

THE TEXAS POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY JOURNAL

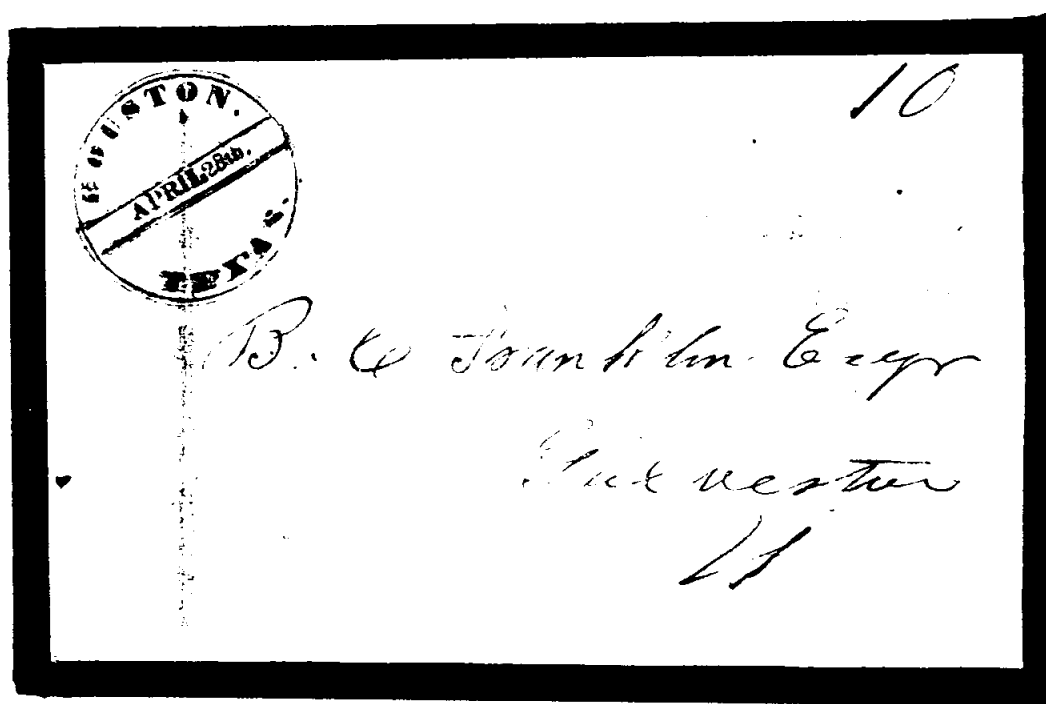


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Texas Postal History Society
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Illustrated on the front cover is a circular handstamp, one of three used in Houston during the Republic Period. This circular-date-stamp is 31mm. in diameter, red, with a printed date across the middle. There are periods after both Houston and after Texas. The reported use for this c.d.s. is from April to May 1845.

THE TEXAS POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Dues \$10 per year payable to Secretary-Treasurer

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE



I'm pleased to announce that our annual meeting and informal get together has been scheduled at the TEXPEX '92 Stamp Show in Arlington, Texas. This meeting will be held on Saturday, June 27th, at 2:00 P.M.

Our meeting will consist of a short business session, a presentation by long time member Gordon Bleuler, and a Swap and Sell Session.

Gordon's presentation will feature a frame of scarce and unusual Texas Postal History covers, including Republic, Statehood, and Confederate. There will also be a second frame of Texas Sesquicentennial Cacheted envelopes prepared as his own personal project in 1986.

You won't want to miss this event, so mark your calendars for our T.P.H.S. meeting which will be held on June 27th.

Many thanks to those of you who called or sent suggestions regarding where the Society should be going in future years. They mainly have covered two areas: 1) How can we make the Journal more informative
2) How can we recruit more new members.

There seemed to be consensus that we're never going to be a big organization but we must recruit more aggressively. We must replace turnover and reach the new collectors of Texas Postal History. I'm sure they are out there in your area and would join if just asked. Can you recruit a new member?

If we can get some more members, we'll improve our financial base. That will allow our Editor to consider what we might do to make the Journal more colorful and appealing to a wider audience. As an example, we could use more and better photos to illustrate our articles and perhaps use color photos in some instances.

At this point, however, what's needed the most are more articles of any kind for upcoming editions of the Journal. Can YOU send Bill an article about a recent find or a special cancel or postal marking?

Some members feel we should be featuring more modern postal history. Who has a list of the latest Texas D.P.O.'s? Are there any scheduled closings in your area that you can report on? Write up your information and send it in for use in the Journal.

Other suggestions and ideas are still solicited. I'll continue my comments regarding what I'm hearing from you in our next issue.

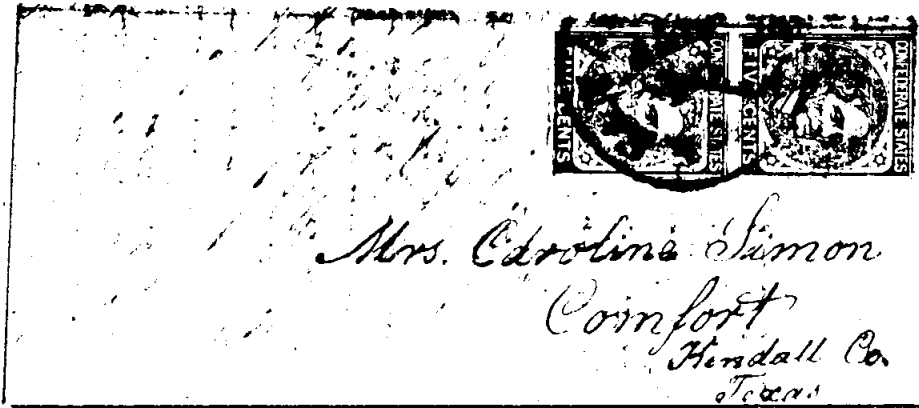
Meanwhile,

Good Collecting

Ed Christman

IT WAS HEARTRENDING AND I COULD NOT LINGER THERE

BY KARL C. GEBERT



The illustrated folded letter is franked with a pair of 5¢ Confederate States imperforate stamps. The stamps were press-printed by the Richmond, Virginia firm of Archer & Daly from electrotype plates imported from Thomas De La Rue & Co., London. This particular pair of stamps is printed on the thin, glazed paper the Confederate States government also imported from England.

The letter entered the Confederate mail at San Antonio on January 18, 1864 and was addressed to Mrs. Caroline Simon of Comfort, Texas. It was written by Mr. Ferdinand Simon from his jail cell in San Antonio.

Simon was one of the few German Unionists to have survived the so-called Battle of the Nueces River of August 10, 1862. He was born in Darmstadt, Germany in 1826 and was a merchant in San Antonio in 1860. After being wounded at the Nueces River and ultimately captured, he was tried by the Confederate Military Commission in San Antonio. The charges included acting as an enemy to the Confederate States, the verdict was "guilty" and the sentence was death by hanging.

Many Texas Germans opposed slavery and recession. Their opposition to recession is linked to the fact that many had emigrated from Germany disillusioned with the failure to create a unified German nation. Because they did little to hide their opposition to the CSA, Confederate "troops" were stationed in the Fredericksburg area. The troops, under the command of Captain James Duff, were reportedly diligent in their attempts to dilute Union sympathies.

R.H. Williams, who served under Duff, described him as being "as cowardly, cold-blooded a murderer as I had ever met..." who exercised power by "committing atrocities even his superiors in San Antonio would not have sanctioned.

Large numbers of Germans reacted to this treatment by going to New Orleans or Matamoros to join the Union Army. The initiation of Confederate conscription in April 1862 provided an added impetus.

On August 1, 1862, Ferdinand Simon and his brother-in-law Ernst Cramer joined 60 other Germans, 5 Americans and one Mexican on Turtle Creek west of Kerrville. They decided to go to Mexico in an attempt to join the Union Army. Unbeknownst to the travelers, they were followed by approximately 100 partisan rangers and Confederate regulars. A week later, the party was attacked in the waning hours of the night while camped on the Nueces River.

Confederate losses amounted to two dead and eighteen wounded. Outmatched by the elements of surprise, numbers and quality of weaponry, the German party did not fare as well. The Commander of the Confederates, in his official report, stated "They offered the most determined resistance and fought with desperation, asking no quarter whatever; hence I have no prisoners to report. My officers and men all behaved with the greatest coolness and gallantry, seeming to vie with each other in deeds of daring chivalry".

While there were, in fact, no prisoners taken, there were survivors. Simon's friend, Ernst Cramer, writing to his parents from Monterrey two months later, said that after successfully driving back three attacks they realized their position could not be held and decided to withdraw through thick timber and cross the river.

The survivors were forced to leave behind those too wounded to flee. They then spent the next several days on the move in the brushy countryside in an attempt to avoid capture. Simon, who had been shot through the ribs could not keep up and was ultimately captured.

After several days, the Confederate troops departed the area and Cramer returned to the battlefield, where he helps us more clearly understand why there were "no prisoners to report":

"The sight was horrible beyond description. They had been stripped of their clothing and the bodies had been piled up one over the other in a large heap. Those who were still living when we were forced to leave them had been lined up and used as targets. Their faces and bodies completely riddled with bullets. It was heartrending and I could not linger there."

Cramer managed to return to the Comfort area for supplies before successfully fleeing to Mexico. While in the hill country, he "heard that Simon had been captured and taken to San Antonio. How it all happened I do not know to this day".

In spite of Simon's October 1862 death sentence, he remained in jail until the end of the war. Returning to the January 1864 letter to his wife (illustrated above), Simon writes of the few events transpiring in the jail.

A friend periodically visits him and on the most recent visit "brought me heavy pants and letter paper... Then he also gave me a couple of big sausages which were very well prepared and tasted accordingly." He also reports having purchased postage stamps for \$2 and spending \$10 for a six month subscription to the San Antonio Herald and the San Antonio News, as well as passing the time making candles.

Interestingly, in spite of his death sentence, there was apparently a pending trial - perhaps an appeal:

"Yesterday I received definite word that our case could not be tried this time, and that we will therefore stay here for the time being. I'm quite satisfied with that, because the trip to Austin would have done me no good. But this much is sure, that before the end of the year we don't need to think about any trial or release, but have to get used to the idea of spending some more years in prison. Because the same reason that our witnesses couldn't be brought up this time will hold true for the whole duration of the war."

In closing, Simon advised his wife that "I am well and hearty and have no complaints except that our appetites are so big that besides our daily rations we consume a lot of bread and wurst with coffee".

* * *

REFERENCES

Excerpts from Ernst Cramer letter of October 30, 1862 courtesy of Dr. Walter Kamphoefner to whom thanks are also due for transcribing featured letter of Ferdinand Simon.

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The German Texans, Glen E. Lich, 1981.

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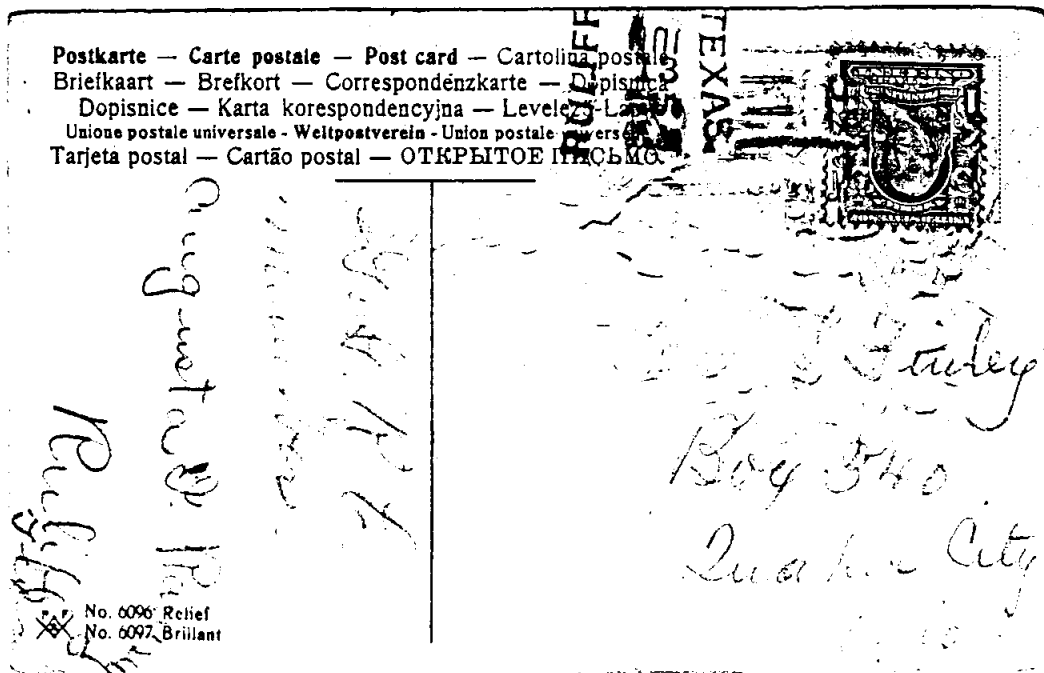
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RULIFF TEXAS
1899-1908
by
Jack M Smith Sr

Ruliff is located in the southeast corner of Newton county and was established as a station on the Kansas City Southern RR to serve the town of Deweyville which was located one and one-half miles north of the railroad. The population of Ruliff in 1940, was 40.
1940.

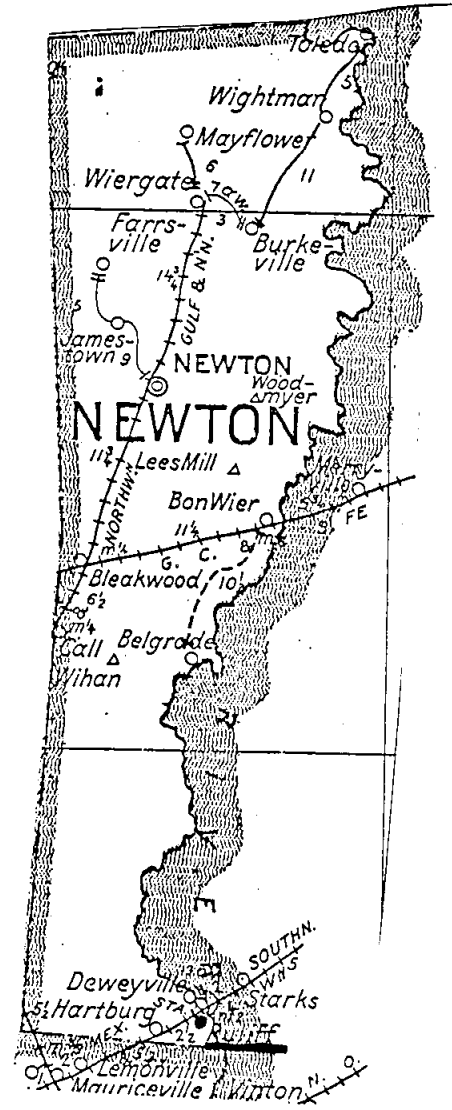
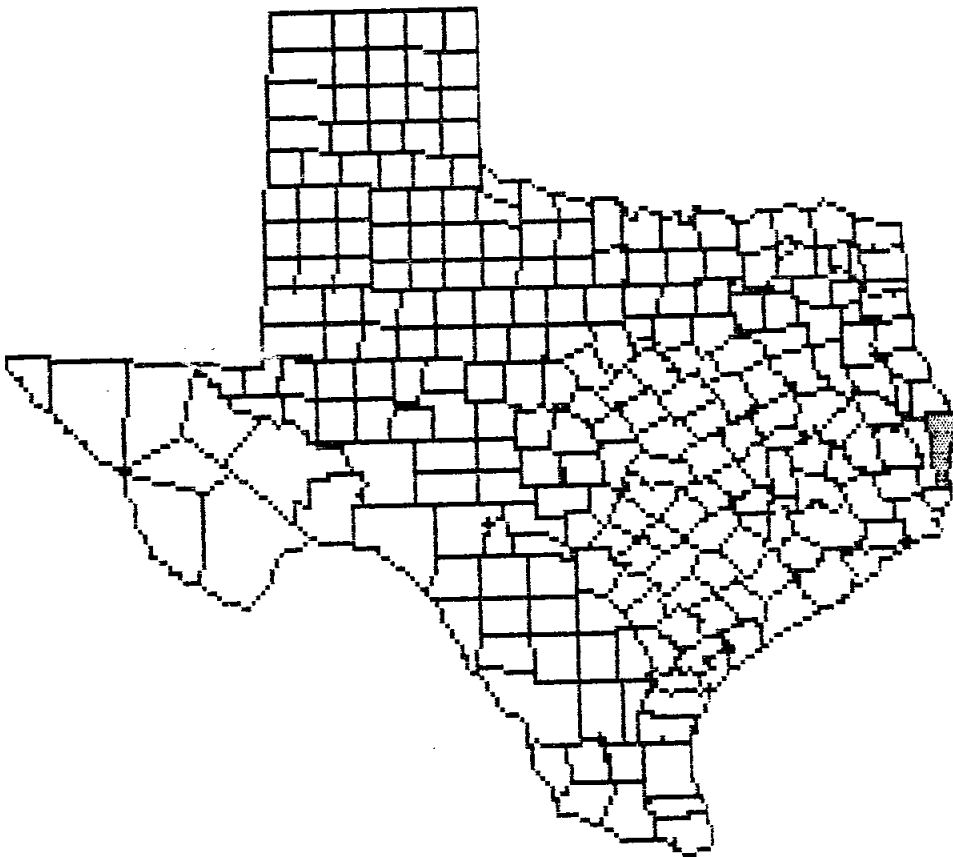
Ruliff, 13 Jun 1908



This cancel is known as a composit cancel. It was made by someone at the postoffice either from an old Doane cancel or one that was picked up at another postoffice. Even though it looks like a Doane, its not classified as such. These cancels are somewhat scarce as they didn't use them very long.

The postoffice was established on 9 Jan 1899, and discontinued 15 Sep 1908. It is possible that when there Doane cancel wore out and they didn't order another, then this one was made. The postoffice opened up again in 1921 and lasted until 1928.

The following maps show the location of Newton county in Texas and the location of Ruliff within Newton county.



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Col. any and all postal markings from Texas.
- LASSIG, William, 1173 Cross, New Braunfels, TX. 78130-5819. Tel.
- GATES, Thomas B., (Triple "S"), P.O. Box 224, Urbana, OH. 43078. Tel. 513-653-8094. Dealer in U.S. Post. History.
- DRESSER, George B., 501 Fairview Ave., College Station, TX. 77840. Tel. Col. Texas DPO's, and cancels prior to 1925 on covers or postal cards.

TP.H.S. SALE NO. 7

In this sale we offer a lot that is one correspondence. It contains enclosures, some in German, also some very old and attractive postmarks that were cut from stampless covers, some from the Civil War. Usual rules apply, the sale will close 45 days after the Journal is mailed. Successful bidders will pay 5% fee. The purchase price will be at a slight advance over the second highest bidder. The Sales Manager reserves the right to withdraw lots. The sale is open only to members. We require material for each sale - what do you have? Seller's fee is a mere 5%. The Sales Manager can be contacted at 512-826-1522. May your bid take the lot you desire.

1. BANDERA CO.,
VANDERPOOL, 1907, #300,
ppc, VF, "...have
measles".....EV \$4.00
2. BASTROP CO., BASTROP,
stampless cover w/red circular
strike, large faint red 5 aged
cover w/foxing, circa 1850's
.....EV \$40.00
3. BASTROP CO., BASTROP, bcs
1893 w/cork on U315,
cc.....EV \$4.00
4. BASTROP CO., ROSANKY,
ppc(flower) bcs, w/Doane
canc. (bars) 1908 on #300,
F.....EV \$4.00
5. BASTROP CO.,
SERBIN,DPOdrop letter w/o
postalmarking, long letter in
German w/1873 dateline,
interesting , aged.....EV
\$10.00+
6. BASTROP CO., SMITHVILLE,
bcs 1899 on U362 w/Austin
bs. F.....EV \$5.00
7. BELL CO., BELLVILLE, double
blk. circ. w/target cork on
U82, cover is red. and
damage.....EV
8. BELL CO., BELTON, bcs 1889
w/cork tying #213, cc "B.F.
Lee, Attorney,".....(P) EV
\$7.00
9. BELL CO., BELTON, w/bcs
1888, tying 213 w/cork, Adv.
cover. large illus. "Baylor
College", "unfailing
water...bathrooms on every
floor..." cover and stp.
foxed.....(P) EV \$20.00
10. BELL CO., BELTON, large
bcs w/target cork tying U58,
cir. 1865, reduced @
L.....EV
11. BELL CO., BELTON, bcs 1894
on U349, 2¢ Columbian,

- F.....EV \$6.00
12. BELL CO., TROY, double
bkc, 1888 on U315 w/cc card,
Dallas bs, clean cover.....(P)
EV \$5.00
13. BEXAR CO., SAN ANTONIO,
bcs w/fancy cross roads cork
on type U32, dateline 1873,
reduced @ L.....(P) EV \$16.00
14. BEXAR CO., SAN ANTONIO,
bcs w/cork on pair of #158, cc
Law Firm, circa 1878,
nice.....(P) EV \$10.00
15. BEXAR CO., SAN ANTONIO,
cover front w/HORD'S
HOTEL illustrated adv. cover,
bcs w/neg. T cork tying 3¢
bank note.....EV
16. CALLAHAN CO.,
CHAUTAUQUA, DPO, bcs
w/slug on #300 postcard,
1910, damage to card by
paste.....EV \$5.00
17. CASS CO., HICKORY HILL,
ms on entire U6, circa 1860,
stained, aged cover
w/tear.....(P) EV
18. COLLIN CO., McKINNEY,
w/3¢ green banknote
(damaged) w/bc canc. (circa
1878).....EV \$6.00
19. COLLIN CO., McKINNEY
w/bcs 1893 w/#220, F.....EV
\$4.00
20. COMAL CO., NEW
BRAUNFELS, large bcs, #65
not tied, circa 1863, cover has
tear across front.....(P)
EV
21. ELLIS CO., ENNIS bcs w/cork
on 2¢ brown 1885, w/church
message on front and back,
cover damage @
left.....EV
22. GALVESTON CO.,
GALVESTON, machine '07
canc. tying remnant of 319,
beautiful multi colored
BUFFALO FORGES, cover
& stamp are damaged..... (P)
EV
23. GOLIAD CO., GOLIAD,
rimless circ. canc. tying #26 to
aged cover, stamp & cover are
damaged.....(P) EV
24. GONZALES CO., TWO TEX.
CENT. covers w/cachets, (1)
Linn's, and (2) Reid-Cawood,
see Denton p.65 & p. 68,
F.....EV \$10.00
25. GRAYSON CO., DENNISON
bcs w/oval slug on U311,
1892 w/cc, F.....EV \$8.00
26. GRAYSON CO., SHERMAN,

- 10¢ 161, U277, bcs w/mutt
cork, reduced @ L.....EV
\$10.00
27. GRAYSON CO., SHERMAN,
bcs 1906, w/duplex ties #319,
F.....EV \$5.00
28. HAYS CO., KYLE, UX9, 1888,
w/large double circle and
fancy duple, grid, spindle hole
away from canc., neat
canc.....EV \$8.00
29. LAVACA CO.,
HALLETTSVILLE, large bcs
w/target on U311 circa 1880,
neat cover.....EV
\$10.00
30. LIMESTONE CO., MEXIA,
210 bcs tied w/cork 1885
w/encl, neat cover.....EV
\$12.00
31. MONTGOMERY CO.,
HUNTSVILLE, large bcs
w/pr. #65 not tied, cover is
foxed, circa
1860's.....EV
32. SABINE CO., MILAM, lt. bcs
w/target cork on U58, back
flap and front damaged.....(P)
EV
33. SHELBY CO., CENTER, blue
circ. w/star in circle tying 3¢
green, 1880 w/comm. cc,
green rec. mark on rear,
F.....(P) EV \$15.00
34. TARRANT CO., MANSFIELD
bcs w/star cork on U311. 1888
w/cc, reduced @
Rt.....EV
35. TARRANT CO., FT. WORTH,
bcs and interesting cork tying
3¢ green, on cover "received
1879", little foxed, but
nice.....(P) EV \$12.00
36. TRAVIS CO., AUSTIN pr. 219
tied w/bcs, 1890 w/large
corner card, reduced @ R
into stamp.....EV \$8.00
37. VAN ZANDT, SILVER LAKE
(DP), bcs w/bcs 1895,
interesting corks cc 213,
address to Indian Terr.
w/Briartown, I.T. rec. mark,
Physician's cc.....EV \$20.00
38. WASHINGTON CO.,
BRENNHAM, bcs cork on
U34, damage on back
ed.....EV
39. WASHINGTON CO.,
WASHINGTON, large bcs
w/bars on U277 (circa
1880's), rec. mark San
Francisco on reverse, reduced
@ R, touches stamp.....EV

- \$12.00
40. WILLIAMSON CO.,
GEORGETOWN, 1908 BCS
W/SLUG TYING TWO #300,
RAGGED COVER.....EV
\$3.00
41. WISE CO., AURORA (DP) bcs
w/cork on U163 (circa 1880),
cover is reduced at R into
stamp.....EV \$15.00
42. RR. ALBUQUERQUE-EL
PASO, faint bcs 1892 w/#255
and U222, "South 332" (?),
addressed to South Africa
w/back stamp, back of cover
is damaged.....(P) EV \$22.00
43. RR NEWTON & FT. WORTH
R.P.O, bc Tr.17, 1908 w/319
from Indian T to Gainsville
w/encl. "Love Letter"EV
\$10.00
44. RR, TEMPLE & SAN
ANGELO R.P.O., 1905, type
U395, Tr. 78, w/Coleman, cc,
VF.....EV \$10.00
45. RR, TEMPLE & SAN
ANGELO, bcs w/RMS slug
1903, Tr. 75 on U358. Santa
Anna bs, F.....(P) EV \$8.00
46. RR, FT. SCOTT & DENI., bcs
strike w/cork tying #184, cc
Dennison, cover damage,
stamp and strike clear.....EV
\$3.00

47. CORRESPONDENCE, 1890-
1922, August Heintze of La Grange.
Includes La Grange, Corpus Christi,
Moulton, College Station,
Schulenburg, San Antonio,
Fayetteville, Enid, Okla., etc. 12
pieces, 6 w/enclosure, 4 letters in
German. Interesting and historical.
Covers and stamps may be foxed.
Should be worth \$3.00/item.....EV
\$36.00

47A. OIL PROMOTION from the
above Heintze corresp., 2 #10
envelopes, (1) Superior Sales Synd.
"Investments That Pay" from Ft.
Worth, w/promotional letter. (2)
Elgin Oil and Refining Co., Houston,
w/lease descriptions on envelope,
1919 & 1920, bcs, aged, but
interesting.....EV \$15.00

COMMENT: Prior to 1930, Texas
Postal History was of interest to a
limited group of historians. One of
the promoters of the study of our
state's postal history was Harry
Konweiser. In 1933, Lindquist
published Konweiser's "Texas
Republic Postal Systems." In his
forward, Konweiser voices his
thanks to, among others, T. E. Flick,
Fred Lentz, and pioneer collector
Fred Green.

Fred Green passed away about two
years ago. Your Sales Manager had
an opportunity to acquire some
material from this rare holding.

Among the items was a group of
Texas postmarks cut to about 1 3/4 x
2 inches, some smaller, some larger.
Some of the postmarks had rates
attached, i.e., "paid 15", etc.

Many of these postmarks are of
Confederate era, see AMERICAN
STAMPLESS COVER
CATALOG(ASC), also
CONFEDERATE STAMPS OF
AMERICA STAMPLESS COVER
CATALOG(CSC). The Texas
portion of the latter publication was
edited by Charles E. Sawyer, and
other members, including Charles
Deaton.

We offer this material subject to our
best efforts in researching the
postmarks, and they are offered "as
we found them." This material has
its value in studying and comparing
early postmarks.

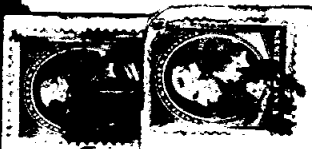
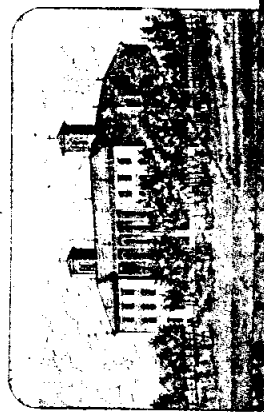
48. AUSTIN 39 mm blue circle on
piece 1 3/4 x 1 3/4,
unusual.....(P) EV _____
49. CASTROVILLE, 39 mm,
green cir. canc. on piece 1 5/8 x
1 3/4", CSC says only 3 covers
known.....EV _____
50. GONZALES, bcs 32 mm. on
piece 1 3/8 x 1 5/8", circ.
1852-55, see ASC,
p.199.....(P) EV _____
51. HUNTSVILLE, 36 mm. red
circle w/"Paid 3" in red in
circle, on piece 2 1/2 x 1 3/4",
very attractive.....(P) EV _____
52. SEGUIN, bcs 28 mm. w/PAID
15, 15 in ms, on piece 3 1/2 x
1 1/2", circa 1862-63, see
CSC p.75, nice.....(P) EV _____

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Return in 10 Days to
B. F. LEECH,
Attorney at Law,
BELTON, TEXAS.

If not called for in 10 days, return to

T. T. MARTIN,
Department of Mathematics,
BELTON, TEXAS.



If not delivered in 10 days, return to
OGDEN OGDEN,
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS.

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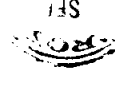
Stewart Kern (C.S.)
2008 North 17th St
Philadelphia Pa

51

23



Sam W. Wood



Harvard
Winton

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Edgar L. Lechner
711 Calceolaria Hill
San Antonio, Texas 78209



PAID 13

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BUFFALO FORGES,

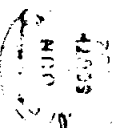
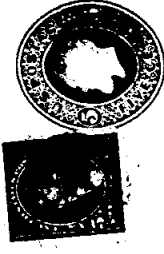
SALVESTON
TEXAS
JAN 3 3 30 PM '07



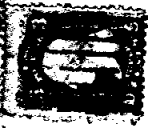
A. D. McDonald
Morney & Counsell at Law
Levy Building

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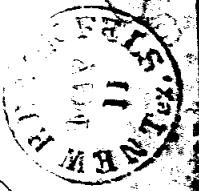
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Sumner
San Antonio
Matabela land
South America



J. G. Rome Esq.
Hempstead



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W. D. Martin
W. D. Martin
W. D. Martin