

Postal History



New Postmasters' Provisional— Abingdon, Virginia Revalued 5 over 2¢:

By Gen. Patricia A. Kaufmann

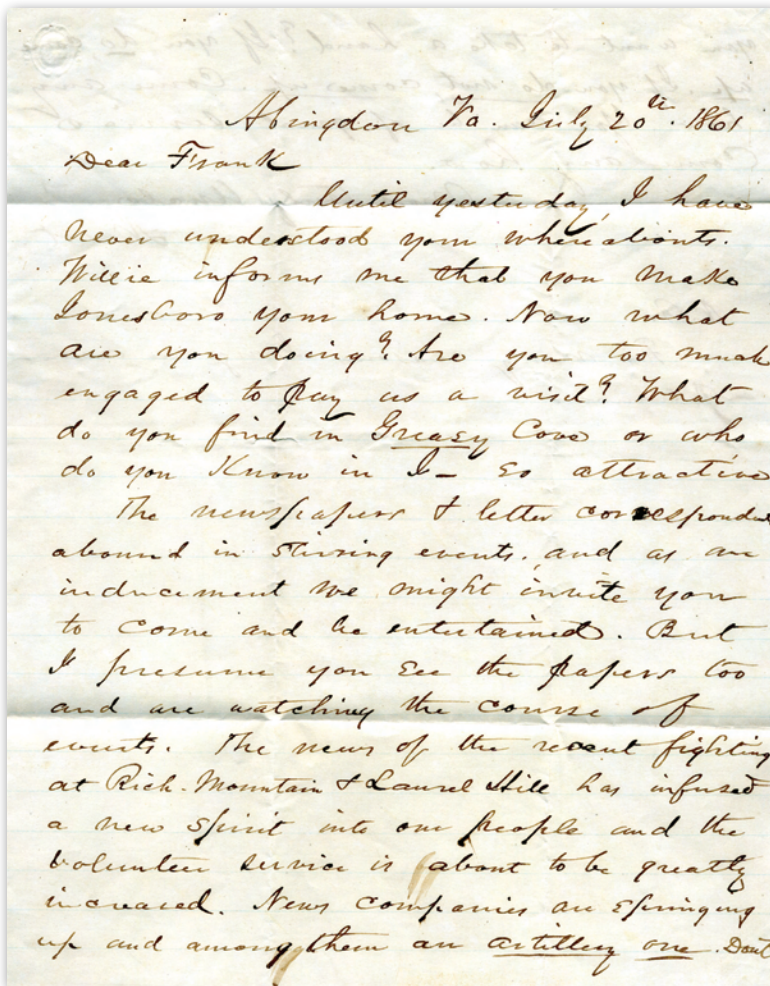


Newly discovered and only recorded 5¢ over 2¢
Abingdon, Virginia Postmaster Provisional.

Almost 150 years after the beginning of the Civil War, new discoveries are still being found. In Frank Crown's *Surveys of Postmasters' Provisionals*, a compilation of three provisional surveys, only Frank Hart made note of the single known copy of a 2¢ Abingdon provisional. It was described as postmarked December 13, 1861 and addressed to Joseph S. Farnsworth, at Abingdon. Hart also recorded only one used 10¢ value, used under a general issue, and thirteen 5¢ values.

Earl Antrim discussed the Abingdon provisionals over forty years ago in the *Confederate Philatelist*. Antrim explained that in 1938, an unused example of a 10¢ Abingdon was found on an adversity cover by Vernon Baker of Elyria, Ohio. Baker said it had been in his family since the Civil War. This resulted in the elevation of the Abingdon from common handstamped paid status to rare provisional. August Dietz explained that he had always believed the Abingdon envelopes to be prepared by the postmaster prior to sale "chiefly because the form is typeset and not practical for handstamping, but there was no incontestable evidence to substantiate this belief until the appearance of this unused cover."

The forms for all three values are separate settings consisting of an oblong frame of printers' wavy brass rule with rounded corners. The setting was made in a local print shop and then handstamped on varied stock of white or blue. In both the Hart survey and the Antrim article, one example was noted as cut out and used as an adhesive. In later years, this use has been considered to be a fake. Frank Crown, who continues to update his provisional records, records July 9, 1861 as the earliest known use.



First page of the Abingdon headed letter enclosed in the uprated provisional from Newton K. White to his nephew, Frank Hannum.

Postmasters' Provisional Basics

Those of you new to the study of Confederates may wonder what creates the big price difference between handstamped paid and handstamped provisionals. On the face, these look like simple stampless covers.

Fundamentally, the difference is that a provisional is defined as a stamp that was prepared by the postmaster in advance of use (not officially issued by the Post Office Department). It could be taken out of the post office in unused condition and stored for future use or purchased and used before it ever left the post office. If an adhesive, it could be applied by the postal patron at home, on the road, or at the post office itself. Provisional handstamped envelopes are the same except that the "stamp" is pre-applied to blank envelopes for future use.

On the other hand, the "handstamped paid" use is a throwback to earlier forms of postal use when there were no stamps. A postal patron paid in cash for the transport of a letter and paid only when the letter was taken to the post office. The postal clerk would then apply evidence that the postage had been paid by writing or by a handstamp on the envelope. This latter type of "handstamped paid" cover is similar to a modern cover on which the postal clerk has applied a meter strip after the postal patron has paid the proper amount in cash in person at the counter of the post office.

So how does one tell the difference between a common handstamped paid and a far rarer handstamped provisional? With provisional adhesives, it is obvious. With handstamped provisionals, it is not nearly as simple. There may well be uses currently identified as common handstamped paid that

are, in fact, provisionals. But it takes a discovery such as the one in 1938 to conclusively help prove the case that it was prepared in advance. Control markings on the back or front of such envelopes are another means. These were used by postmasters for internal control to recognize their prepaid status. Unused examples such as the Abingdon 10¢ provisional are another. Handstamps under general issues used from another town are a further means of verification. Referring to the most up-to-date literature and catalogs is also important or one might still be looking for the Abingdon “adhesive” mentioned in the 1966 Confederate Philatelist, which was long ago recognized as a fraudulent use. It is prudent to have such items formally authenticated.

A New Provisional Discovery – Abingdon Revalued 5 over 2¢

The newly recorded Abingdon is a “revalued” or “uprated” use with a manuscript 5 applied over a 2¢ provisional. This cover has never been in philatelic hands until now. It has remained untouched and with family correspondence since the 1880s. It was given CSA certificate # 05467 as genuine.

It was used with a July 21, 1861 circular date cancel and is addressed to “Francis Hannum, Jonesboro, East Tenn.” Since the envelope was purchased in advance for local town use, it had to be uprated to 5¢ to travel outside the town limits. The rate at that time for such service was 5¢ under 500 miles and 10¢ over 500 miles. Heretofore, there have been no such revalued uses recorded.

A wonderful part of this new find is that it still has the original letter, which reads as follows:

Abingdon Va July 20th 1861

Dear Frank

Until yesterday, I have never understood your whereabouts. Willie (no doubt Frank's younger brother, William Y. C. Hannum) informs me that you make Jonesboro your home. Now what are you doing? Are you too much engaged to pay us a visit? What do you find in Greasey Cove (Frank's home in Unicoi County, Tennessee) or who do you know in I___ so attractive.

The newspapers & letter correspondents abound in stirring events and as inducement we might invite you to come and be entertained. But I presume you see the papers too and are watching the course of events. The news of the recent fighting at Rich Mountain & Laurel Hill has infused a new spirit into our people and the volunteer service is about to be greatly increased. New companies are springing up and among them an artillery one. Don't you want to take a hand? If you do, come up. If you do not, come up. Come any how. You can be of great service. Come any how.

Must truly Uncle

Newt

N.B. For many reasons I urge a compliance.

Abingdon Postmaster George Sandoe

Abingdon, situated just west of the Blue Ridge Mountains, served as the transportation, commercial, and political hub of Washington County with a recorded history dating to 1748.

George Sandoe was the postmaster who would have created the Abingdon provisional during the war. In the 1860 census, he is shown as 23 years old, born about 1837 in Virginia and is listed as “tel[egraph]. operator.”

I found an application for presidential pardon for Sandoe in the 1865-1867 Amnesty Papers of the Adjutant General's Office. Confederates who had already been granted a pardon or amnesty under the proclamation made by President Lincoln in 1863 are most likely not listed there. These records contain records only for amnesty applicants who, at the time they applied for amnesty, needed special permission from the President. Hence, most ordinary Confederate soldiers will not be included in these records because their case did not require special Presidential consideration.

The outer docketing on this petition indicates “George Sandoe, Abingdon, Va. Reb[el]. P[ost].Mas[ter]” and signed by an official commending the petitioner for pardon with further docketing “Foolish in disloyal sentiment during the rebellion, George Sandoe, who otherwise is a modest honest man, can be depended on as a faithful citizen of the United States. E. Longley” The letter reads

Abingdon Va June 12th /65

To His Excellency Andrew Johnson

President of the United States

The petition of George Sandoe, a citizen of Washington County Virginia respectfully sets forth ~ that in March 1861 your petitioner was appointed Postmaster at Abingdon by Abraham Lincoln then President of the United States: your petitioner discharged the duties of said office until the United States mails were discontinued by the acts of the Rebel Government in this state. The petitioner is prepared to render to the Post Office Dept. of the United States a satisfactory account of his official acts during the time he acted as Post Master under the United States Government.

Petitioner was continued in office by the Rebel authorities down to the time of the fall of Richmond. He is a young man of delicate constitution, has a widowed mother and a widowed sister with one child that look mainly to your petitioner for support. Petitioner was a poor young man at the time he received the appointment from President Lincoln, he was a tailor by occupation and earned his livelihood by plying his needle. He accepted the appointment of Postmaster in order to enable him to provide more readily for his own wants and those of his mother and sister than he could possibly do by working at his trade. When appointed by the Rebel government he retained the position principally because it exempted him from Military duty.

Petitioner has in no other event been engaged in the rebellion: he is advised that being an officer in the rebel civil service he is excluded from the benefit of amnesty and pardon extended by your Excellency in your proclamation of 29 May 1865 – he therefore prays that that President will grant him special pardon, pledging himself as not only willing, but desirous to take the prescribed oath to support and depend the constitution of the United States, the Union of the State demanded and all the laws of Congress and proclamation of the President entrusted or published in pursuance thereof.

The petitioner then prays that if your Excellency extends to him the benefit of the Executive clemency that if not inconsistent with the public interest you will reappoint him Postmaster at this place.

He was situated like thousands of others in the South at the commencement of the war and his complicity with the rebellion was the result of circumstances over which your petitioner could exercise no control – in a word he was a passive instrument rather than an active agent. Had he resigned or refused to have accepted the appointment of Postmaster under the Rebel authorities it would at once have been the signal for his banishment from his home, being forced into the army or arrest and imprisonment. He could not go into voluntary exile for he had not had the physical strength to go into the army nor had he the means to remove his mother and sister and support them.

In view of the facts the petitioner respectfully asks upon the proper presentation of satisfactory testimonials of his qualifications for the position asked for that your Excellency will continue or reappoint him to the Office of Postmaster at Abingdon Va.

I have the honor to be

Very Respectfully

Your Obedt Servt

Geo. Sandoe

ROLL OF PRISONERS OF WAR AT MILITARY PRISON, LOUISVILLE, KY.											
DATE WHEN RECEIVED.	NO.	RANK OR ALPHABETICAL ORDER OF REGIMENTS & COMPANIES.	NAME.	REG'T.	COMP.	OR.	WHERE CAPTURED.	DATE WHEN CAPTURED.	DATE WHEN DISCHARGED.	WHERE SENT.	REMARKS.
September 18	1	Major General	Richard	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	2	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	3	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	4	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	5	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	6	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	7	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	8	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	9	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	10	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	11	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	12	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	13	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	14	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	15	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	16	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	17	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	18	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	19	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	20	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	21	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	22	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	23	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	24	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	25	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	26	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	27	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	28	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	29	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	30	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky
Sept 2	31	Major	W. B. F.	1st Regt	1st	Col	Easton	Sept 18	Nov 20	Conf. Prison	from Louisville Ky

Civil War Prison Records, National Archives listing of Francis H. Hannum, 61st Tenn., captured at Morrinstown, received at St. Louis and transferred to Johnson's Island prison camp.



The author found this newspaper clipping of Frank Hannum (taken when a recent graduate of the Virginia Military Institute) on the Internet.

F.H. Hannum following graduation from V.M.I.

Indeed, Postmaster Sandoe may have been as fragile in health as he asserted. Death records show the death of George Sandoe by fever on March 31, 1866. The same records show this particular George Sandoe born in Washington County to H.M. and Margaret Sandoe. In the 1880 Census, there is record of Abingdon tailor William M. Sandoe with a 14 year old son named George. That would place him as born in 1866, the year the Postmaster Sandoe died. W. M. G. Sandoe, presumably related to George, is also listed as appointed to the job of Abingdon postmaster September 6, 1865.

To confuse the issue, there is also a George Sandoe listed in the 1880 Census in Abingdon; he is listed as a 42 year old farmer and married in August 29, 1866 to Margaret in Russell County, Virginia. He was shown as born in 1839 in Washington County, Virginia and Margaret is shown as Margaret Peggy Leece born in 1838 in Russell County. It seems to me that this is the less likely of the two to be our delicate postmaster, but is mentioned as a possibility.

The Hannum Family

Military records I initially found simply stated that F. H. Hannum was in Company K of the 61st Tennessee Infantry and enlisted as a private, but nothing more. Military records are often incorrect or incomplete and conflict with other sources. Hannum was variously listed in records as Francis H., Frank, or F.H. One source noted his middle name as “Henry,” which is logical, but it also showed him captured at Vicksburg, which is incorrect according to my further research.

Frank, the name Hannum apparently preferred, was born in Maryville, Blount County, Tennessee on July 3, 1837 and died in Eustis, Florida in 1915. He was the son of Henry Hannum and Ann E. White. Henry was a farmer and physician, a native of Pennsylvania who was born in 1802. Frank’s mother was Ann Eliza (White) Hannum, born July 21, 1810, in Abingdon, Virginia, the daughter of Col. James White and Ann Elizabeth Silson; she died in 1883.

The June 4, 1883 *East Tennessee News* ran an obituary of Frank’s mother which provides many interesting details on the Hannum family and supplies the identity of “Uncle Newt” of the letter enclosed with the provisional cover as Newton K. White (1822-1894) of Abingdon.

Frank was one of a family of three brothers and three sisters. He was reared in Blount County (pronounced “blunt”), and educated at the Virginia Military Institute at Lexington, Virginia where he studied engineering. During that time, Frank was found guilty of an infraction garnering a letter of dismissal from his professor, Maj. Thomas J. Jackson (later immortalized as Gen. “Stonewall” Jack-

son); however he was reinstated and graduated at age nineteen on July 4, 1856. He continued his studies in Medicine at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia 1859-60. I found various instances where he was addressed as “doctor”, but no evidence that he ever received a medical degree from said college, nor is he on the register of alumni. Frank served as a Lieutenant in the Confederate Army during the Civil War, but is not on the register of physicians who served the Confederacy in a medical capacity .

In 1861, Maryville declined in population as young men rushed to join either the Federal or the Confederate Army. The town was divided on the question of secession, but with more Union than Confederate sympathies due to the large population of Quaker friends. When Tennessee voted on the Ordinance of Secession in 1861, only 24% of Blount Countians voted in favor seceding from the Union. ,

After I did most of my research on the Abingdon provisional and thought I could go no further with the sparse details I initially had on Frank Hannum, the appearance of another cover completely changed everything. It was a prison cover posted at Ft. Delaware and mailed to “Lt. F. H. Hannum, Johnson’s Island, Ohio” from one Confederate prisoner to another and backstamped with a Johnson’s Island prison examined oval. There was no need for the mail to cross the lines, as both were Union prisons. That put me on the track of Johnson’s Island prison records and that is when the Hannum story really began to come together. As chance would have it, the cover came with a great letter, including mention of the Immortal Six Hundred officers sent to Charleston to be placed under fire of their own guns. Misspellings have been kept in transcript, but some punctuation has been added to facilitate clarity in reading.

Fort Delaware Del Jany 9 1865
Lt F. H. Hannum

Dear Friend

Your letter of the 4th Dec came to hand in due time. Please excuse me for not writing you sooner as I have no stamps. I was glad to here from you but Sorry you are a prisner but such is the fat of war. I have nothing to writ you of interest, the health of this prison is good as could be expected. Col McCaney from Maryville is here and will Capt Humes left here with the six hundred that went to Charleston in August – Lt Walter Preston from Abingdon Va left here with the last lot on the sick list for exchange. I am geting very tired of prison life but cant see the end when we will be released. I hope for better times in the future. We have had som cold weather here but that is nothing new to you, I have had know newes from Te Since the 12th Oc only what we see in the papers. Give my regards to old friends, Write Soon.

Respectfully Yours
R F Crumley

The correspondent is 1st Lieut. R. F. Crumley, 61st Regiment Tennessee Mounted Infantry, Pitts’ Regiment, Co. K. . Also served in 5th Battalion, McClellan’s Tennessee Cavalry, Company F, enlisted August 18, 1861 at Knoxville. Prison records show him as captured at Black River Bridge, Mississippi, May 17, 1863, which was part of the Vicksburg campaign. The Union forces captured approximately 1,700-1,800 troops at Big Black and many drowned. Crumley was received at Johnson’s Island on July 16, 1864 from Pt. Lookout, Maryland and paroled to City Point February 27, 1865. Federal Census records for 1860 show Crumley as a farmer, born about 1826, from River Bend Forge in Sullivan County, Tennessee.

Another Uncle Soliciting Enlistment

Another pre-secession cover is addressed to “Capt. Frank Hannum, Jonesborough, Tenn” and is franked with an 1857 3¢ dull red canceled with a manuscript postmark of “Pleasantvale, Ky, May 1st 1861.” Another letter with great content reads



For Delaware Del July 9th 1865

Lt. F. H. Hannum,

Dear friend your letter of the 4th has come to hand in due time please excuse me for not writing you sooner as I have had no stamps. I was glad to hear from you but sorry you are a prisoner but such is the lot of war. I have nothing to write you of comfort, the health of this prison is good as could be expected Col McCannoy from Maryville Va is here and will Capt. Kearnes left here with the 5th regiment they went to Charleston in August Lt. Walter Preston from Abingdon Va left here with the last lot on the sick list for exchange I am getting very tired of prison life but cant see the end when we will be released hope for better times in the future we have had some cold weather here but that is nothing new to you, I have had ~~know~~ ^{heard} from you since the 12th Oct only what we see in the papers give my regards to old friends write soon

Respectfully Yours

R. F. Crumley

The prison cover posted at Ft. Delaware and mailed to "Lt. F. H. Hannum, Johnson's Island, Ohio" from one Confederate prisoner (R.F. Crumley) to another (Frank Hannum) and backstamped with a Johnson's Island prison examined oval. There was no need for the mail to cross the lines, as both were Union prisons. Note the letter from Crumley is still enclosed.

Hadensville Ky May 1st 1861

Dear Frank

I left Evansville Ind all in arms. Thy has been sleeping, but she is awaking to a ... of her position. The People South of the Ohio River are becoming more and more alienated. I have been addressing the People at Bowling Green and here. They are stirring themselves up, for moving and drilling. Would you not do well to raise a company around you and offer it at once to the State of Tennessee. The Practice of Medicine is dull in times like this. With your qualifications, Arms is far preferable in times like the present.

For my part I would have preferred continuing in the practice of my profession that was beginning to give me a position. But I could not remain in a position that I might witness hostilities against my Native Land.

I hope James will immediately apply for the berth of Surgeon and that he will be backed by some person in position. If you have an odd volume in Cavalry tactics send it to me by mail or express – as I have been asked to command a company if they succeed in raising one. I expect I can not get a volume here as they are all bought up. I see that Western Virginia is taking active measures in this Convention. What a s.... x... thought of the Northern People will do I do not know – But they are all wild now and I hope for little from them. So that it is best to be prepared for the worst. Write me at your leisure. A visit to this Country at any time would very much intrust you

Most affectionately

Your Uncle

A. B. Hannum

Envelope addresses would seem to suggest that Frank may have practiced medicine at one point, but also that he had prior military service, as suggested both by the second letter contents and the rank of “Captain” on the first cover. It is likely that the war derailed his medical practice. I did not find record of military service before the Civil War, nor a rank of Captain, but it is certain that he was trained at VMI. His paternal uncle, A(nthony). B(utler). Hannum (1812-1900) wrote the aforementioned letter. It seems that uncles on both sides were most anxious to have Frank in their ranks. Anthony Hannum was a lawyer and Assistant Surgeon in the Texas Army during her war with Mexico. In 1842, he was 1st Lieutenant of Mounted Riflemen of Matagorda County Texas and served against the Indians.

Frank Hannum enlisted October 4, 1862 when Company K of the 61st Tennessee Mounted Infantry was formed in Zollicoffer (Bluff City), Sullivan County, Tennessee. On November 10, 1862, the regiment mustered into Confederate service at Henderson Mills, Greene County, Tennessee.

Frank was captured on October 28, 1864 during the fight at Morristown and was sent to Chattanooga on October 30. He arrived at the military prison in Louisville, Kentucky November 20 and was sent to Johnson’s Island November 22, 1864. He was released June 16, 1865 on General Order 109. Records show that he swore an oath of allegiance multiple times, indicated as June 6, 1865; September 30, 1865; and May 28, 1866.

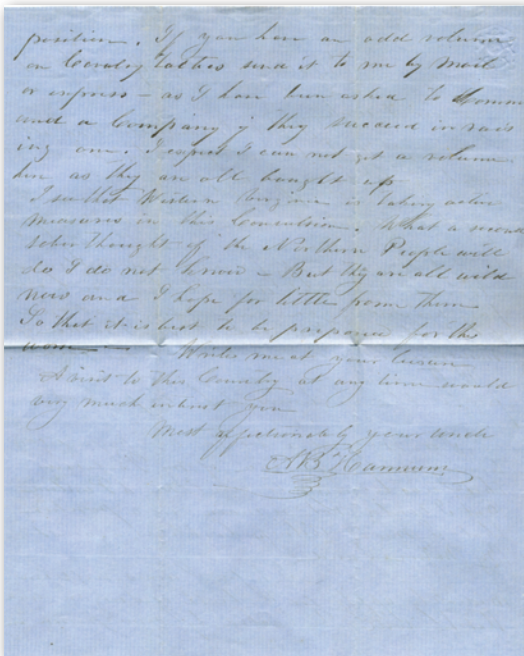
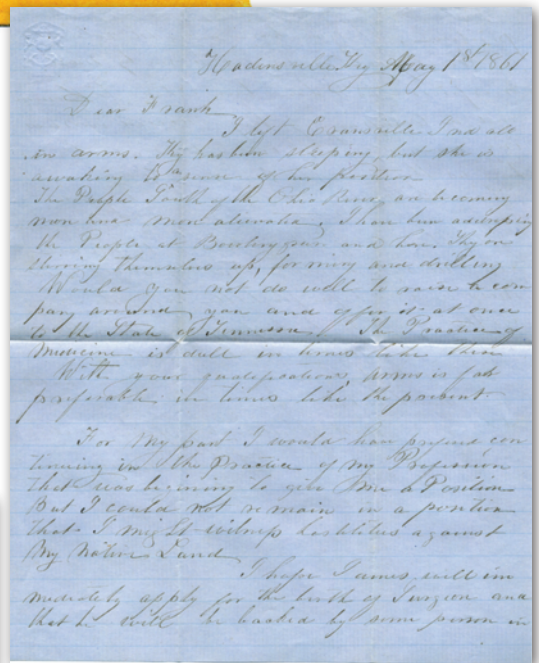
Postbellum

Frank Hannum’s career after the war was mostly as a farmer, and with his brother William he owned 5,000 acres in Unicoi County, Tennessee. Large quantities of iron were found on their farm from which the first steel was manufactured in Tennessee. Frank never married and is listed in the Hannum genealogy as a manufacturer.

There was also a postal connection to Frank. He is shown as the postal carrier for Limonite, Unicoi County, effective May 25, 1876. On November 26, 1890, Limonite - first called Swingleville, Washington County - changed its name to Unicoi. Under the listing of Unicoi, the first postal carrier was also listed as Frank H. Hannum effective the same day as the name change. He retained that position until William A. Norris took over on November 13, 1895. Unicoi County was formed out



A pre-secession cover addressed to "Capt. Frank Hannum, Jonesborough, Tenn" and franked with an 1857 3¢ dull red cancelled with a manuscript postmark of "Pleasantvale, Ky, May 1st 1861."



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position. If you have an odd volume or two of books send it to me by mail or express - as I have been wishing to form a library if they succeed in raising one. I expect I can not get a volume here as they are all bought up. I wish that Western Virginia is taking active measures in this Convention. What a scene when thought of the Northern People will do I do not know - But they are all wild men and I hope for little from them. So that it is best to be prepared for the worst. Write me at your leisure. I want to see you at any time would very much interest you. Most affectionately yours, Frank Hannum

of Washington and Carter counties on March 23, 1875. Oddly enough, I also found that Hannum was listed as the postmaster for the years coinciding with those for which he was listed as the postal carrier. If indeed he was a farmer, a manufacturer, a postmaster and a postal carrier, he was a very busy man!

Little did Frank Hannum know that almost 150 years later we would take such a keen interest in his mail and family and that it would become an important part of postal history.

Acknowledgement

My thanks to Frank Crown for vetting this article.

Endnotes:

1 Surveys of Postmasters' Provisionals; Francis J. Crown, Jr.; Quarterman Publications, Inc., Lawrence Massachusetts, 1982. pages 369 and 687.

2 Confederate Philatelist; Abingdon Provisional; Earl Antrim; April 1966; Volume 11; No. 1.; Whole No. 195; pages 11-12.

3 Frank Crown, July 3, 2009 email.

4 Confederate Stamp Alliance Authentication Service, patient # 05467, August 2009.

5 A Brief History of Abingdon, Virginia; <http://www.abingdon-va.com/>

6 1860 Census: Western District, Washington, Virginia; Roll M653_1383; Page: 552; Image: 191.

7 Confederate Applications for Presidential pardons, 1865-67; "Amnesty Papers" 1865-1867; (National Archives Microfilm Publication M1003, 73 rolls); Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1780's-1917, Record Group 94; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

8 Washington County, Virginia Deaths, 1853-85; Beth Fridley, comp.

9 History of Southwest Virginia and Washington County, 1840-1870.

10 1880 Census; Abingdon, Washington County, Virginia; Roll T9_1393; Family History Film: 1255393; Page: 23.1000; Enumeration District: 92.

¹¹ W. H. Tomlinson posting 6/4/2006, militaryhistoryonline.com

¹² Curtis Hoopes Hannum, Genealogy of the Hannum family, West Chester, Pennsylvania, 1911.

¹³ Frederick T. Hambrecht, Phd., National Museum of Civil War Medicine, June 28, 2009 email.

¹⁴ EAST TENNESSEE NEWS June 4, 1883; <http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/tn/blount/newspapers/newsarti112gnw.txt>

¹⁵ History of Southwest Virginia, 1746-1786; Lewis Preston Summers

¹⁶ Ibid

¹⁷ Ibid

¹⁸ Goodspeed's History of Tennessee County Histories; Goodspeed Publishing Co, Nashville, TN, 1886-87; <http://www.tngenweb.org/blount/goodspeed.htm>

¹⁹ Maryville, Tennessee; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maryville,_Tennessee

²⁰ U.S. Civil War Soldiers, 1861-1865; microfilm M231, roll 10

²¹ Battle of Big Black River Bridge; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Big_Black_River_Bridge

²² Hannum Genealogy; op. cit.

²³ Hannum Genealogy; op. cit.

²⁴ Civil War Prisoner of War records, www.ancestry.com

²⁵ Selected Records of the War Department Relating to Confederate Prisoners of War, 1861-1865; (National Archives Microfilm Publication M598, 145 rolls); War Department Collection of Confederate Records, Record Group 109; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

²⁶ The 61st Tennessee Infantry; <http://www.geocities.com/heartland/river/5209/61st.html>

²⁷ 61st Tennessee Infantry; op. cit.

²⁸ Unicoi County History, History of Unicoi County Postal Service; Tennessee GenWeb Project; <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~tunicoi/countyhistorypostmasters.htm>

²⁹ Unicoi County, Tennessee; Tennessee GenWeb Project; <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~tunicoi/>

³⁰ Unicoi County, Tennessee - Misc - Unicoi County Postmasters; <http://files.usgwarchives.net/tn/unicoi/history/unicoipo.txt>

Will you be there for this one?

Few organizations in all of philately can say they have celebrated their 75th anniversary. Yet that is exactly what the Confederate Stamp Alliance will do in Richmond, Virginia, this coming August 12-15. With a glittering array (no overstatement) of events and activities planned, every colonel should be on hand for this exciting milestone. We will shine brightly on a national stage. See page 43.