was established on February 14, 1832, with Robert Clayton the postmaster. Appleton Rosseter became postmaster the next year on February 20, 1833, and the post office was likely located at the ferry site crossing the Suwannee River. This letter was picked up by the mail carrier at Rossetter's home on the postal route from Rossetter's Ferry to Micco Town C.H. which was the courthouse of Hamilton County. It was Micco Town that the under 30-mile rate was charged 6¼ cents and the Way notation applied for a total postage due of 7¼ cents.

The cover in **Figure 16** is similar to the example in **Figure 14** without a postmark where it entered the mails. The cover is a printed bill of lading form from New York with a personal notation datelined N. York 13 March 1835. The Way rate marking is in the same handwriting as the letter writer so he must have given this to a mail carrier at his office and it entered the mails in New York. It was sent most likely on the main mail route to Tallahassee where it was given to a mail carrier going toward Quincy with a stop at Wildwood to deliver the letter. The Postal Act of March 3, 1825, set all Way mail at 1-cent which would include delivery to Wildwood.

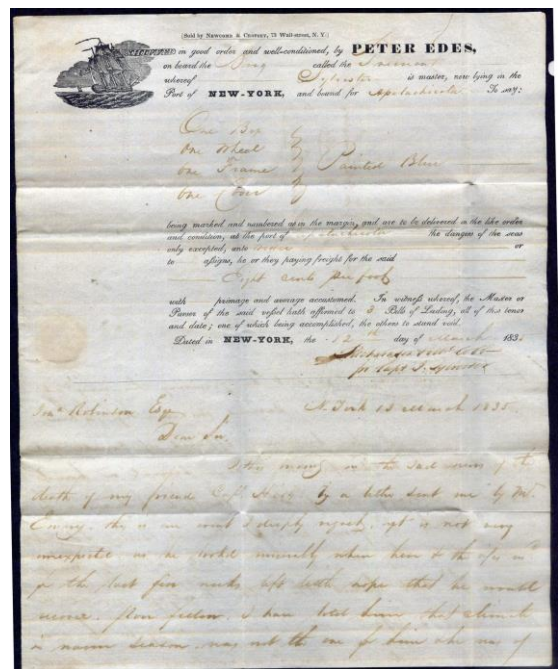
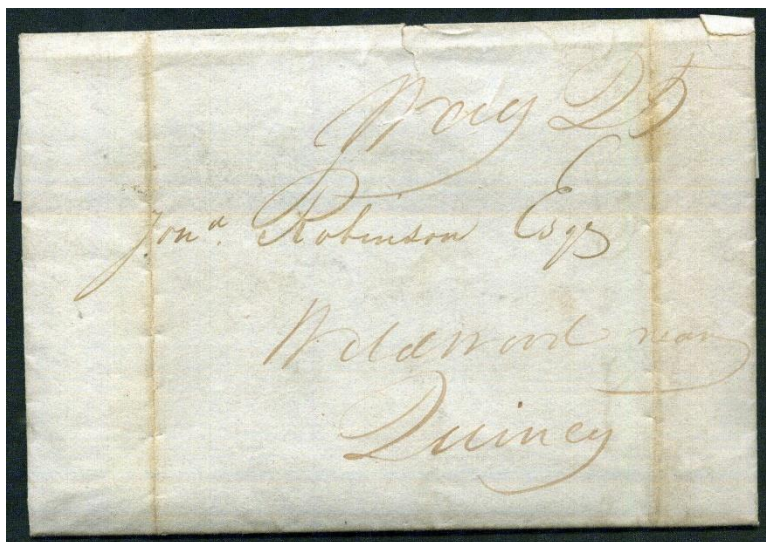
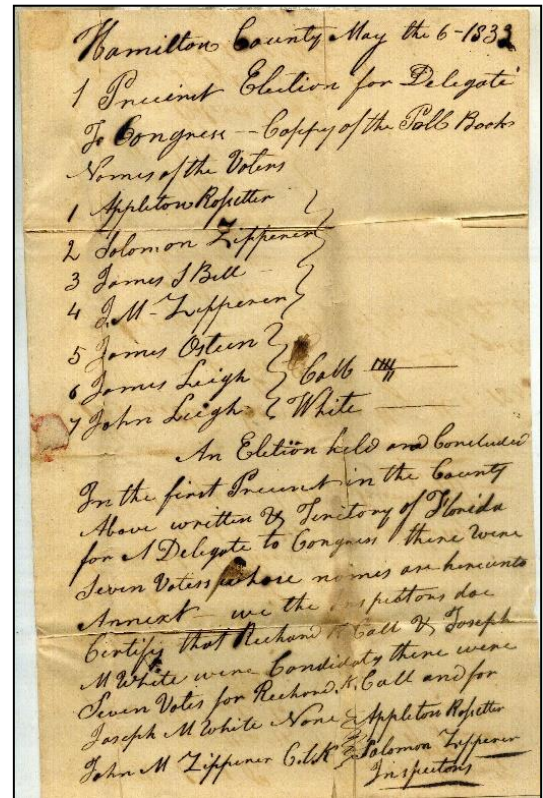
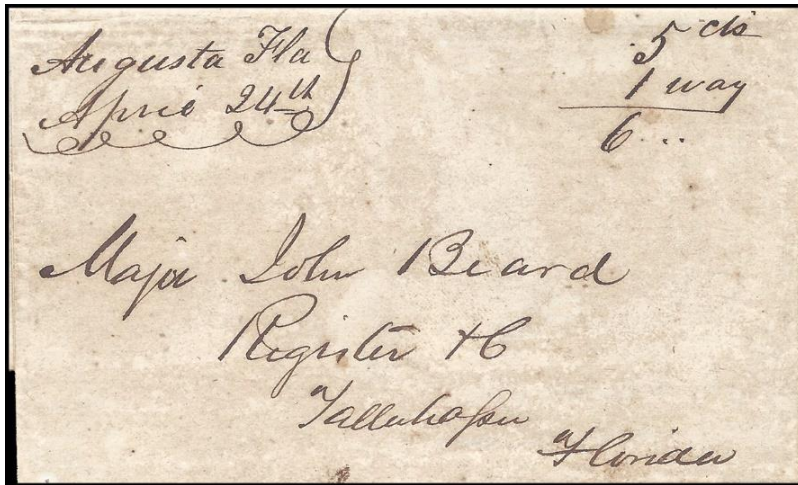


Figure 16. Way 25 manuscript rate on cover from New York to Wildwood near Quincy. (Courtesy of James Milgram, M.D.)

FLORIDA STATEHOOD PERIOD WAY COVERS

Although there are no Statehood Florida Way covers listed in the American Stampless Cover Catalog, I have had 3 such covers in my collection. I know of no others.



The cover in **Figure 17** clearly shows the 1-cent Way fee added to the under 300-mile 5-cent rate per Act of March 3, 1845. Unfortunately, there is not an enclosure to note where on the route to Augusta the letter was picked up. It must have been along Route 3525, a once a week short 9-mile route between Melendez and Augusta. At Augusta it would be postmarked and rated and then return to Melendez on the same return route where it would connect to route 3506, going north to Ocala with connection to Tallahassee.

Figure 17. *Augusta Fla / April 24th manuscript type I postmark with 5cts rate with 1 Way added to total 6 on cover to Tallahassee.*

The cover in **Figure 18** does have a dateline of “near Cottage Hill June 27th 1850”. This letter must have been picked up at the home of the writer, Daniel P. Myers, by the mail carrier along Route 3525, after leaving Melendez and taken to Augusta to be postmarked and rated Way 6. It would then re-enter the mails going to Tallahassee. I have been unable to find any mention of “Cottage Hill” and would be most interested to learn its location.

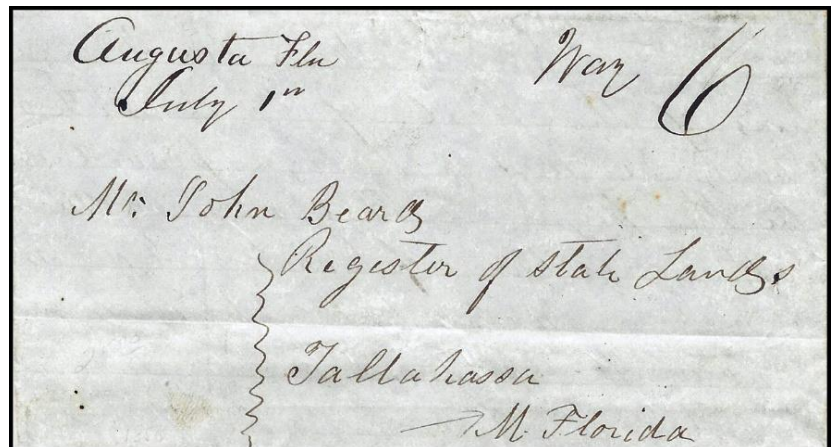


Figure 18. *Augusta Fla / July 1st (1850) manuscript type I postmark with Way 6 rate to Tallahassee.*

The cover in **Figure 19** has a misspelling of the Picolata post office, but it must have been the way the postmaster spelled it in manuscript as it is similarly misspelled in the other (type I) example recorded on page 316 of the *Florida Postal History 1763-1861* reference book.⁵

There is no enclosure to determine where the letter was picked up, but likely on Route 3502 between St. Augustine and Picolata, with once weekly service. From Picolata, it would go on Route 3251 by steamboat twice a week, North to Savannah for eventual delivery to Massachusetts.

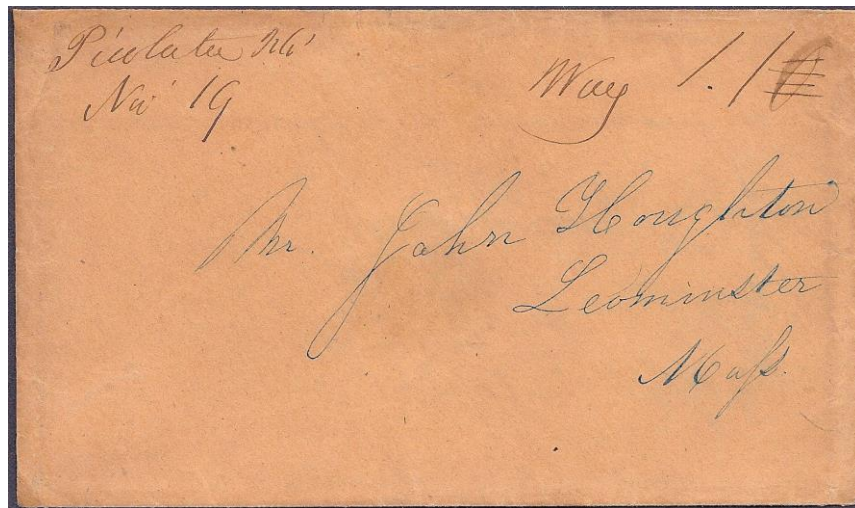


Figure 19. Picclata Fla (sic) Nvr 19 type II postmark with Way 10 corrected to 11 rate on cover to Mass. (ex Briggs) (Courtesy of William H. Johnson, D.D.S.)

The following is a census of known non-archival Way covers, both to and from Florida and Spanish West Florida. Any additions or corrections are welcome to the author or the webmaster of the Florida Postal History Society to update the reference archives. The author appreciates the assistance of Tom Lera, Steven Roth, Phillip Eschbach, William H. Johnson, D.D.S., James Milgram, M.D., Schuyler J. Rumsey Philatelic Auctions, Inc., and Robert A. Siegel Auctions Galleries, Inc. for sharing cover scans and editorial comments.

CENSUS OF FLORIDA WAY COVERS (non-Archival)

1. F-Adams, July-26 (1805) Way 26, to David Redick, Esqr., Attorney at Law, Washington, Washington County, Pennsylvania.
2. F-Adams, July-26 (1805) Way 52, to David Redick Esquire, Counsellor at Law, Washington, Washington County, Pennsylvania.
3. F-Adams, Aug't-23 (1805) Way 26, to David Redick Esquire, Counsellor at Law, Washington, Washington County, Pennsylvania.
4. NEW ORLEANS / JUL 24 (1807) Way paid 25 to Mr. James Perrie, near Thompsons Creek, Bayou Sarah.
5. NEW ORLEANS / OCT 9 (1807), Way paid 12, to Philip Hicky, Baton Rouge.
6. NEW ORLEANS / MAY 27 (1809) Way 12½ to John M. Puitard, Bayou Sarah.
7. NEW ORLEANS / NOV 18 (1809) Way 25 to James Perrie, Bayou Sarah.
8. NEW ORLEANS / NOV 2 (1810) Way paid 25 to James Perrie, Bayou Sarah.
9. NEW ORLEANS (1807) Way paid 12½ to Bayou Sarah (2)
10. NEW ORLEANS (1807) Way paid/25 to Baton Rouge (2)
11. NEW ORLEANS (1808) Way paid 25 to Bayou Sarah (2)
12. NEW ORLEANS (1809) Way PAID 12½ to Bayou Sarah (2)
13. Pinckneyville MT. Au 10 (1807) Way 26 to James Cikorris, Merchant Cincinnati, Ohio.
14. Jacksonville July 8- (1827) Way 20 corrected to 40 to David Floyd Eqr. Treasury, Leon County, Tallahassee.

15. Waukeenah, Fla June 14, 1830 Way 10 to His Excellency, James D. Westcott, Just, Tallahassee.
16. Way - 6¼ (no postmark) to Joseph Bryant, Clerke (sic) of the Countey (sic), Court for Hamilton, County Florida.
17. Way 25 (no postmark) to Jon d. Robinson, Esq, Wildwood near, Quincy.
18. Augusta Fla / April 24th 5cts rate with 1 Way added to total 6... to Major John Beard, Register H, Tallahassee, Florida.
19. Augusta Fla / July 1st (1850) Way 6 to Mr. John Beard, Register of State Lands, Tallahassee, M Florida.
20. Picclata Fla (sic) Nvr 19 Way 10 corrected to 11 to Mr. John Houghton, Leominster, Mass.

Endnotes

- ¹ American Stampless Cover Catalog Vol. I, David G. Phillips Publishing Co., Inc., North Miami, FL 33261-1388, 1997, p.50.
- ² American Stampless Cover Catalog Vol. II, David G. Phillips Publishing Co., Inc., North Miami, FL 33261-1388, 1987, pp.152-157.
- ³ The Florida Collection of Charles F. Meroni, David G. Phillips Co, Inc., auction catalog January 25 & 26, 1985.
- ⁴ Tebeau, Charlton W., *History of Florida*, University of Miami Press, Coral Gables, Florida, 1971, pp.114-118.
- ⁵ Briggs, Deane R., Ferguson, Francis, Lera, Thomas M., *Florida Postal History 1763-1861*, Florida Postal History Society, Highlands, North Carolina, 28741, 2018, pp.26,45,316,436.

The Author

Deane R. Briggs, M.D. has been active in Florida and national philately for over 40 years. In 1992, he helped reestablish the Florida Postal History Society (APS Affiliate 227). Over the past 27 years, Dr. Briggs has held every officer position for the society. From 1994 to 2008, he served as editor of the *Florida Postal History Journal* and has written 227 articles for the journal.

Dr. Briggs was one of the editors of the first edition of *Florida Stampless Postal History 1763-1861*, as well as co-editor of the second revised and extended edition, *Florida Postal History 1763-1861*, published in December 2018. An active member of the Civil War Philatelic Society (APS Affiliate 73), Dr. Briggs has served as trustee, Vice-President and, most recently, President from 2016-2020. The Alliance published his award-winning book, *Florida Postal History During the Civil War*, which included a census listing of all recorded covers from Florida towns during the Civil War.

Dr. Briggs was an organizer of the Civil War Exhibition and Symposium held at the American Philatelic Center from October 24-26, 2019. The extremely successful symposium showcased 125 frames of the finest Union and Confederate exhibits ever assembled.

Florida Post Office Scrip 1837 - 1840

By Thomas M. Lera

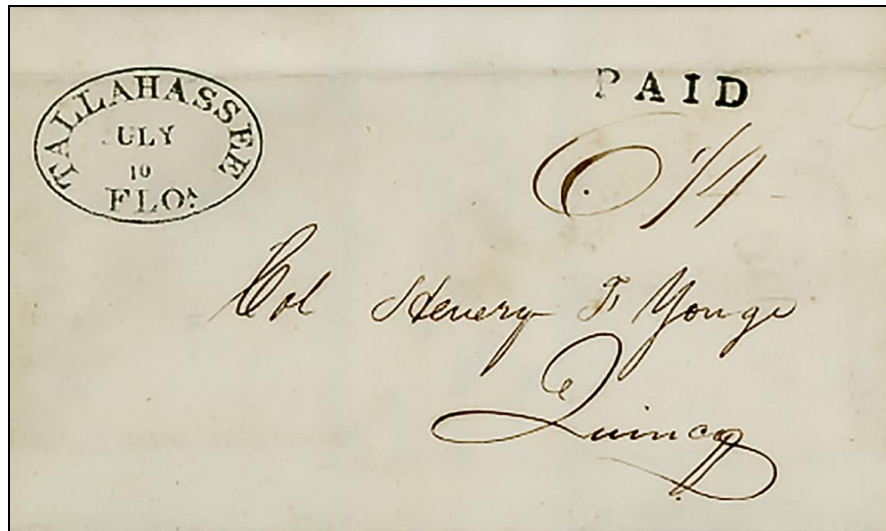


Figure 1. July 10, 1834 Tallahassee. FLO^A "Type V" postmark to Quincy with 6¼ cents PAID "Type e" handstamp applied by Isham G. Searcy Tallahassee postmaster. (Courtesy of Rumsey Auctions, Sale 67, Lot 1366)

INTRODUCTION

According to the Act of 1793, foreign coinage was legal tender in the United States.¹ The April 9, 1816 Act authorized the rate of 6 cents for single page letters traveling 30 miles or less.² However, letters during the 1816-45 period are found from various parts of the country showing postage of 6¼ cents (*Figure 1*). This convenience amount was adopted by some postmasters in response to circulating coinage, some of which consisted of Spanish and Mexican ½ reales and British 3-pence coins valued at 6¼ cents.³

In the 1800s the United States Treasury issued coins and Treasury Notes which were simply signed "promissory notes" that earned interest and did not circulate (similar to Treasury Bonds). Paper currency or bank notes were also issued by national, state, and local banks which were prohibited from making small denominations by their regulating authority (the state legislature or the U.S. Congress), making their notes difficult to use for many purchases.

Small coinage was disappearing from circulation due to political and economic hardships. In 1837 and 1838, a financial crisis was causing the collapse of banks which in May 1837 led Postmaster General Amos Kendall to suspend specie payments on paper bank notes.⁴ Various forms of scrip replacing small change proliferated across the United States and its territories, including Florida. Only Monticello and Tallahassee issued scrip "payable in postage at the post office."

Scrip was issued by individuals, mercantile stores, lumber mills, railroads, and insurance companies as well as some town governments like the Corporation of the City of Tallahassee. It was a form of credit redeemable by the bearer on demand in specie or current bank notes, store merchandise, transportation (freight or passage), or postage. A bank note was essentially a promissory note to pay the bearer, on demand, a specific amount of money.

TALLAHASSEE POST OFFICE SCRIP

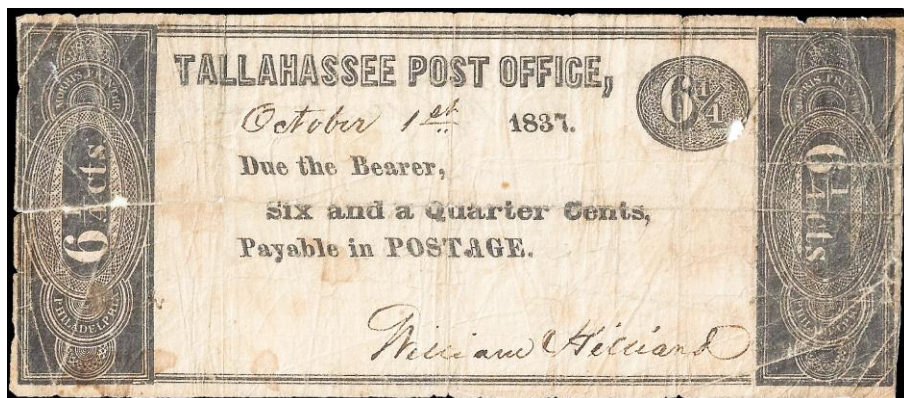


Figure 2. Simplistically designed scrip "Payable in POSTAGE," dated October 1st, 1837, with the Morris Printer Philadelphia imprint and signed by William Hilliard. (Courtesy of Ronald J. Benice, Florida Paper Money #90 - 6 1/4 cents scrip.⁵)

In 1837 in Tallahassee, William Hilliard issued scrip in denominations of 6 1/4, 12 1/2, 18 3/4, 25, and 50 cents inscribed "TALLAHASSEE POST OFFICE Due the Bearer, ...(amount)..., Payable in POSTAGE" (*Figure 2*).

On March 1, 1839, there was one recorded scrip, *Figure 3*, signed by W. Hilliard, issued "Due the Bearer, SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS, at the Post Office, in Tallahassee, Florida, payable in postage."



Figure 3. The 75-cent scrip was probably an essay/sample to show Hilliard the capabilities of the printing company. (This is the only known copy and is signed.⁶)

In late 1839, Hilliard issued scrips in denominations 6 1/4, 12 1/2, 25, 50, and 75 cents and \$1.00 inscribed, "Good to the bearer for ...(amount)... at the POST OFFICE in Tallahassee payable in postage or Current Bank Notes." Some of the known scrips have "or Current Bank Notes" lined out, signifying the bearer could only redeem them in postage (*Figure 4*).

Figure 4. This elaborately designed 6 1/4 cents scrip with manuscript date Dec 13, 1839, "payable in postage or Current Bank Notes," was imprinted by the New England Bank Note Co., Boston and signed by William Hilliard. Note: "or Current Bank Notes" is lined out. (Courtesy of Benice, Florida Paper Money #100 - 6 1/4 cents scrip)



WILLIAM HILLIARD

After searching newspaper, historical, and genealogy archival records, I found Hilliard was a director and shareholder of the Central Bank in 1835⁷ and was on the City Council of Tallahassee from 1835-1838. He served a partial term as Intendant (Mayor) of Tallahassee in 1836 and a full year term as Mayor in 1838.⁸ In 1837, he was also an appraiser of the Union Bank for Leon County.⁹ However, he was never a post office employee.

Hilliard was an attorney and Justice of the Peace in the Justice's Court of Leon County, District of Tallahassee from 1838 - 1840 and, in 1839, Receiver of the Court of Chancery, Middle District Florida. In 1840, he was a Committee Member of the Democratic Republican Party.

As a Mason at Jackson Lodge N^o 1, F. & A.M. (the local Free and Accepted Mason Lodge), he was listed as R.W. William Hilliard. When a Mason becomes and completes his term as District Deputy Grand Master, he receives the designation "R.W.", a Masonic abbreviation for "Right Worshipful." Beginning in 1836, he was Grand Treasurer and continued holding this position through 1842.¹⁰

In *Methodism in Tallahassee* in 1836, Rev. Joshua Knowles, pastor of the Trinity Methodist Church, mentions Hilliard as one of his faithful assistants when there were a number of sicknesses, deaths, and Indian alarms.¹¹ Hilliard was an important, respected man in Tallahassee between 1833 and 1842.

ISHAM G. SEARCY

Searcy was a cartographer and Adjutant General of the Florida Militia in the early 1820s and was Postmaster of Tallahassee from 3/25/1826 to 4/16/1841 (*Figures 1 and 5*).

Figure 5. FREE frank by I.G. Searcy PM. Tallahassee Fl T. with Tallahassee oval Type IV, Apr 24, 1835. (From the author's collection)



In the Jan. 14, 1833 *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Florida held in the City of Tallahassee*, Searcy and Hilliard are both listed - R.W. Isham Green Searcy, Grand Secretary and R.W. William Hilliard, Grand Lecturer pro tem.¹² In 1836, Searcy was Grand Master of Jackson Lodge N^o 1, F. & A.M. He died July 24, 1841 during the Tallahassee yellow fever epidemic.

WHY DID WILLIAM HILLIARD ISSUE TALLAHASSEE POST OFFICE SCRIP?

Hilliard likely had a post office "charge box" in Tallahassee as member of the city council, mayor, and Union Bank appraiser. Hilliard's "charge box" was used not only for payment of postage on outgoing letters, but also to pay the postage due on incoming letters. With the lack of coinage in Tallahassee banks, Searcy may have proposed a type of credit arrangement using scrip so Hilliard could make small change to complete transactions.

Hilliard would issue scrip in denominations matching the 1816 postal rates and give them to his customers in lieu of small change. They would bring the scrip to the post office and use them to claim their letters. Searcy would

debit Hilliard's "charge box" and would not be responsible for any scrip losses since they were backed by the funds in Hilliard's account.

The official post office position was stated in the *1832 Postal Instructions: Section 63*: "Postmasters were not authorized to grant credit to patrons for postage."¹³ The post office instructions would be followed, albeit some might say loosely. Hilliard's scrip was a solution to the growing small change problem and probably alleviated some of the unclaimed letters at the post office.

TALLAHASSEE POSTMASTER AND POST OFFICE BENEFITED

The *14th Congress, Session 1, Chapter 43, Section 2* authorized each postmaster commission on the postage collected by him, adequate to his services. The percent of the sales he received as compensation varied from 30% on sales less than \$100, to 25% on sales between \$100-\$400, to 20% on sales between \$400 and \$2400, and dropped dramatically to 8% on sales over \$2400.¹⁴

Postmaster Isham G. Searcy's compensation was for the year ending:

- 03/31/1827 - \$306.13
- 03/31/1831 - \$565.15
- 03/31/1835 - \$807.94
- 03/31/1837 - \$1,279.28
- 03/31/1839 - \$1,546.84

Correspondingly, compensation was for the year ending in 1839:

- William B. Ross, Jacksonville PM - \$280.40
- Hanson Kelly, Pensacola PM - \$1,081.48
- Elias Wallen, St. Augustine PM - \$765.04

Searcy's compensation compared to others in Florida's three largest towns was significantly higher. His compensation over this 13-year period increased 505%, while Tallahassee's population grew 79.6%, from 900 in 1830 to 1,616 in 1840. Leon County's total population in 1840 was 10,713.¹⁵

Did Searcy's compensation increase because of Hilliard's small change scrip, or was it due to the dramatic growth of Tallahassee's governmental, commercial, agricultural, and military necessities which increased the volume of mail? It may have been a combination of the two. Either way, the Tallahassee post office and its postmaster were beneficiaries.

TALLAHASSEE POST OFFICE SCRIP CENSUS

In 2011, Ronald J. Benice, a member of the Florida Postal History Society and numismatist, published *Florida Paper Money: An Illustrated History, 1817-1934*. The number before the denomination is the Benice catalog reference number. (See Appendix 1 for Illustrations of the Tallahassee script.)

First issues were all a typeset design: 1837 was printed, month and day were handwritten. Imprint with Morris Printer Philadelphia in the left and right borders.

- Benice No. 94. 6¼ cents (Cassidy No. 359)¹⁶ - 6 cents postal rate – not over 30 miles
- There was no 10 cents scrip which corresponded to the postal rate 31 to 80 miles
- Benice No. 95. 12½ cents (Cassidy No. 360) - postal rate for 81 to 150 miles
- Benice No. 96. 18¾ cents (Cassidy No. 361) - postal rate for 151 to 400 miles

- Benice No. 97. 25 cents (Cassidy No. 362) – postal rate over 400 miles
- Benice No. 98. 50 cents. (not listed in Cassidy) – double 25 cents postal rate over 400 miles

Second issue had a written date of March 1, 1839. Three vignettes were printed on the script. No information on printer.

- Benice No. 99. 75 cents with Benjamin Franklin, Battle of Lake Erie scene, and George Washington (Cassidy No. 363)

Third issues were undated, except for one which had a written December 13, 1839. Each denomination has a vignette and is imprinted New England Bank Note Co. Boston.

- Benice No. 100. 6¼ cents with two men drinking ale and woman raking (Cassidy No. 364)
- Benice No. 101. 12½ cents with a steamboat at a wharf (Cassidy No. 365)
- Benice No. 102. 25 cents with sprockets, gears, and an eagle on a rock (Cassidy No. 366)
- Benice No. 103. 50 cents with farm maiden holding a sheaf of wheat and a dog looking up
No imprint on image by New England Bank Note Co. Boston (Cassidy No. 367)
- Benice No. 104. 75 cents with sailboats (Cassidy No. 368)
- Benice No. 105. \$1.00 sailboats, steamship, and covered wagon (Cassidy No. 369)

MONTICELLO POST OFFICE SCRIP

Darius Williams, Monticello Postmaster from 10/16/1835 – 12/02/1853, was the only other Florida postmaster who issued scrip. It is recorded as “payable for postage at the post office.”

Darius Williams arrived in St. Marks, Florida in 1829 on board a sailing vessel from Baltimore, Maryland. He moved to Tallahassee, Florida and opened a mercantile store. His first wife was Hannah Adams, daughter of Wesley Adams of Jefferson Co. Florida. They had two sons named William and Samuel. Later, they moved to Monticello, Florida purchasing the block between Pearl and Dogwood Streets and building a home there. Hannah passed away around 1835. On 8/12/1838, Darius married Pamela Goode Palmer and they had eight children.

He was a great proponent of education. During the annual 4th of July celebration at Palmer’s Tavern in 1832, his toast to the crowd was “Public schools, the best guarantee of social progress.” He was also on the board of trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church.¹⁷

One of the earliest stores and first brick mercantile store in Monticello was the Darius Williams and Company, established in 1832 with partner John Craig. The partnership dissolved in 1838 and Williams continued the store for many years. Later, he formed another partnership with William Denham and Joseph Palmer, which continued up to the 1850s. The scrip was used at the post office and his store (*Figures 6-8*), and was occasionally used at his store signed by his partners (*Figure 7*).¹⁸

All of the known issues were undated, each denomination had a vignette and were believed to be circulated between 1837-1840.

- Benice No. 3. 6¼ cents with horse (Cassidy No. 180)¹⁹
- Benice No. 4. 12½ cents (not listed in Cassidy).
- Benice No. 5. 25 cents with four-horse stagecoach (Cassidy No. 181)
- Benice No. 6. 50 cents with two allegorical standing women (not listed in Cassidy)
- Benice No. 7. \$1.00 (not listed in Cassidy)



Figure 6. The 6¼ cents scrip signed by D. Williams. Note “payable in postage at the post office” is overwritten “in Union Bank bills.” This clearly shows the scrip was used both in William’s store and the post office.

Figure 7. The 25 cents scrip signed by Darius Williams’ partners (Wm.) Denham & (Joseph) Palmer. Note “postage at the post office” is cut out showing the scrip is payable anywhere in Monticello Florida.

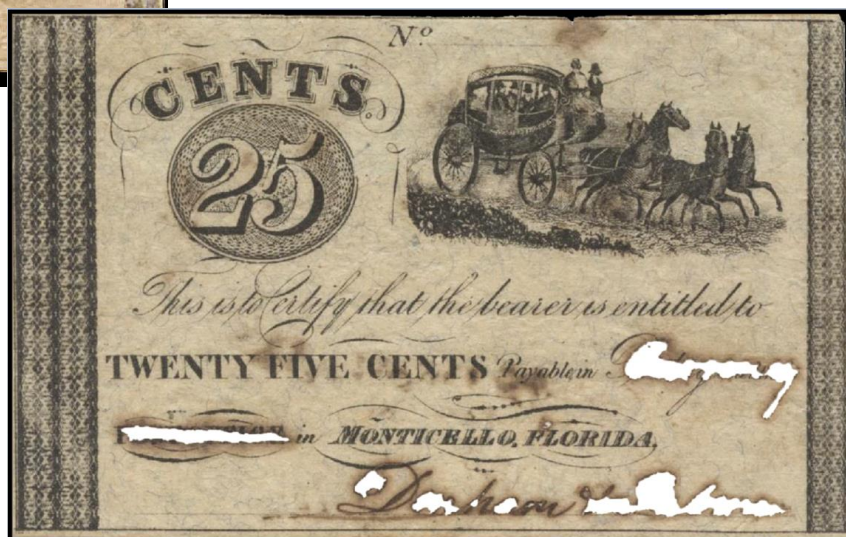


Figure 8. “Payable in postage at the post office” 50 cents scrip signed by D. (Darius) Williams.

As postmaster, Williams used the scrip for change. He would have to balance his post office books to account for an outstanding credit until the scrip was redeemed. This was different from the Hilliard scrip which was redeemed for postage from his “charge box”.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Thank you to Deane R. Briggs and Steven M. Roth for their research and comments; Ronald Benice for his assistance in the Tallahassee Post Office Scrip; Claude Kenneson of the Tallahassee Historical Society for his help in locating information on William Hilliard and Isham G. Searcy; William Schultz for comments and discussion about 6¼ cents letters, and Baasil Wilder, National Postal Museum librarian for his help in locating Tallahassee post office information. The Reference Department, State Library of Florida and Susan T. Schneider, State Archives of Florida provided information on Hilliard's Tallahassee activities, and the script images in Appendix 1 are shown with the permission of William Youngerman, Hometown Currency Virtual Museum. Your help was greatly appreciated.

APPENDIX 1²⁰

In Tallahassee, scrip was issued from 1837 to 1841 by the Corporation of Tallahassee in 7 different denominations (6¼, 12½, 25, 50, and 75 cents, 1 and 2 dollars) to help alleviate the shortage of change in circulation. These scrips were "redeemable at the Union Bank of Florida in Current Bank Notes." Various banks, merchants, and individuals also issued notes and scrip including William Hilliard.

Chartered November 17, 1829, the first territorial bank established in Florida was the Bank of Florida at Tallahassee. It was so inept and irresponsible the legislators found it necessary to create another bank to absorb its affairs. February 11, 1832, the Central Bank of Florida was chartered to purchase the assets of the Bank of Florida, including its charter, which could be sold or transferred.

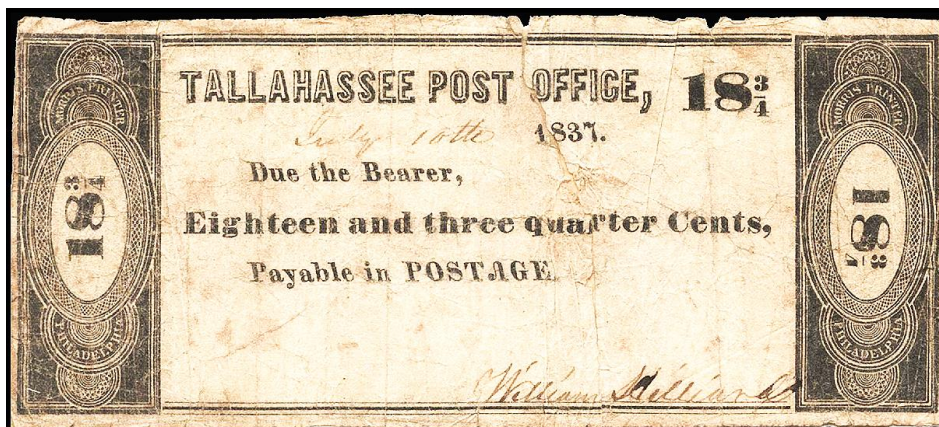
Banking troubles began in earnest with the panic of 1837. The Union Bank was forced to suspend specie payment on May 10, 1837, as it needed additional capital. The Union Bank of Florida purchased the Central Bank in 1838, along with its valuable asset, the Bank of Florida charter.

The Tallahassee banks were in financial trouble. Finally, in 1842, The Bank of Florida charter was sold to satisfy creditors of the distressed Union Bank. Shortly thereafter the Union Bank suspended operations. Its banking powers were officially suspended March 16, 1843 by an Act of the Territorial Legislature. Two years later the charter was declared forfeited.

Frustrated with scarcity of small change, William Hilliard, with the assistance of Isham G. Searcy postmaster of Tallahassee, offered three issues of scrip. The first notes were dated July 10, 1837 (*Figure 9*). When their use had

been exhausted, a March 1, 1839 scrip was issued. The final issue of numerous denominations appeared in December 1839.

Most of these notes are not dated and some display signatures other than William Hilliard's.



*Figure 9. William Hilliard 18¾ cents scrip, dated and signed.*²¹

Each scrip of the 1839 issue has different type fonts for the Denomination, Cents, Text, Post Office, and Tallahassee, Flor. It appears the New England Bank Note Company in Boston prepared them in these different formats so they could not be counterfeited (**Figures 10-14**).

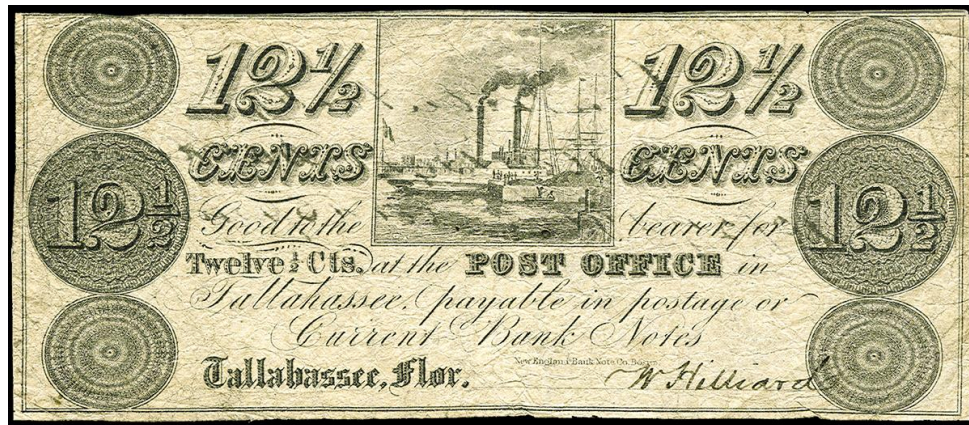


Figure 10. W. Hilliard 12½ cents scrip.



Figure 11. W. Hilliard 25 cents scrip with "or Current Bank Notes" lined out.

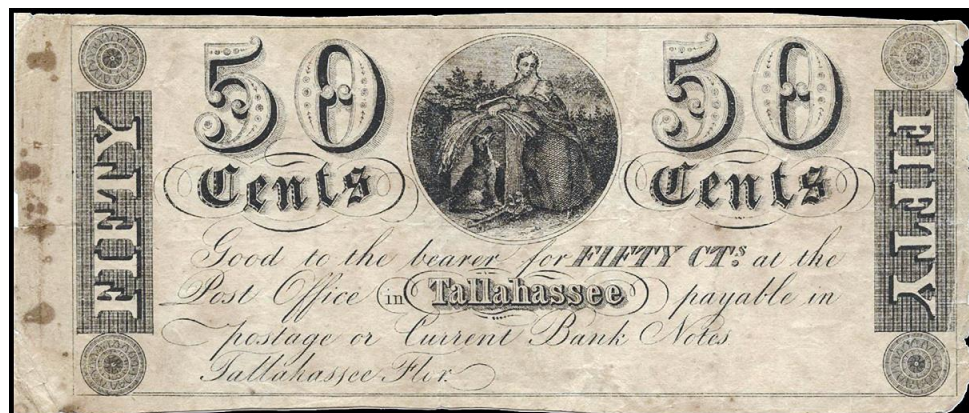


Figure 12. Unsigned 50 cents scrip and no imprint by New England Bank Note Co. Boston.



Figure 13. W. Hilliard 75 cents scrip with “or Current Bank Notes” lined out.



Figure 14. W. Hilliard One Dollar scrip with “or Current Bank Notes” lined out.

Endnotes

¹ Second Congress, Session II, Chapter V. – An Act regulating foreign coins, Section 1. After July 1, 1793 foreign gold and silver coins shall pass as current money within the United States and be legal tender for the payment of debits and demands. Approved February 9, 1793. pg. 300.

² 14th Congress, Session 1, Chapter 43. Rates of postage after May 1, 1816. pg.263.
<https://www.loc.gov/law/help/statutes-at-large/14th-congress/session-1/c14s1ch43.pdf>.

³ Schultz, Bill and Smith, Jasmine, *Scarce Postal Rate of 6¼ Cents*. <https://sixandaquartercensus.omeka.net/>.

⁴ DeBlois, Diane & Harris, Robert Dalton, *Yesterday in U.S. Stamp News: Currency & The Post* (From U.S. Stamp News, May-June 2001). http://www.stampnewsonline.net/StampNewsOnline-PW/YesterdayinUSSN/YIU%202012/YIU_0612_DeB_Currency.pdf.

⁵ Benice, Ronald J., *Florida Paper Money: An Illustrated History, 1817-1934, 2011*, Chapter 5: Obsolete Notes and Scrip – Tallahassee, pp. 159-161. Number before the denomination is the Benice catalog reference number. It includes currency issued by the Territory and the State of Florida; scrip and notes issued by cities and counties, banks, railroads, insurance companies, merchants, and individuals.

⁶ Freeman, Harvey, *Florida Obsolete Notes and Scrip*, 1967, The Society of Paper Money Collectors, pg. 93.

⁷ Thomas, David Y., *A History of Banking in Florida*, Gainesville, Florida, 1955, pp. 7-8.

- ⁸ Groene, Bertram H., *Ante-Bellum Tallahassee*, Florida Heritage Foundations, Tallahassee, Florida, 1971, pg. 177.
- ⁹ Bloom, J. Porter., Carter, C. Edwin., United States. National Archives and Records Service, The Territorial papers of the United States, Washington, D.C.: U.S. G.P.O., 1934, Vol. 25 covers 1834-39 and Vol. 26 covers 1839-1845. (Search for Hilliard).
- ¹⁰ Kenneson, Claude, personal communication January 11 and 12, 2021.
- ¹¹ Kenneson, Claude, personal communication January 12, 2021.
- ¹² "Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Florida held in the City of Tallahassee, Jan. 14, 1833" in *Proceedings of THE GRAND LODGE of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Florida*. (1859). New York. J.F. Brennan. pp. 27-30.
- ¹³ Laws, Instructions and Forms, for the Regulation of the Post-Office Department (Washington, DC: Globe Office, F. P. Blair, 1832), pg. 37.; Roth, Steven M. and John L. Kimbrough, MD. (2018). Stampless Provisional Covers Having Charge Box or Similar Notations. *The Confederate Philatelist*, Vol. 63(2) pp. 17-18.
- ¹⁴ 14th Congress, Session 1, Chapter 43. Section II. - An Act in addition to an act to regulate the Post-office establishment, pg.265. <https://www.loc.gov/law/help/statutes-at-large/14th-congress/session-1/c14s1ch43.pdf>
- ¹⁵ "Population Schedules" for the Territory of Florida, Sixth Census of the United States. pp. 96-99. Accessed January 13, 2021. <https://www.census.gov/library/publications/1841/dec/1840c.html>
- ¹⁶ Cassidy, Daniel G. (1980). *The Illustrated History of Florida Paper Money*, Jacksonville, Florida, pg. 214. This book with reference catalog numbers was the bible of the History of Florida Paper Money for thirty-one years then Ronald J. Benice updated Cassidy's book with his publication. (see Endnote 1)
- ¹⁷ Pasco, Samuel (1928) "Jefferson County, Florida, 1827-1910. Part I," *Florida Historical Quarterly*: Vol. 7: No. 2 , Article 7. pp. 147-148, accessed at: <https://stars.library.ucf.edu/fhq/vol7/iss2/7>.
- ¹⁸ Images of the scrip used in Figures 6-8 are with the permission of William Youngerman, Hometown Currency Virtual Museum and are found on <https://hometowncurrency.org/monticello/>.
- ¹⁹ Cassidy, *The Illustrated History of Florida Paper Money*, pg. 138 has a detailed discussion on the Monticello scrip.
- ²⁰ Cassidy, *The Illustrated History of Florida Paper Money*, pp. 208-214 has a detailed discussion on the Tallahassee bank notes and scrip.
- ²¹ Images of the scrip for Appendix 1 (Figures 9-14) are with the permission of William Youngerman, Hometown Currency Virtual Museum and are found on <https://hometowncurrency.org/tallahassee/>.

The Author

Thomas M. Lera received the 2019 Luff Award for Distinguished Philatelic Research and is a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London. He received the Secretary of the Smithsonian Research Prize in 2014, was inducted into the American Philatelic Society's Writer Unit Hall of Fame in 2015; received the Distinguished Philatelic Texan Award in 2016, and the Florida Postal History Award in 2019. He is currently retired and a Director of the Florida Postal History Society.

Florida 6¼-cent Postal Rate Census

By Phil Eschbach

On April 9, 1816, Congress set the postal rate for a single letter going 30 miles or less at 6 cents, which lasted until 1845. At the same time, by an act of congress in 1793, foreign currency was legal tender in the United States. Many people carried Spanish and British, as well as American currency. At that time in Florida, in circulation were Spanish dollar coins which were equal to one US dollar. The Spanish dollar was made up of eight reals, each also known as a “bit”, which made them worth 12½ cents each. Then, there was a “medio real” or half of a real, which equaled 6¼ cents, sometimes referred to as a “picayune.” Also, in British currency there was the coin known as a “thruppence”, or three pence, which also was equal to 6¼ cents.



Spanish Medio Real



British Three Pence



Three Pence Obverse¹

After Spanish Florida became a US possession on July 10, 1821 and until statehood on March 3, 1845, many small towns developed in north Florida around the new capital at Tallahassee, which was incorporated in 1824. Many were less than 30 miles apart, therefore using the 6-cent rate between them, either for direct mail or forwarding. During this time period, there was a shortage of U.S. coins while many people still had Spanish or British coins. As a necessity, postmasters routinely accepted the foreign coins for payment of the 6-cent rate, meaning a 6¼-cent “rate of convenience” for short distances. They used both the 6-cent and 6¼-cent manuscript rate. The Tallahassee post office also used a handstamp 6 rate (Type A) with only one recorded example dated September 15, 1843, shortly before the 6-cent and 6¼-cent under 30-mile rate was discontinued.

In several states, both banks and local businesses issued 6¼-cent currency notes. But in Tallahassee, there were printed notes in various denominations from 6¼ cents to \$1.00 specifically issued as payable for postage. See Tom Lera’s article, “Florida Post Office Scrip 1837-1840” for detailed census information on these unusual scrip banknotes.²

I have assembled a census (see Appendix 1) of the currently known 6¼-cent covers used only in Florida with this special rate which expands the work of Bill Schultz.³ I hope that collectors would search their holdings and add to this census by sending scans to the author of any Florida covers not on this list. The census includes specific Florida postmarks and handstamps as listed in the *Florida Postal History 1763-1861* reference book.⁴

Several covers have interesting backgrounds. Three, **Figures 1-3**, were originally sent from Charleston, South Carolina by Richard Carnochan to my ancestor Abram Bellamy in Tallahassee. However, these were forwarded by the Tallahassee postmaster to Monticello, Florida, less than 30 miles away. The 6¼-cent forwarding rate was added to the 25-cent rate from Charleston, making a total of 31¼ cents. All letters concern cotton prices.

Abram Bellamy was a member of the legislative council in Tallahassee, representing Jefferson County where he lived in the town of Monticello, the county seat. Carnochan probably assumed Bellamy was on duty in Tallahassee when he mailed the letters.

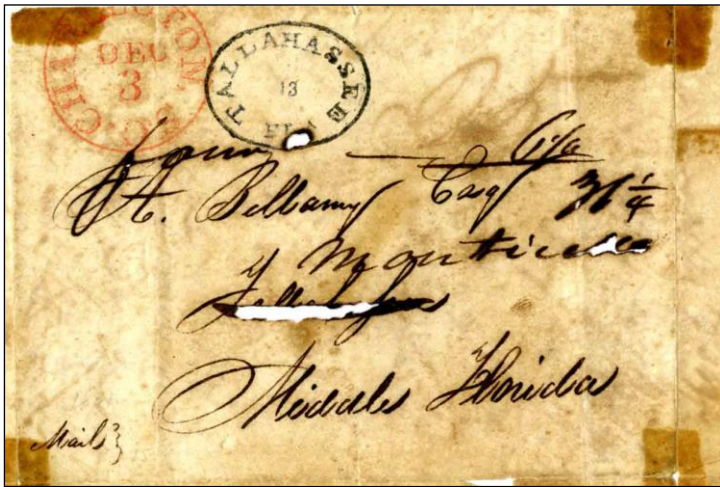


Figure 1. Tallahassee Type IV postmark, December 13, [1831], is unique because the month slug is missing. The 6¼ cents was added for a total of 31¼ cents. (From the author's collection)



Figure 2. Tallahassee Type IV postmark, October 20, [1831], forwarded to Monticello and 6¼ cents added for a total of 31¼ cents. (From the Rumsey auction archive)

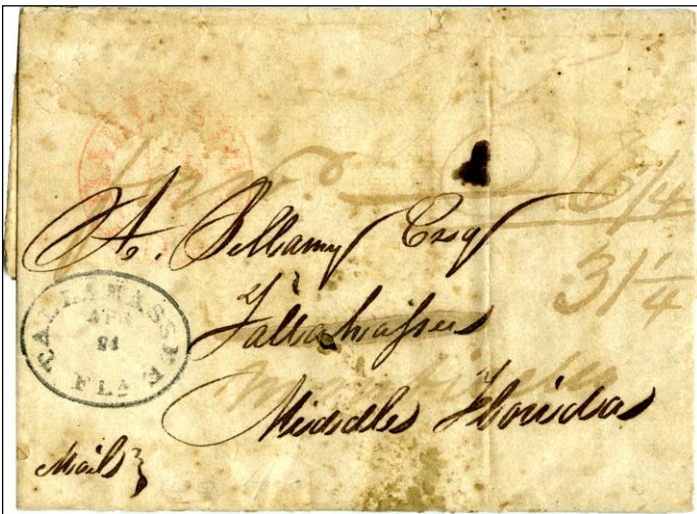


Figure 3. Tallahassee Type IV postmark, April 21, 1832, forwarded to Monticello and 6¼ cents added for a total of 31¼ cents. (From the author's collection)

Note that, interestingly, Carnochan uses “Middle Florida” for the address on the first cover (**Figure 1**), changes to “Florida” on the second cover (**Figure 2**), then reverts to “Middle Florida” on the third cover (**Figure 3**).

Abram Bellamy was the son of John Bellamy who built the Bellamy Road from St. Augustine to Tallahassee in 1825. It was the first federally funded road in the new territory of Florida. Abram met and married Eliza Williams in St. Augustine when he was working there as an attorney. They moved to Monticello in 1827 where he became the territorial representative for Jefferson County to the state legislature in Tallahassee and served as the council's president four times between 1825 and 1832.

Abram's father gave them one of his plantations called Nacoosa as a wedding present. Two of their daughters were married to two brothers, John and Thomas Jefferson Eppes who were great grandsons of Thomas Jefferson. Eliza and Abram had seven children before Abram died in 1839, possibly the result of a wound from a duel. Eliza then married William Bailey, nephew of General William Bailey, founder of Bailey's Mills (discussed below). The general was married to John Bellamy's sister, Elizabeth Bellamy.⁵

In 1820, during the Spanish Period, John and Richard Carnochan established a huge plantation on the banks of the Apalachicola River in what was to become Gadsden County, growing sugar cane and long staple cotton.⁶

Incredibly in 1825, the very first court case in the civil court of Tallahassee involving \$27,000 was that of *Robert Mitchell and John Carnochan v. Peter Mitchell*. The court system had just been established after Tallahassee was made the new capital in 1825. And, incredibly, both sides were represented by the same attorney, Benjamin Wright, partly due to the lack of attorneys in Tallahassee.⁷

John Forbes and Company took control of the assets of its precursor trading firm, Panton, Leslie & Company, after William Panton died in 1801, followed by John Leslie in 1803. They traded with the Indians who ceded these large tracts to them as payment of their debts to Forbes, which became known as the Forbes Purchase, and the Spanish government ratified them.

This land amounted to 1.4 million acres which had been acquired between 1804 and 1812, making it the largest land grant in Spanish Florida. The Carnochan & Mitchell Co. purchased the Forbes tracts in 1817, then spent sixteen years in legal battles to confirm their title, taking the fight all the way to the Supreme Court (*Mitchell v. the United States*), winning in 1835.⁸

Figure 4 was addressed to the firm L. & M. A. Armistead & Co. and forwarded to Quincy. The recipient was likely William Armistead who lived in Quincy and was a member of the St. Paul's Episcopal Church, as was Richard Carnochan. They obviously knew each other.



Figure 4. A 50-cent double rated cover from New Orleans to Tallahassee with a Tallahassee Type IVd postmark and forwarded, August 2, [1831], to Quincy with the 6¼ cents added for a total of 56¼ cents. (Courtesy of Deane R. Briggs M.D.)

Additionally, there are three other covers, **Figures 5-7**, also addressed to Armistead in Quincy but forwarded to Aspalaga, Florida, all dated in 1832. The **Figure 5** cover is unique with the 6¼-cent rate used twice. The 1832 St. Paul's church records show Armistead had moved, perhaps to Aspalaga, which was about 18 miles west of Quincy. In 1827 the Armistead brothers moved their store from Apalachicola to Aspalaga where they not only operated one of the first stores but also the ferry across the Apalachicola River. They were early planters in Jackson County.⁹

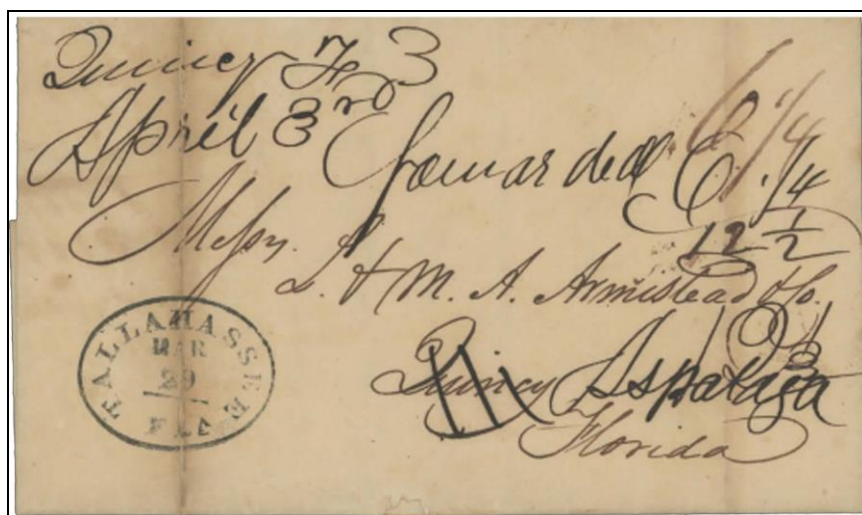


Figure 5. Tallahassee Type IV postmark, March 29, [1832] to Quincy at the 6¼-cent rate and then forwarded to Quincy with Type I postmark, April 3, [1832] to Aspalaga, for another 6¼ cents, totaling 12½ cents.
(Courtesy of James Milgram, M.D.)

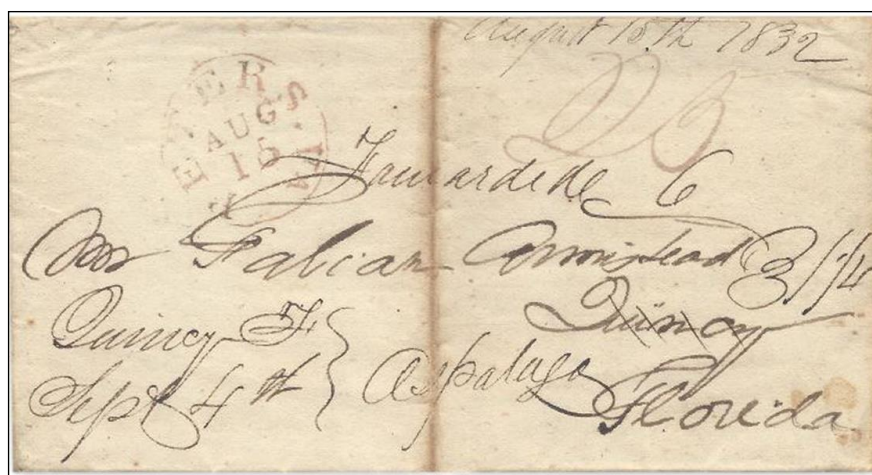


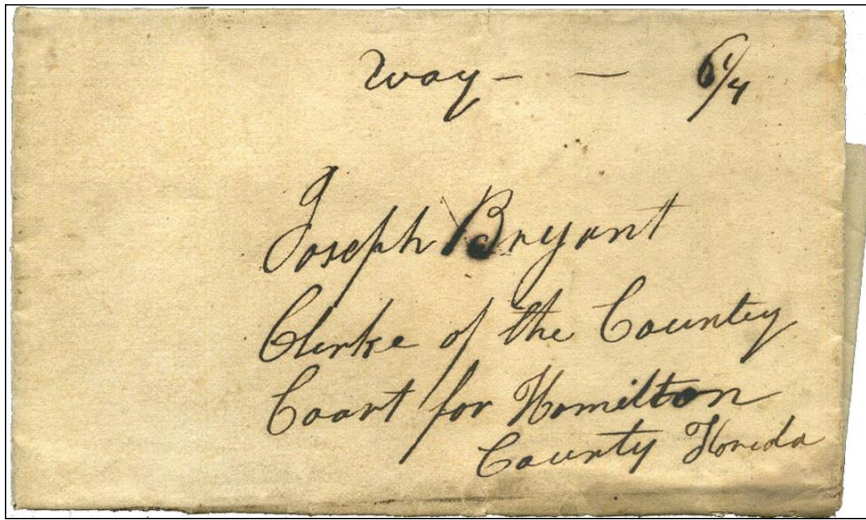
Figure 6. Letter from Petersburg, VA. to Quincy and forwarded with Quincy Type I postmark to Aspalaga, Sept.4, [1832] showing the 6¼ cents added to the 25-cent over 400-mile rate, totaling 31¼ cents.
(From the author's collection)

Figures 6 and 7 were sent initially from Petersburg, Virginia to Quincy from M.A. Armistead to Fabian Armistead and forwarded to Aspalaga, showing the 6¼-cent rate added to the 25 cents over 400-mile rate, totaling 31¼ cents. Fabian was the son of M.A. Armistead and signed the letters "your son". Fabian was also the first postmaster at Aspalaga in 1828.¹⁰

Figure 7. Letter from Petersburg, VA. to Quincy and forwarded with Quincy Type I postmark to Aspalaga, Nov 6, [1832] showing the 6¼ cents added to the 25-cent over 400-mile rate, totaling 31¼ cents. (From the author's collection)



The April 6, 1833 manuscript “way” cover, **Figure 8**, is interesting in that it has no postmark where it entered the mails. It was likely at Rossetter’s Ferry in Hamilton County where it was given to a mail carrier on the route between Rossetter’s Ferry and Micco Town, probably near Appleton Rossetter’s home. The “Way - - 6¼” was



likely placed by Appleton when he addressed the letter as he was the postmaster at Rossetter’s Ferry and the penmanship writing of the “a” and “y” is the same as in the address of the cover.

The recipient, Joseph Bryant, Clerk of the Hamilton County Court House at Micco Town C.H., would pay the 6¼-cent postage due and the additional 1 cent for the “way” fee totaling 7¼ cents to the postmaster at Micco Town.

Figure 8. A 6¼-cent Way letter. (Courtesy of James Milgram, M.D.)

The letter contains election returns signed by Appleton Rossetter and Soloman Zippenen, election inspectors. Among the seven voters listed were Rossetter and Zippenen as well as James Bell who was a county Judge.¹¹ The Bell family were the first white migrants to settle in Hamilton County which was established in 1827. It remained the county seat till 1835 when it was moved to today’s Jasper.

Two covers, **Figures 9** and **10**, were written to Magnolia, Florida, a town founded in 1827 by four brothers from Maine: John, George, Nathaniel, and Weld Hamlin. Weld died there in 1829 and his tombstone is the oldest in Wakulla County. George Hamlin was involved in a duel with attorney John Campbell in 1828. Campbell had been sent to enforce a judgement against the Hamlin Company for unpaid debts. George challenged Campbell to a duel and killed him. Neighbors told Campbell’s wife he had died after falling off his horse, she only found out the truth months later.¹²

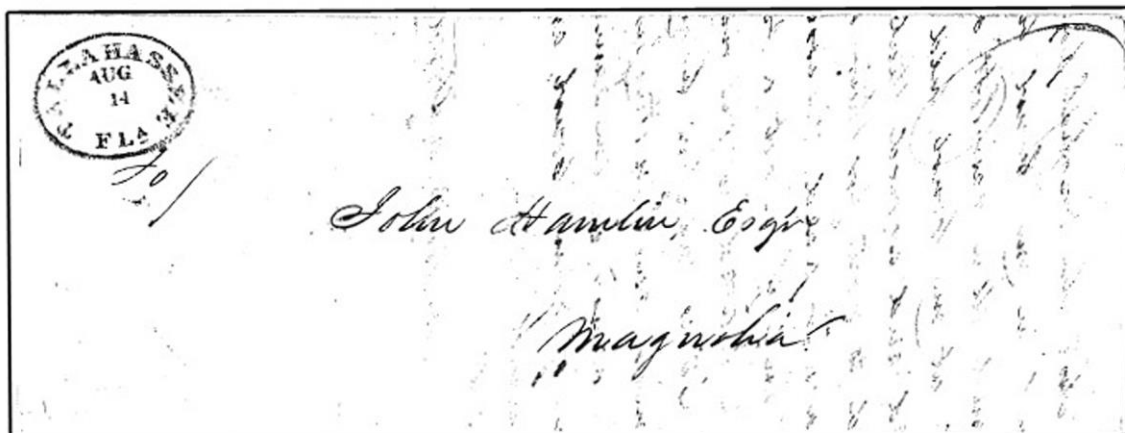


Figure 9. Tallahassee Type IV postmark, August 14, [1832] was addressed to attorney John Hamlin, Esq., and 6¼-cent rate. (ex Niles F. Schuh)

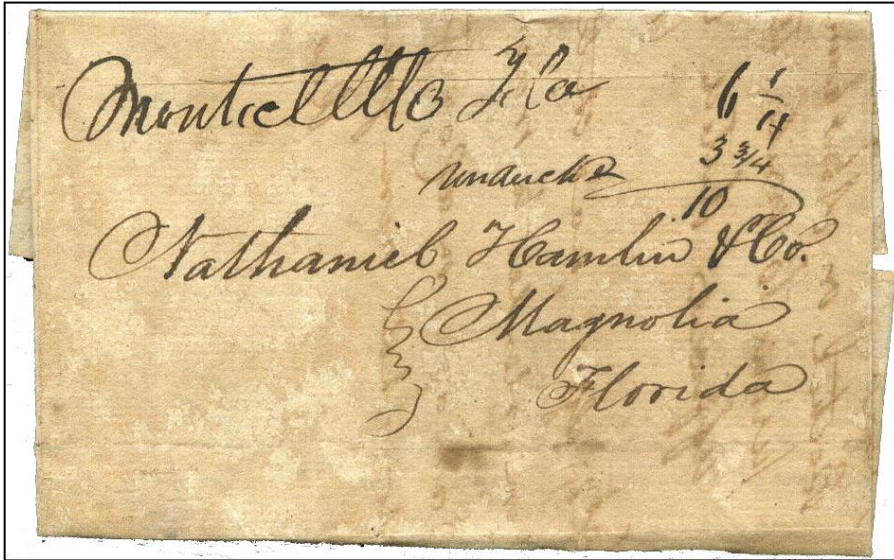


Figure 10. Monticello Fla Type IV postmark, [April 1, 1834 from letter inside] addressed to Nathaniel Hamlin & Co. Magnolia Florida. (Courtesy of James Milgram, M.D.)

The cover in **Figure 9** from Tallahassee, dated August 14, 1832, was addressed to attorney John Hamlin, Esq. in Magnolia.

Figure 10 is interesting because the 6¼ cents was first marked as the rate under 30 miles for the direct postal route to Magnolia. It must have gone on a route to Tallahassee where the postmaster added 3¾ cents to total ten cents for the 30-to-80-mile rate from Monticello, via Tallahassee, and then on to Magnolia.

The Hamlin's first cousin, Hannibal Hamlin, was Lincoln's running mate and vice-president.¹³ Magnolia was on the coast in Walton County, later absorbed by Leon County. It no longer exists but was near the current town of St. Marks and is on property today owned by the St. Joe Paper Company. All that remains is the cemetery with the last burial in 1859.

The Hamlin's intent was to establish a port for the shipment primarily of cotton back to their family in Maine who ran a large textile mill. They also shipped other goods such as sugar, powder, shot, lead, wax, wine and snuff. A crude rail line was constructed from Tallahassee to St. Marks in 1835 which bypassed Magnolia. This sealed the fate of Magnolia, as most inhabitants moved to nearby St. Marks. Originally there was a customs house in Magnolia, but it was transferred to St. Marks in the 1830s, further affecting the fate of the town. A hurricane flooded Magnolia in 1843 and destroyed what little was left. It was basically abandoned by the beginning of the Civil War.¹⁴

A post office was established in Magnolia in 1827 with George Hamlin as the first postmaster. Nathaniel Hamlin was postmaster, appointed July 31, 1839, until October 28, 1840 when the post office was discontinued with mail transferred to the nearby community of Port Leon.¹⁵

Two covers, **Figures 11** and **12**, were written to Murdock Ochiltree only two days apart. Ochiltree held the contract #2479 for mail delivery between Quincy and Apalachicola, by way of Fort Gadsden and Aspalaga, Florida, beginning in 1836.

The **Figure 11** cover from Quincy to Chattahoochee (20 miles) with misspelled town name as "Chatahoochy" was written to Ochiltree. It has a note on the backflap stating "If Mr. Ochiltree is not at Chattahoochee the Post Master will please give this letter to his mail carrier."

Figure 11. Quincy FLO. Type IV postmark, December 17, [1836], to Chatahoochy (sic), and 6¼-cent rate. (Courtesy of James Milgram, M.D.)

The second letter, **Figure 12**, from Quincy to Chattahoochee has Ochiltree's name misspelled as "Ochitree." He is listed in the 1830 census as head of household in Chattahoochee, aged between 30 and 40 with wife and two children.

It is also noted in *Ancestry.com* that his will was probated in March of 1837, so he must have died shortly after his postal route days. It seems he was heavily in debt.¹⁶

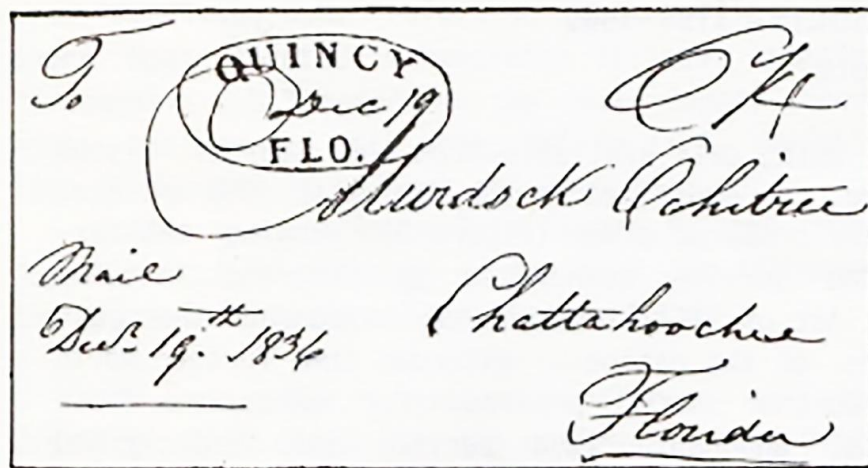


Figure 12. Quincy FLO. Type IV postmark, December 19, [1836], to Chattahoochee, and 6¼-cent rate. (ex Niles F. Schuh)

At least six covers, **Figures 8** and **13-17**, concern election returns, and two others, **Figures 18** and **19**, are suspected to contain election returns as well, since they are addressed to the Clerk of the Court in Quincy, Gadsden County's courthouse. **Figure 8** is discussed above and contains a list of the seven voters. All seven votes were for Richard K. Call for delegate to Congress. Call was born in Virginia, moved to Kentucky then Tennessee where he came to the attention of Andrew Jackson who took him as his aide to fight in Florida during the First Seminole War of 1817. Jackson was made the first territorial governor of Florida in 1821, bringing Call with him who decided to settle in Florida. Then as president, Jackson appointed Call as governor in 1836. He served as governor of Florida for two non-consecutive terms 1836-1839 and 1841-1844. He died in 1862.¹⁷

The **Figure 13** cover was written to Judge David B. McComb, Presiding Justice, Leon County, Tallahassee. It is noted "Election Returns from St. Marks." McComb was born in 1793 in Detroit, one of ten children. The family moved to New York after his father died. Later McComb moved to Ohio and married Mary Worthington, daughter of a US senator in 1816. Probably due to bad business debts in 1825 he migrated to Florida. Along the way, he had become a lawyer and acquired a 560-acre plantation near Tallahassee with his wife and five children. He was a



mail contractor between 1826 and 1834, responsible for the routes from Tallahassee to St. Augustine, Tallahassee to Pindertown, Georgia and Tallahassee to Pensacola. One of his riders on the northern route to Georgia was Henry F. Younge to whom was written another cover (**Figure 22**). At the same time, McComb had a law practice and was made a judge of the superior court during a seven-year period between 1825 and 1832. One of his duties as judge was to issue election proclamations.¹⁸

Figure 13. St. Marks FL.T. straight line Type III postmark to Tallahassee, June 8, [1831], with manuscript 6¼-cent rate. (Courtesy of Deane R. Briggs M.D.)

McComb was involved in a duel in 1826 with Achille Murat, nephew to Napoleon and an attorney in Jefferson County. Murat was hit by McComb in the finger while missing McComb, the bullet passing through his clothes without wounding him. Later Murat claimed he "scared the lice out of him."¹⁹ There is no enclosure with this cover to see the returns.

Another example of the 6¼-cent rate, **Figure 14**, was written to the governor of Florida transmitting "Election Returns," as noted on the cover. The governor at that time was William Duval who served from 1822 to 1834. The enclosure with this election return for Bailey's Mills in Jefferson County showed twenty-eight voters. The candidates were Richard Call and Joseph White, a Florida Territorial representative to the United States Congress. White got eight votes and Call got twenty.

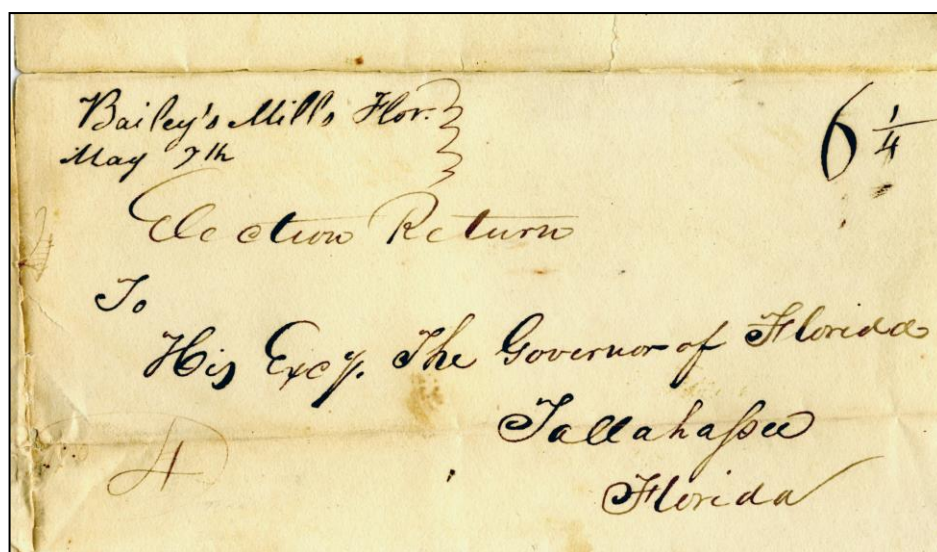


Figure 14. Bailey's Mills Flor. Type I manuscript postmark to Tallahassee, May 7, [1833], with manuscript 6¼-cent rate. (From the author's collection)

Bailey's Mills once had the most population of any town in Jefferson County, including Monticello. However, the famous local resident, James Gadsden, and others chose Monticello as the county seat. Bailey's Mills was founded in the 1820s when William Bailey, later a general in the militia and a recent migrant from St. Marys, Georgia, moved to Jefferson County and built a mill just southwest of Monticello. My ancestor, General William Bailey, was born in 1790 in St. Marys, Georgia and was married to John Bellamy's sister, Elizabeth. He incredibly served in the War of 1812, Seminole War of 1835-42 and the Civil War and died in 1867, having fought his last battle at Natural Bridge in 1865, when he was 75 years old.

A postal route was established from Monticello via Bailey's Mills and Tuscawilla to Tallahassee. The first road to Magnolia from Bailey's Mills was built by James Scott who is listed on this election return from Bailey's Mills. Scott was married to Bailey's sister Margaret. Also listed in the election return is William Hollingsworth who was the first postmaster at Bailey's Mills. His grandfather, originally from the Carolinas, also named William Hollingsworth, was the first white settler in that part of Florida, arriving during the British Period in the 1770s when he built a log cabin near what later became the settlement of Bailey's Mills.

When the railroad, then known as the Pensacola and Georgia Railroad, came through Jefferson County, it bypassed Monticello and went through and stopped at Bailey's Mills, sometimes known by the railroad company as "Station Number Two." This caused an increase in population, surpassing that of Monticello. The structure of the railroad station was unique for Florida, being built of brick instead of the usual wood and is the oldest original railroad station still surviving in Florida today. It is now used as the post office for Lloyd.

In 1842, the Bailey's Mills post office was discontinued and later in 1858 was begun again as Lloyd. The town had changed its name to Lloyd with the influx of several prominent families so named. The first postmaster under the new name was Walter F. Lloyd, who had moved there in 1858 and started a general store. He was quite the entrepreneur, forming several partnerships, one making farm implements. (Letters continued to arrive in Lloyd many years after the Civil War still addressed to Bailey's Mills.²⁰)

Others on the election return were William Ellis, who became sheriff in 1866 only to be removed the following year for drunkenness; John McDowell who was indicted for murder in 1834 but fled, avoiding capture; and the overseer of James Scott's plantation, Marmaduke Skipper.²¹

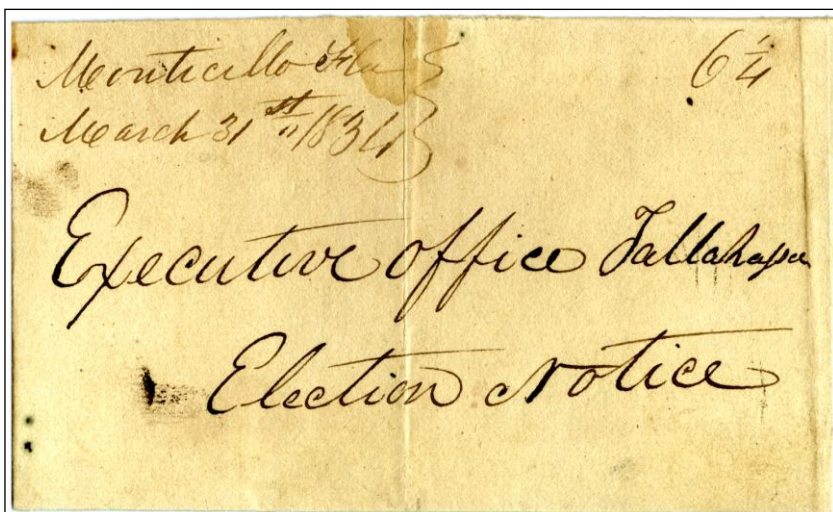
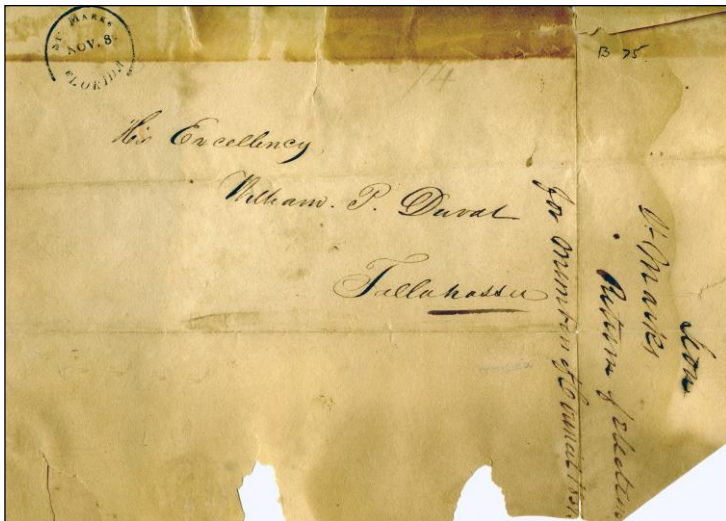
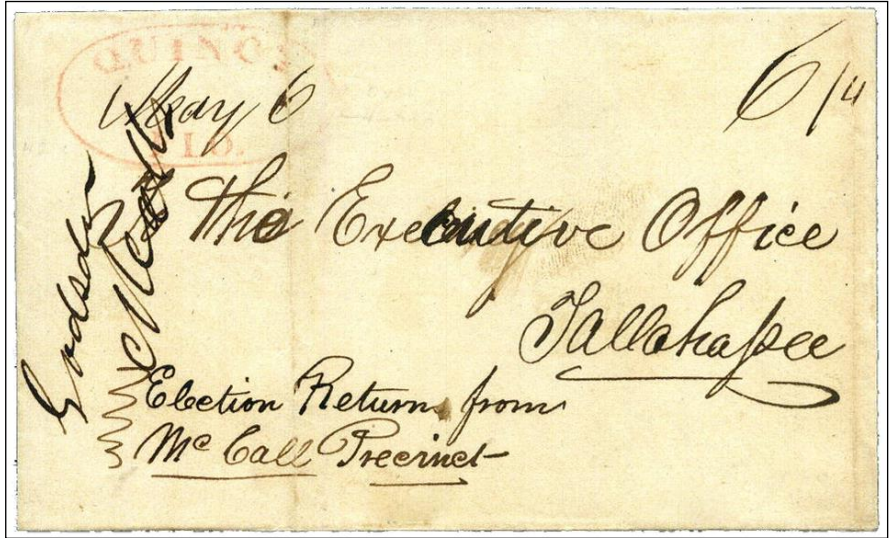


Figure 15 shows a cover written from Monticello to the Election Office in Tallahassee. Unfortunately, there is no enclosure to see the returns.

Figure 15. Monticello Fla. Type IV manuscript postmark to Tallahassee, March 31, [1834], with manuscript 6¼-cent rate. (From the author's collection)

Figure 16 shows a cover from Quincy to Tallahassee transmitting the “Election Returns from McCall Precinct” and the 6¼-cent rate. Unfortunately, we do not have the enclosure to see the results. This is likely William McCall who was appointed Justice of the Peace in Gadsden County in 1832 and 1834 by Governor Duval.²²

Figure 16. Quincy FLO. Type IV postmark dated May 6, [1835], to Tallahassee and the manuscript 6¼-cent rate. (Courtesy of James Milgram, M.D.)



Another cover, **Figure 17**, is addressed directly to the governor, William Duval with a note on the flap stating, “Leon St. Marks Return of Elections for members of Council 1831.” The 6¼-cent rate is barely visible. No enclosure.

Figure 17. St. Marks FLORIDA Type IV postmark to Tallahassee, November 8, [1831], with manuscript 6¼-cent rate. (From the author’s collection)

Two covers, **Figures 18 and 19**, are addressed to the “Clerk of the Court” in Gadsden County and may have also been election returns. It is possible that the Clerk of the Court is Lorenzo Sexton, as noted on the next cover to the same town, one year later. No enclosure.

Figure 18. Chattahoochee Manuscript Type I postmark, October 9, [18]37, with 6¼-cent rate. (From the author’s collection)

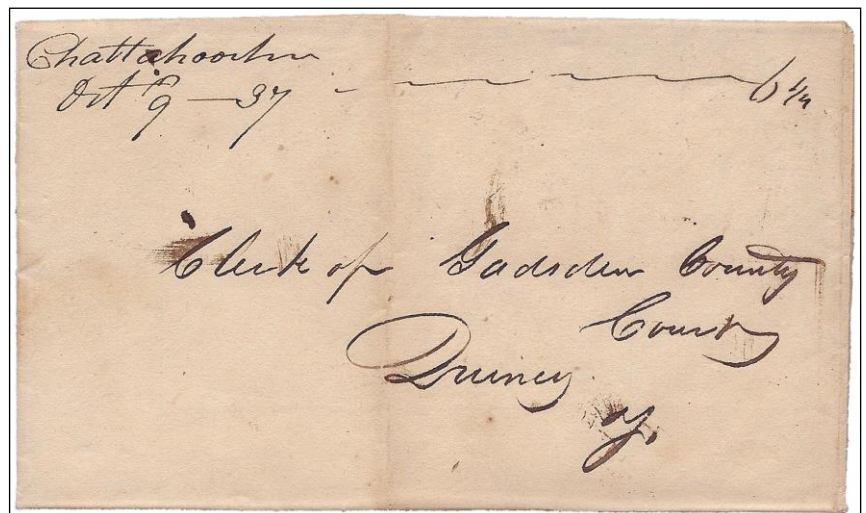
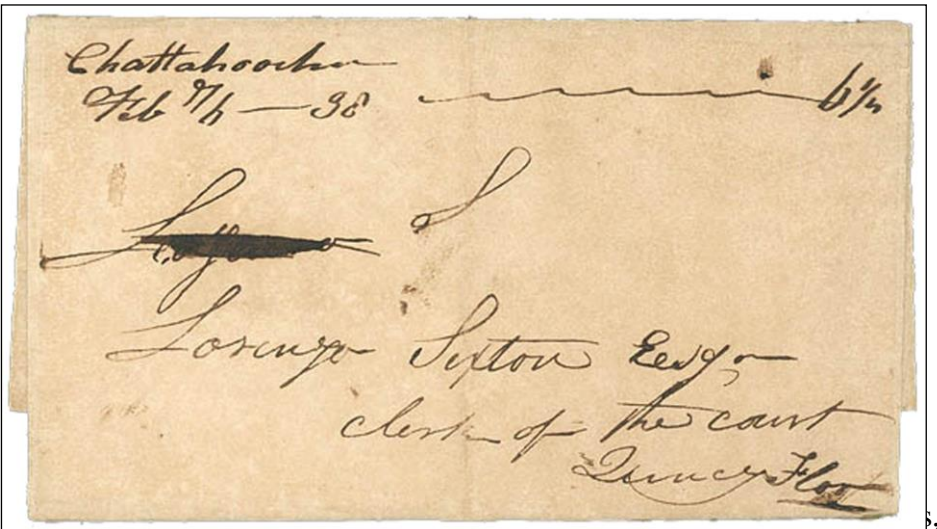


Figure 19. Chattahoochee Manuscript Type I postmark, February 6, [18]38, with 6¼-cent rate. (From the Rumsey auction archive)

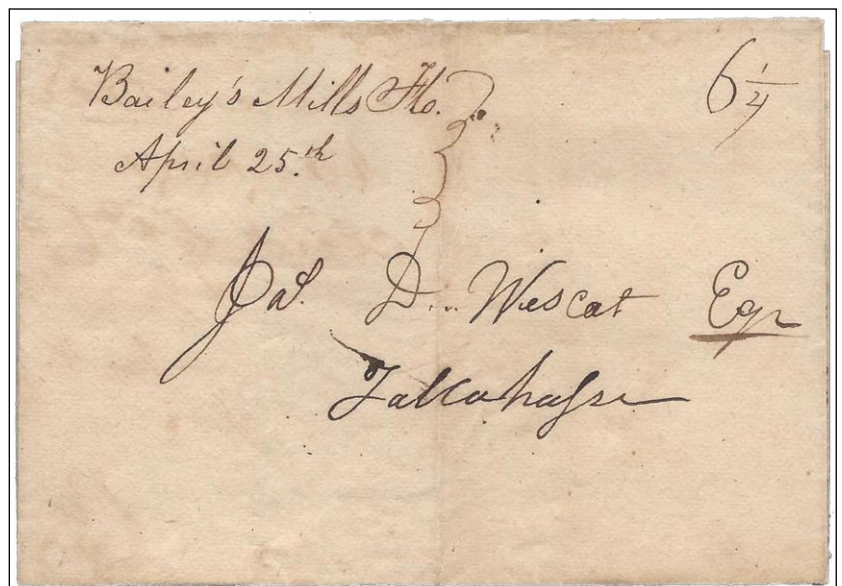


The **Figure 20** cover is interesting in that it originated in Mobile, Alabama and is addressed to the Judge of the County Court in Gadsden County, Florida with a charge of 18¾ cents, arriving in Tallahassee and forwarded to Quincy, Florida, the county seat using the “Type d” handstamp mark to totaling 25 cents. No enclosure. Incoming mail to Middle Florida usually arrived in Tallahassee to be forwarded to the surrounding towns where addressed.



Figure 20. Tallahassee postmaster forwarded this cover to Quincy and added 6¼ cents bringing the total delivery charge to 25 cents. (Courtesy of James Milgram, M.D.)

Figure 21. Bailey's Mills Flo. Manuscript Type I, April 25, [1832] to Tallahassee with the 6¼-cent rate. (Courtesy of Deane R. Briggs, M.D.)



The **Figure 21** Bailey's Mills cover was addressed to James D. Wescott, Esq., (misspelled on the front as "Wescat,") with the 6¼-cent rate.

James Westcott was born in 1802 in Virginia but moved to Florida as an attorney. In 1828, he was attending a party at William Bailey's house, along with Judge Thomas Randall who was the presiding judge of Middle Florida at the time.

They were political opposites and got into a dispute, after which Westcott posted a nasty letter on the courthouse door criticizing Randall who promptly disbarred Westcott whom he said, "was guilty of conduct highly disrespectful and offensive to the Judge in open Court." Later Westcott apologized and Randall reinstated him.

In 1832, while Westcott was temporarily Acting Governor, (the custom when Governor Duval was away), he was asked to relieve the "embarrassing situation of the Inhabitants of the County, originating from the depredations of the Indians, and their roaming at large within our precinct."

Later that year he was involved in a duel with Thomas Ballzell and was slightly injured. He was appointed by President Andrew Jackson as the District Attorney for Middle Florida in 1834 and Territorial Secretary in 1837 which involved him in the writing the constitution for Florida. He signed it, along with Ballzell, who became the first Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court in 1843.

Later when Florida had become a state in 1845, Westcott and David Levy were both elected the first senators to the United States Legislature from Florida. In 1850 Westcott moved to New York, then to Canada where he died in 1880. His son, James Jr. remained in Florida and in 1858 ran for a congressional seat and lost to George Hawkins. After the Civil War in 1868, Westcott was appointed Attorney General for Florida by Governor Reed and then as a justice to the Supreme Court of Florida.²³

Figures 22 and 23 show 6¼-cent rate letters addressed to Col. Henry F. Younge in Quincy, Florida. Henry Younge was one of the earliest settlers in the Quincy area, arriving around 1819 during the Second Spanish Period, along with John Carnochan, mentioned above. They settled on the Apalachicola River and first grew sugar cane, later turning to cotton as the better crop.²⁴

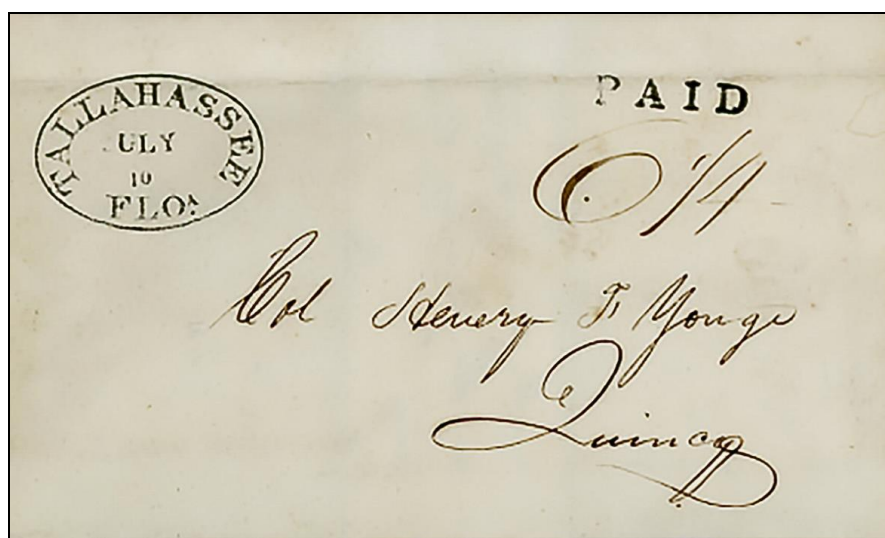


Figure 22. Tallahassee Type Ve postmark, July 10, 1834, to Quincy with 6¼ cents paid in Tallahassee.
(Courtesy of Rumsey Auctions, Sale 67, Lot 1366)



Figure 23. Tallahassee Type V postmark, July 31, 1834, to Quincy with 6¼ cents paid in Tallahassee.
 (Courtesy William Youngerman, Hometown Currency Virtual Museum is found on <https://hometowncurrency.org/tallahassee/>)

In 1823, Younge was appointed to the Legislative Council from Chattahoochee by President Monroe. Also, that year he was asked to locate and establish a town to be named Quincy for a county seat in the newly created Gadsden County. In 1826 he was appointed judge for Gadsden County. In 1827 he was named Colonel of the Fifth Regiment of Gadsden County. Later that year he was appointed a US Marshal for the County and is listed as a resident of Quincy. In 1832 he was awarded a 16,000-acre land grant and later shows up as a practicing attorney in Quincy in 1842.²⁵

The **Figure 24** cover from Philadelphia to Jonathan Robinson, Esq., dated April 22, 1837, was forwarded from Tallahassee to Chattahoochee with the forwarding postage of 6¼ cents added. In 1821 Robinson began farming cotton before the town of Tallahassee existed.

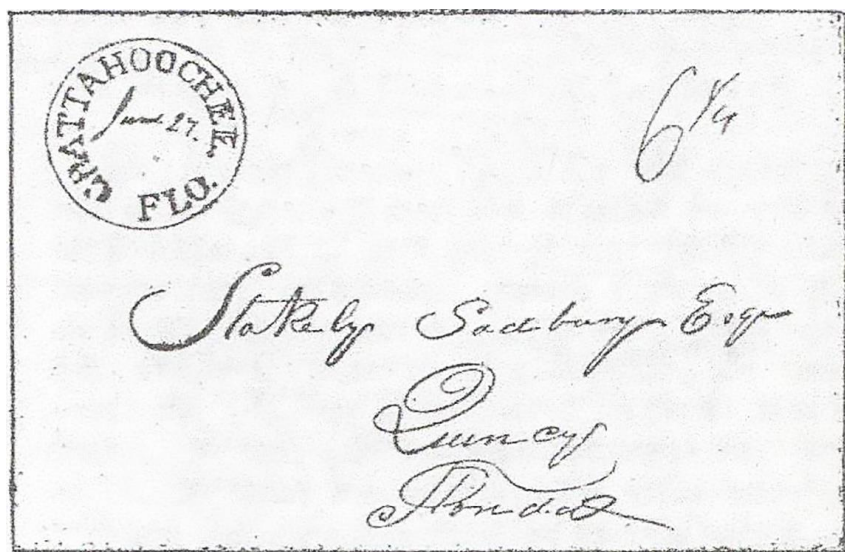


Figure 24. Tallahassee postmaster forwarded this cover to Chatahootchie (misspelled) and added 6¼ cents bringing the total delivery charge to 31¼ cents.
 (Courtesy of James Milgram, M.D.)

He was an attorney and became the first Territorial Judge of Gadsden County in 1824, opening court on April 5 in a log cabin on property owned by Sheriff Robert Forbes, a member of the Forbes family who occupied the Forbes Grant in the area. Gadsden County was formed in 1823 and included the area between the Apalachicola and Suwanee Rivers, which was basically all Middle Florida.

Quincy was selected to be the county seat. Leon County was then formed in 1824 when Tallahassee was selected to be the new capital of Florida. Robinson supplied the labor and materials for the building of the first new capital building, a primitive log cabin.²⁶

Later Robinson was selected as the Secretary to the Senate in the Territorial government at Tallahassee from 1840 to 1842. His duty was to sign off on and record all Senate discussion and enactments.²⁷



The last cover, **Figure 25**, sent from Chattahoochee, Florida to Quincy is addressed to Stockley Sadbury. Sadbury was an attorney who maintained an election precinct in Quincy in 1831. In 1834 he purchased ten shares of the Central Bank of Florida. In 1838 and again in 1840 was appointed Justice of the Peace in Gadsden County.²⁸

Figure 25. Chattahoochee, FLO. Type V postmark to Quincy with manuscript 6¼-cent rate. (ex Niles F. Schuh)

Appendix 1

6¼ Cents Postage, Florida Census

Date	Cancellation	Addressed to	Forward	Miles	Figure
6/8/1831	St. Marks, FL.T. (Type III)	Tallahassee		20	13
8/2/31	Tallahassee, FL ^A (Type IVd)	Quincy	Forwarded	20	4
8/20/31	Tallahassee, FL ^A (Type IV)	Monticello	Forwarded	20	3
11/8/31	St. Marks, Florida (Type IV)	Tallahassee		20	17
12/13/31	Tallahassee, FL ^A (Type IV)	Monticello	Forwarded	25	1
4/3/32	Tallahassee, FL ^A (Type IV)	Quincy & Aspalaga	Forwarded	30	5
4/21/32	Tallahassee, FL ^A (Type IV)	Monticello	Forwarded	25	2
4/25/32	Bailey's Mills, Flo. (Type I)	Tallahassee		20	21
8/14/32	Tallahassee, FL ^A (Type IV)	Magnolia		18	9
9/4/32	Quincy, F (Type I)	Aspalaga	Forwarded	18	6

11/6/32	Quincy, F (Type I)	Aspalaga	Forwarded	18	7
4/6/33	“Way” added at Rossetter’s Ferry	Micco Town		30	8
5/7/33	Bailey’s Mills, Flo. (Type I)	Tallahassee		20	14
3/31/34	Monticello, Fla (Type IV)	Tallahassee		25	15
4/1/34	Monticello, Fla (Type IV)	Magnolia		30	10
7/10/34	Tallahassee, FLO ^A (Type Ve)	Quincy		25	22
7/31/34	Tallahassee. FLO ^A (Type V)	Quincy		25	23
5/6/35	Quincy, FLO. (Type IV)	Tallahassee		20	16
11/1/35	Tallahassee (Type d)	Quincy	Forwarded	25	20
12/17/36	Quincy, FLO. (Type IV)	Chattahoochee		20	11
12/19/36	Quincy, FLO. (Type IV)	Chattahoochee		20	12
4/22/37	Tallahassee	Chattahoochee	Forwarded	25	24
10/9/37	Chattahoochee (Type I)	Quincy		20	18
2/6/38	Chattahoochee (Type I)	Quincy		20	19
6/27/41	Chattahoochee, FLO. (Type V)	Quincy		20	25

Endnotes

¹ Swain, Steve, “6¼ Cent Rate of Convenience”, Postmark Atlanta, January 2021.

² Lera, Thomas M., “Florida Post Office Scrip 1837 - 1840”, Florida Postal History Journal, July 2021.

³ Schultz, Bill and Smith, Jasmine, *Scarce Postal Rate of 6¼ Cents*. <https://sixandaquartercensus.omeka.net/>

⁴ Briggs, Deane R., Ferguson, Francis, Lera, Thomas M., *Florida Postal History 1763-1861*, Florida Postal History Society, Highlands, North Carolina, 28741, 2018.

⁵ Eschbach, Phil, *Pioneers of Florida*, Shakespeare & Co., 2020.

⁶ Cox, Dale, *Early History of Gadsden County*, William Cox, Publisher, 2008, p. 111.

⁷ Maynard, Jackson, *Frontier Attorneys.*, FSU thesis, 2004.

⁸ Research by Allston McCrady; https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Forbes_and_Company#cite_note-1.

⁹ Shofner, Jerrell, *Jackson County Florida*, , Penkevill Publishing, 1985, pg. 29.

¹⁰ Briggs, Deane R., Ferguson, Francis, Lera, Thomas M., *op. cit.*, pg. 74.

¹¹ Shofner, Jerrell, *Jefferson County Florida*, The Printing House, 1976.

¹² Maynard, *op. cit.*, pg. 52.

¹³ <http://www.laddfamily.com/Files/Wakulla%20Ladds/Gray%20No%203.htm>.

¹⁴ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Magnolia,_Florida.

¹⁵ Briggs, Deane R., Ferguson, Francis, Lera, Thomas M., *op. cit.*, pg. 215.

¹⁶ 1830 Federal census Gadsden County, Probate Records, accessed through Ancestry.com.

¹⁷ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_K._Call.

¹⁸ "Florida Historical Quarterly" Vol. XXXII, #3, January 1954, pg. 189.

¹⁹ Maynard, *op. cit.*, pg. 50.

²⁰ "Magnolia Monthly" The Town of Bailey's Mill/Lloyd, by Elizabeth Smith, October 1971, pp. 1-37.

²¹ Shofner, *op.cit.*, pg. 285.

²² Carter, Clarence, *Territorial Papers*, National Archives, Vol. XXIII, pg. 659.

²³ Shofner, *op.cit.*, pp., 45, 67, 177.

²⁴ Cox, *op. cit.*, pg. 108.

²⁵ Carter, *op. cit.*, pp., 616, 621, 640, 708, 781, 785.

²⁶ Cox, *op. cit.*, pg. 130.

²⁷ Cox, *op. cit.*, pp. 67, 114-119, 153, 457.

²⁸ Cox, *op. cit.*, pp., 48, 476.

The Author

Phil Eschbach, a ninth generation native Floridian, (his family having arrived in Florida in 1776), is a 45-year resident of Winter Park, Florida. He is a graduate of the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee. He is a retired commercial photographer who specialized in architecture and travel and maintained a studio in Winter Park for many years. He has exhibited widely in Central Florida, using images from his travels for both work and pleasure, collected with an eye for architectural detail. In retirement he is devoting his time to writing and travel. He continues to write articles for several historical journals.

Phil has published two travel photography books, one on Egypt and one on Jordan. He has recently published a book which is an overview of the involvement of his ancestors the British loyalist Williams family in the development of Florida from the British Period (1763-1783), the Second Spanish Period (1783-1821), and the Territorial Period (1821-1845-statehood), including accounts of relevant events occurring during these eras. He is currently involved in the writing of a book describing the history and architecture of the last remaining Carpenter Gothic Episcopal churches constructed before 1900 in Florida.

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