

New Jersey

Civil War Patriotic Covers

An exhibit
plus additional covers added 2015

By Richard Micchelli



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NJPHS

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New Jersey Civil War Patriotics

Civil War patriotic covers, or envelopes bearing patriotic illustrations and messages, provide an unusual insight into a turbulent and fascinating period of American history. These covers, with their designs reflecting patriotism, the sentimentalities and realities of a soldier's life in war, documentation of great battles, tributes to heroes, or biting satires on opposing views, still communicate to us, more than a century later, a sense of the great depth of feeling engendered by our nation's most bloody conflict.

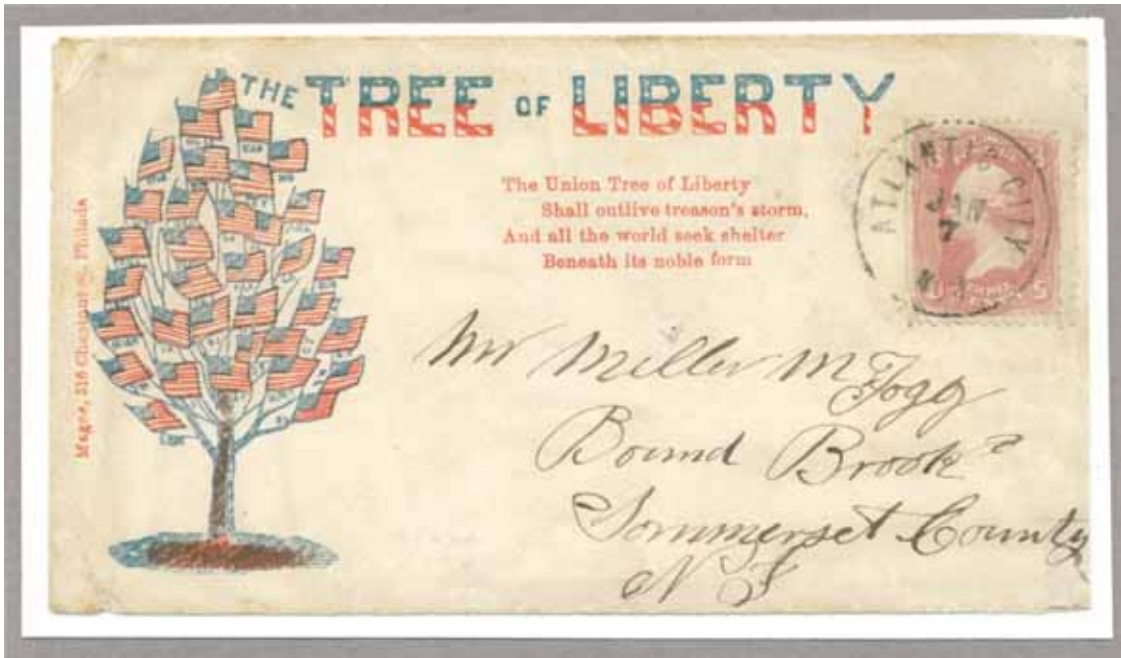
After the attack by Confederate forces on Fort Sumter, SC, on April 12, 1861, hundreds of such envelopes were quickly issued by many printers bearing flag, eagle, liberty and shield designs; all the forerunners of more sophisticated designs that were produced later during the war.

New Jersey residents also used these patriotic covers in their correspondence as a popular means of displaying patriotic ideals. But New Jersey, primarily an agrarian state with a low-density population, had one of the smallest numbers of such covers to survive the era. What follows is an alphabetical display of cities from which patriotic covers have survived along with other related covers of the era.



John Wyman, aka **Wyman the Wizard**, was one of the foremost ventriloquists and magicians who entertained the public during the 1840's and 1860's, including Presidents Van Buren, Fillmore and Lincoln at the White House. Above is his illustrated advertising cover with enclosed bulletin announcement. His extensive correspondence with his wife, Jane, in Burlington, NJ, has left us with a treasure trove of New Jersey Civil War patriotic covers. Many of the following are from that correspondence.

Atlantic City



Barneget



Barnsborough



Basking Ridge



Bloomfield



Belvidere



"The Girl I Left Behind" was a popular patriotic poem of the War.

Beverly



This Burlington County river town was the site of an official Union General Hospital established in 1863, and called Beverly Hospital. Centered in a brick building with a 1000 bed capacity, it housed convalescent men who were transferred there from other hospitals. This envelope was especially prepared for use by hospital convalescents.

Nearby is the only National Cemetery in NJ, Beverly National Cemetery, established in 1864 for Civil War dead who died in hospitals. Still in use for veterans of all US military wars, the original hospital still stands in Beverly.

Beverly



Beverly



Beverly



Beverly



Division Badges. Worn on left side of the cap, these were meant to give each infantry corps a symbol of pride and to make each one easily identifiable to the generals in charge. This was the beginning of heraldry in the Civil War. Adopted by Gen. Joseph Hooker April, 1864.

Beverly



Beverly



The United States Christian Commission was the largest and most important civilian relief agency off the war. They provided free stationery to the troops.

Blairstown



Blairstown



This cover was written by J. J. Blair, first postmaster and namesake of Blairstown.

Bloomsbury



Bridgeton

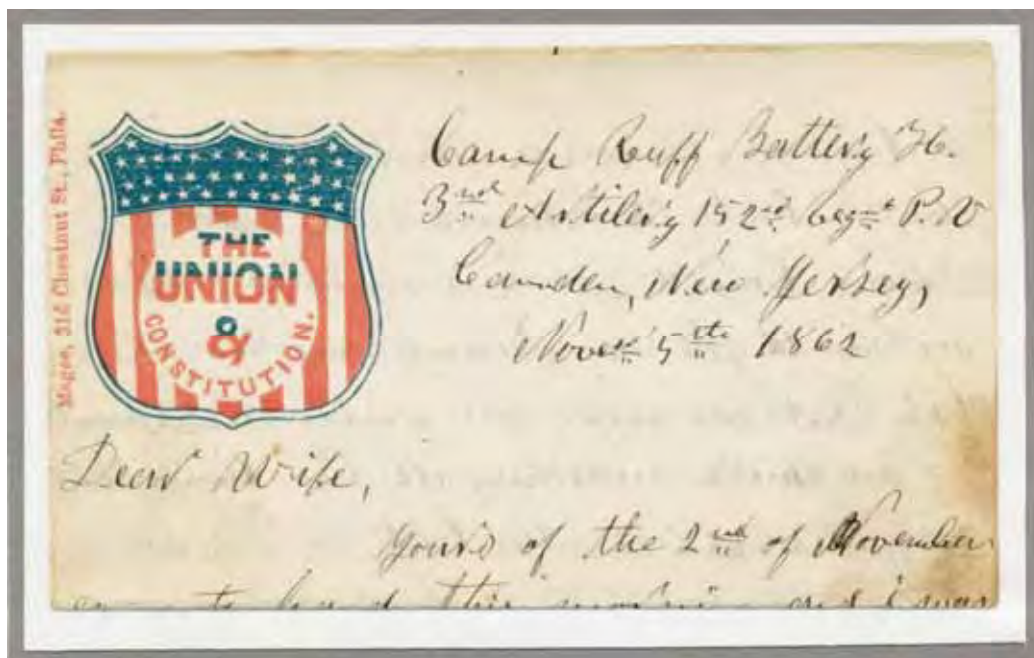


Camden



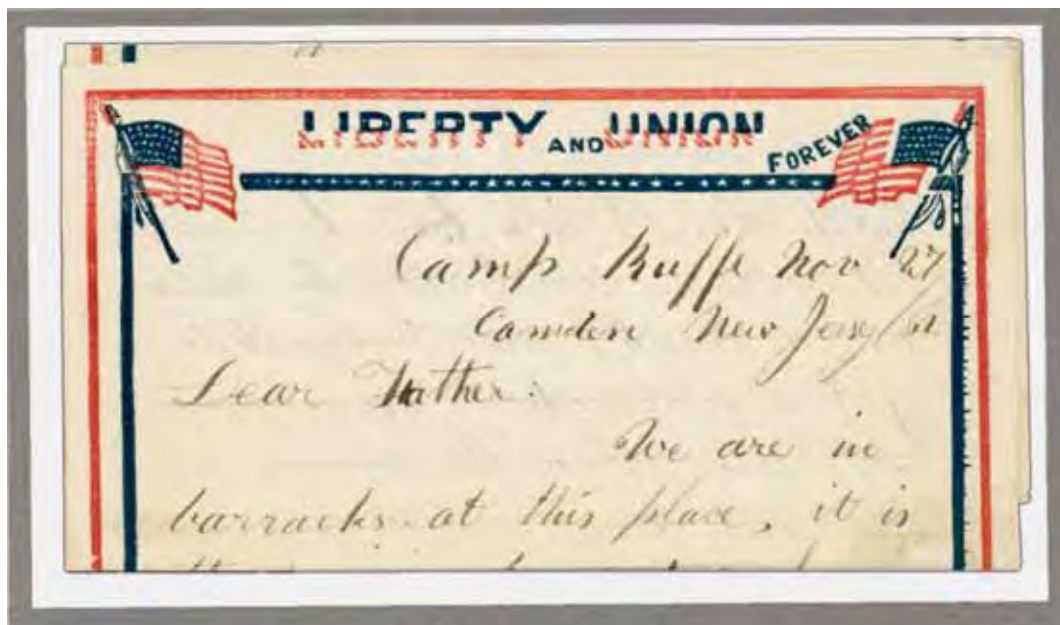
Camp Ruff, Camden, was the training center for Battery H, 3rd Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, Private Volunteers (Sept 1862-Feb. 1863), where the soldiers mutinied over the issue of their bounty money. Arrested and transferred to Fort Delaware, DE, they were eventually released from the charge of mutiny by the commanding General. A soldier's letter accompanies this cover

Camden



Camp Ruff, Camden, was the training center for civil war troops. This cover contains the original soldier's letter of November, 1862, also shown.

Camden



Another Camp Ruff, Camden, cover which contains the original soldier's letter of November, 1862, also shown.

Camden



Camden



Camden



Camden



Camden



Camden



Camden



Great Central Fair for the Sanitary Commission. An extraordinary volunteer achievement in 1861 that brought aid and comfort to Union soldiers. An 1864 fair in Philadelphia was a key fund raising event. This is one of the two known covers from NJ.

Clarksborough



Clover Hill



Copper Hill



This 1863 writer used a patriotic lettersheet for this cover.

Craneville



Delaware Station



Delaware Station



Delaware Station



Delaware Station



Eatontown



Ewingville



Elizabeth



Elizabeth



US Senator from Tennessee who opposed secession, but later gave his full support to Jeff Davis and the Confederacy.

Elizabeth



Elizabeth



Elizabeth



Elizabethport



A neighborhood in the City of Elizabeth , home of Singer Sewing Machine.

Flanders



Freehold



Frenchtown



Frenchtown



Frenchtown



Frenchtown



John Lorimer, US Navy Lt. is best remembered for his service in command of the first ironclad in the Union, the USS Monitor, and the defeat of the Merrimac.

Georgetown



Glassborough



Hackettstown



Hackettstown



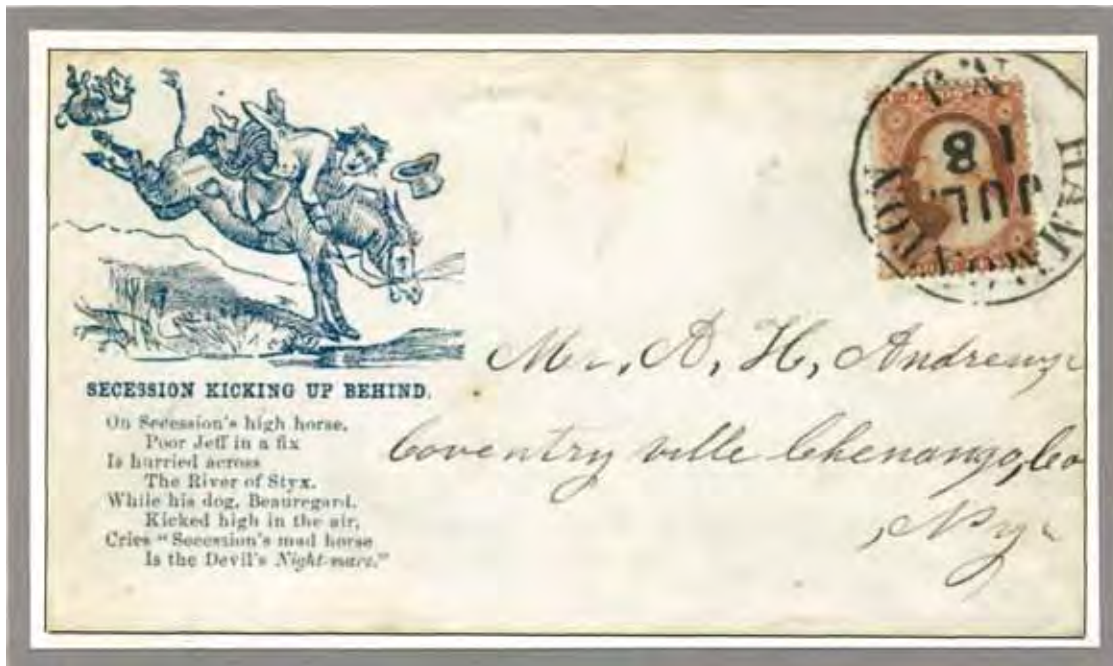
Haddonfield



Haddonfield



Hammonton



Hardwick



Hanover Neck



Hanover Neck



Harrisonville



Hightstown



This pig design meant Lincoln wished to keep the whole Union together.

Hope



Hornerstown



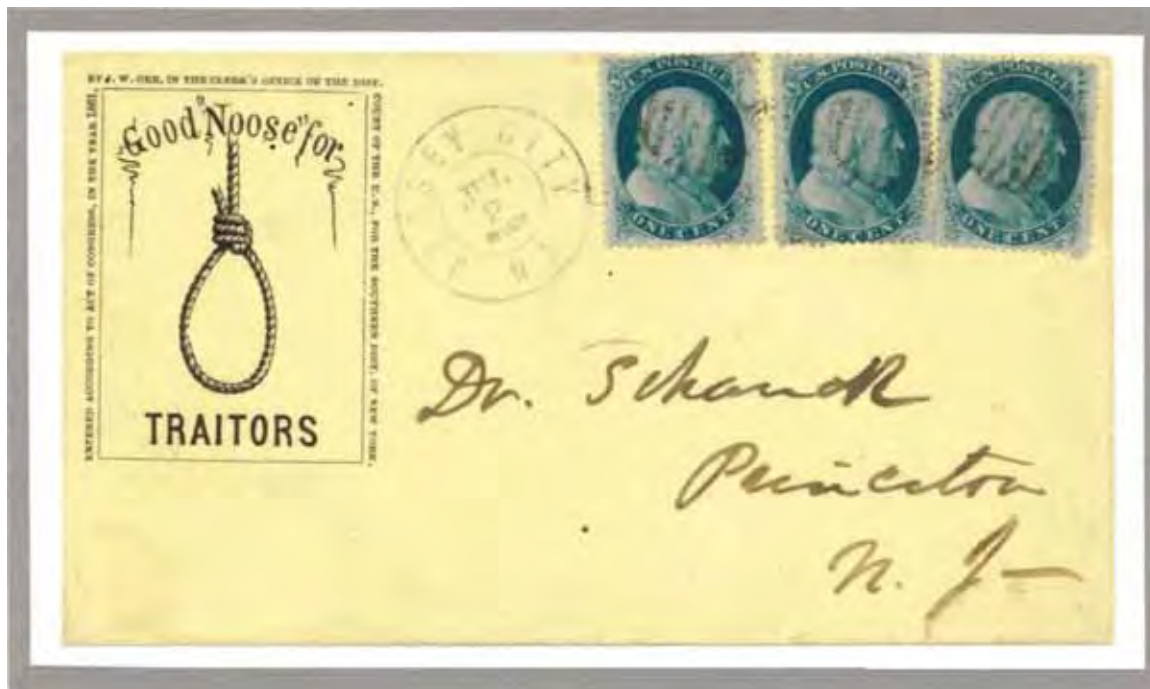
Hudson



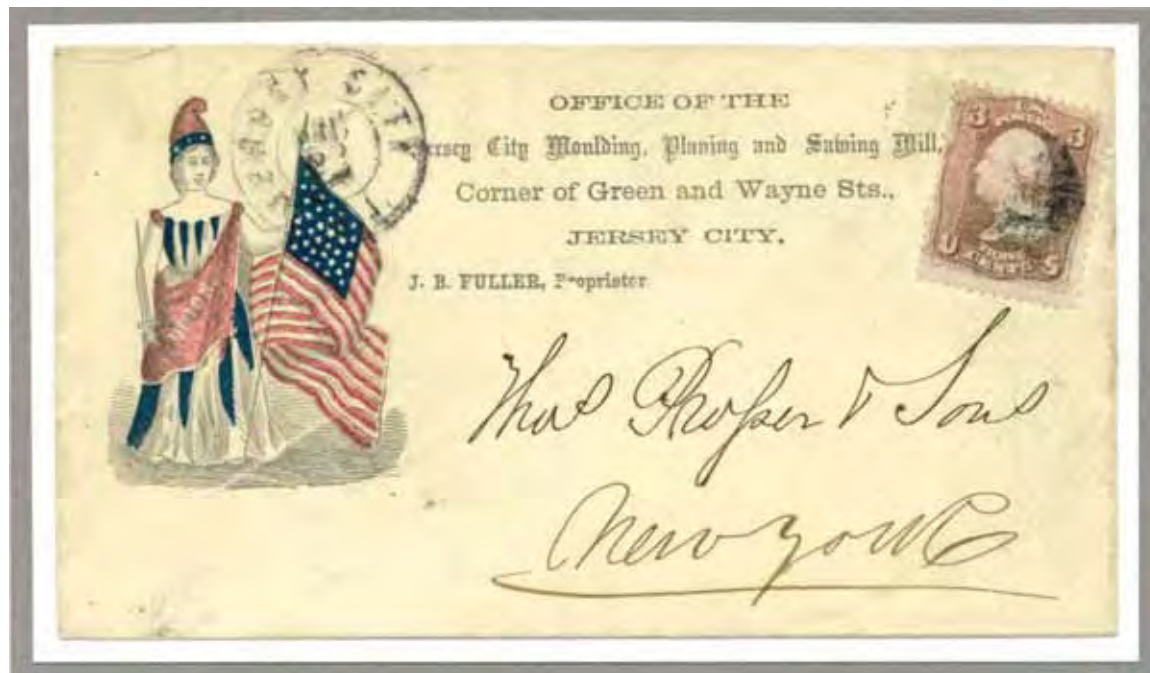
Indian Mills



Jersey City



Jersey City



This patriotic was also used as an advertising cover. Uncommon usage.

Lafayette



Lawrenceville



A most clever and complex patriotic cartoon design shows Lincoln in an apothecary, "**Lincoln's Renowned Rebel Exterminator**" in a star cap and striped robe of the American flags preparing a wide variety of anti-Confederate concoctions to defeat the Confederacy. Printed in Salem, Mass. Only recorded example.

Lebanon



Long Branch



Mendham



Metedeconk



Millstone



Printed by Charles Magnus, this bronzed patriotic depicts Fortress Monroe, the largest stone fort ever built in the United States. Located at Old Point Comfort, VA, it remained in Union control throughout the war and where several land and sea expeditions were launched. It was the site for the beginning of the Monroe Doctrine and where Jefferson Davis was held for two years after the war.

General Mansfield had a 40 year military career when commanding the XII Corps. He was killed at the Battle of Antietam during the Maryland Campaign.

Milburn



Milburn



Milburn



Montclair



Moorestown



Moorestown



Morristown



Mullica Hill



New Bedford



New Egypt



Newark, nearly 200 years old at the onset of the Civil War, was a thriving and important cultural and industrial city on the eastern seaboard. Aided by the Passaic river, the Morris Canal, and easy ocean access, more than 65% of its manufactured goods were to the southern states. Fearful of losing their economic powers, Newarkers voted heavily against Lincoln only to have their fears realized with high unemployment after the 1860 election. Yet they stood by the Union and were early supporters of the war. A population of over 90,000 made it the largest city in the state, and therefore, the most prolific user of the mails. The majority of known Civil War patriotics have come from Newark, as represented by the following pages.



Newark



Newark



The first is a drop letter rate while the second is first class rate.

Newark



Ellsworth was colonel of the New York Fire Zouaves and his was the first death of note in the war, May 1861, Alexandria, VA.

Newark



ZOUAVES: Soldiers with flashy uniforms influenced after French-Algerian drill teams that toured the US in 1860.. Col Ellsworth raised the first unit from the New York Fire Department, distinguished by a tasseled red fez.

Newark



Newark



Newark



Newark



Newark



Newark



Newark



Newark



Newark



Newark



Newark



Newark



Newark



Newark



Newark



Newark



Newark



Newark



Newark



Newark



Newark



Newark



Newark



Newark



Newark

National Mourning



Just over a month after his assassination, May 23, 1865, this Lincoln mourning cover was sent from Newark to Switzerland unpaid and shows New York and French transit markings. Only known transatlantic mourning cover of the era.

New Brunswick



This overall design of a flag shows additional patriotic inscriptions by the sender in manuscript along the outer edges.

New Brunswick



New Brunswick



Newton



Newton



Oxford Furnace



Oxford Furnace



Site of iron foundry producing shot for the Civil War.

Paterson



Missent to Paterson, NJ. Then forwarded to Paterson, New York.

Paterson



A caricature depicting the confederate General Beauregard as a bear.

Paulsborough



Paulsborough



Pemberton



Pemberton



A naval battle scene with the quote "We have met the enemy and they are ours," a parody of an 1813 message sent after the Battle of Lake Erie.

Perrineville



Perth Amboy



A campaign cover for Lincoln's second term with Andrew Johnson.

Phillipsburg



. A campaign cover for Lincoln's 1864 re-election with A. Johnson

Phillipsburg



Phillipsburg



Printed and hand colored by Berlin & Jones, ,New York City

Phillipsburg



Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1862, by
R. W. WOOD, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the
United States for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Phillipsburg



Phillipsburg



Phillipsburg



Pottersville



Plainfield

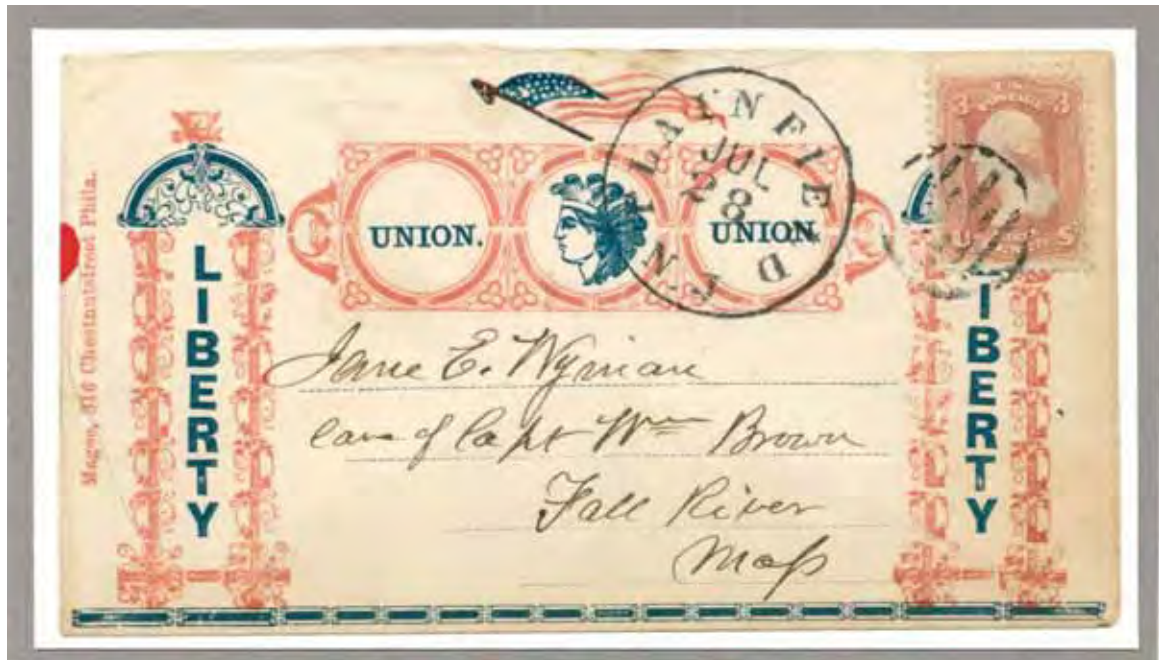


Plainfield



Not a patriotic, but campaign advertising for Lincoln & Hamlin's 1861 campaign.

Plainfield

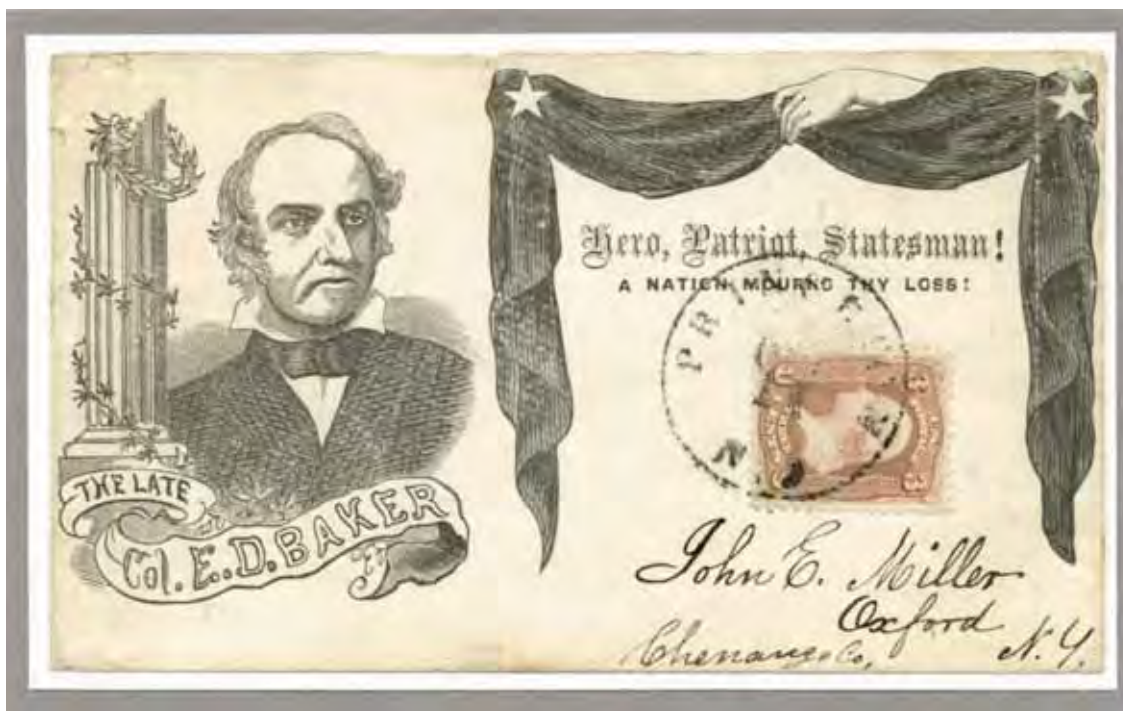


Plainfield



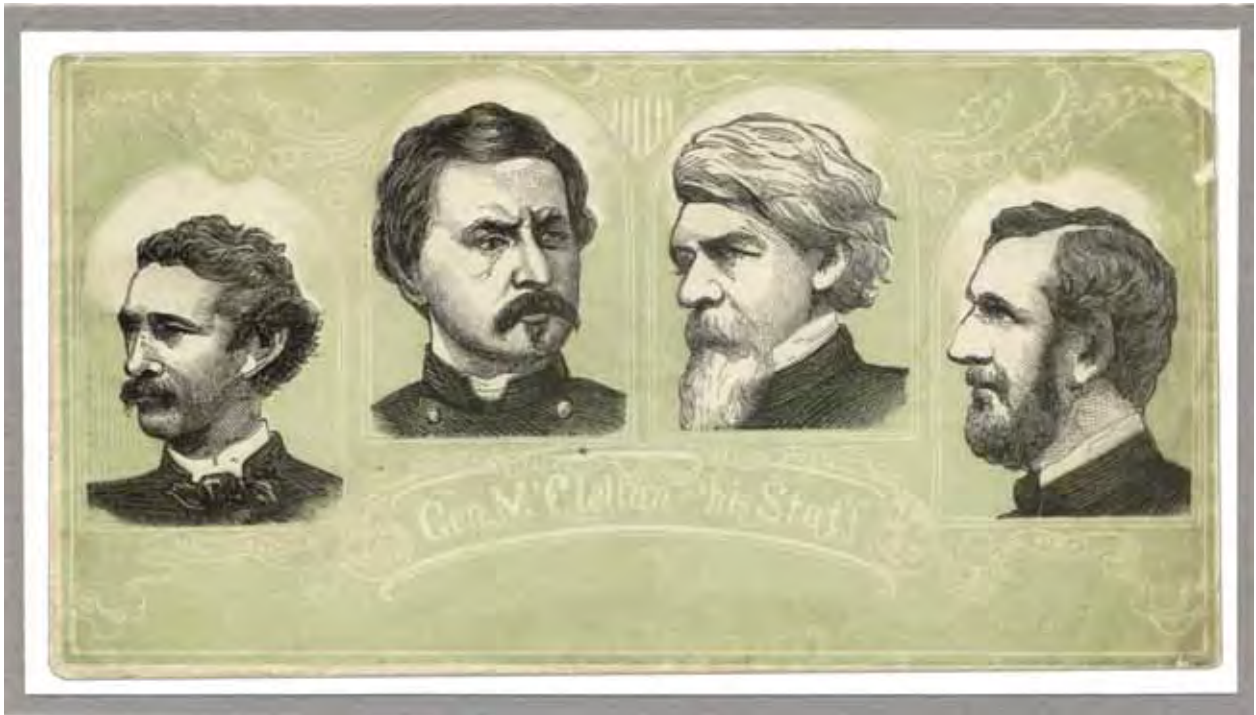
A portrait of General L. Blenker on cover printed by Charles Magnus. Blenker organized the 8th NY Infantry Regiment and commanded them for the Army of the Potomac. Promoted to General for service at Bull Run 1861.

Princeton



This mourning cover honors Col. E. D. Baker, the only sitting US Senator killed in the Civil War; in 1861 at the Battle Of Balls Bluff. Lawyer, politician, military leader and close friend of Lincoln.

Princeton



. The obverse of this patriotic depicts the portraits of General McClellan and his staff: Gen Barry, Majors Clarke, and Van Vliet.

Princeton



Rahway



Rahway



Rahway



A printed cover used for the N. J. Volunteers.

Rahway



An early Oregon State seal for this newly granted statehood in 1859.

Ringoes



Rio Grande



Portrait of General McClellan

Rockaway



Caricature of a falling balloon of secession on a 1861 cover

Scotch Plains



Salem



Salem



Salem



Salem



Salem



Salem



Shiloh



Shiloh



Somerville



This patriotic cover was printed and hand colored by Charles Magnus. It depicts the first eight presidents of the country.

Somerville



South Amboy



Tom's River



Tom's River



Trenton



Trenton



Trenton



Trenton



Trenton



Trenton

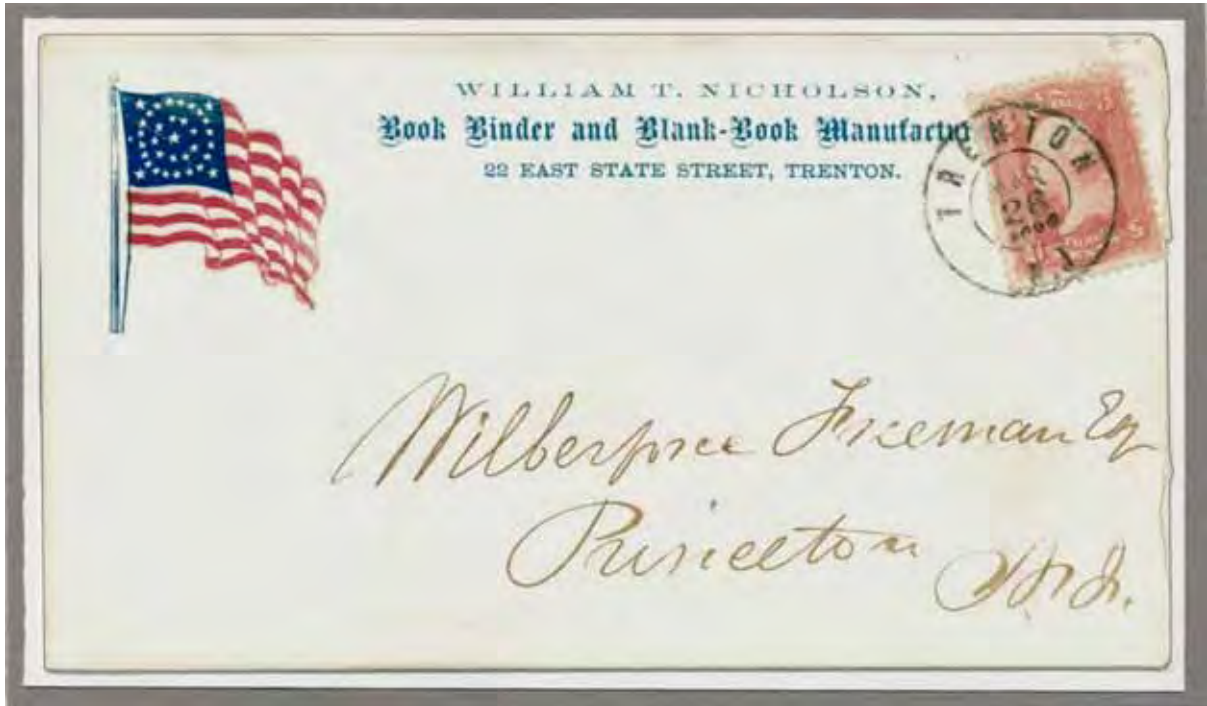


Trenton



Great Central Fair for the Sanitary Commission. An extraordinary volunteer achievement in 1861 that brought aid and comfort to Union soldiers. An 1864 fair in Philadelphia was a key fund raising event. One of the two known covers from NJ, and one of the few 2c Black 1861 used in the State.

Trenton



This patriotic has the additional distinction of being an advertising cover.

Vineland



Washington



Woodstown



APPENDIX:

New Jersey

Civil War Patriotic Covers

**additional covers added 2015
including a list of printers**

By Richard Micchelli

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Appendix:

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ADDITIONS TO A COLLECTION OF CIVIL WAR PATRIOTIC COVERS

By Richard Micchelli

Collecting Civil War envelopes has been a particular interest of mine, and I have never stopped looking. Since the first article published in these pages in May 2011, at the beginning of the commemoration of the 150th Anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War, I have added a number more to the collection. Some were the source of articles, including those of Civil War letters (see below), The Beverly Hospital, Wyman the Wizard, etc. and have already been seen here. These however are additions that have not yet been published. I hope you will enjoy seeing them.

It is particularly interesting to note the different publishers of these envelopes, and the fact that only one of them is located in New Jersey: William Nicholson, 22 East State St., Trenton – and this is in fact a patriotic advertising envelope for a book bindery, so whether they printed this envelope is questionable. Even in Gene Freeman's 16-page appendix to James Milgram's Federal Civil War Postal History, there is only one New Jersey printer listed: Thomas Doyle, Printer, Above 2nd, Camden, NJ. I have not yet discovered a copy of an envelope printed by him.

These envelopes were collected avidly at the time, much as post card collecting became a craze in the early 1900s, and often kept in albums by those who did so. It would seem that they presented a lucrative business opportunity for New Jersey printers, but perhaps New Jersey was overwhelmed by those from New York City and Philadelphia.

A list of the publishers I have found, of these and the other envelopes included in my online exhibit, with their addresses, can be found at the end of this article.

These covers will be added to the online exhibit as an appendix, so that they will be available to anyone interested in collecting or sharing knowledge of the subject.

This continues our articles relating to Civil War postal history, in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of this event. See our articles: New Jersey Civil War Covers, (Vol. 39 No. 2 Whole number [182](#), May 2011), New Jersey Civil War Covers: The Wyman Correspondence (Vol. 39 No. 4 Whole number [184](#) November 2011), and Civil War Patriotics: The Story of the Beverly Hospital (Vol. 40 No. 1 Whole number [185](#), February 2012, and A Soldier's Letters from Camp Ruff in Vol. 41. No. 2, Whole Number [190](#), further letters in Whole No. 41, No. 3, Whole number [191](#), Aug 2013), all illustrated with covers from the Micchelli collection. His award-winning exhibit of Civil War Patriotic Covers can be seen in our Free Online Library at <http://www.njpostalhistory.org/media/pdf/NJCWPats.pdf>.

NJPH has published other articles on Civil War topics, one in Whole No. 195: NJ Soldier Letters in the Civil War by Dennis Buttacavoli, and another yet to come on a doctor during the Civil War. For other older articles in our past issues, we recommend a look at our Index, available at <http://www.njpostalhistory.org/media/archive/njphindex1-176.xls> in Excel format or <http://www.njpostalhistory.org/media/archive/njphindex1-176.pdf> in Acrobat Reader format. Our back issues are available online in our Free Library at <http://www.njpostalhistory.org/freelibraryjournals.html> .

Belleville



This cover was sent from Belleville in 1863 to Italy Hill, Yates County, NY.

Bloomsbury



This cover is published by S. C. Rickards of 102 Nassau St., NYC.

Bridgeton



Camden Nov 1862



A cover addressed to Eve Gundrum – an addition to the correspondence of John Gundrum discussed in *NJPH* Whole No. [190](#), Letters from Camp Ruff, as is the one below.

Camden Jan 1863



This cover was printed by Magee, a prolific publisher of patriotic envelopes located in Philadelphia at 316 Chestnut St.

Changewater



Changewater is a tiny town in Hunterdon County, still had access to these envelopes.

Clinton Station



This cover from Clinton Station celebrates the Lincoln-Hamlin ticket, elected in the 1860 Election. It is printed by S. Raynor, an envelope manufacturer in New York.

Delaware



A popular cover, this one was used from Delaware, NJ April 11, 1862. It was printed by Wells, 108 Fulton St., NY.

Delaware Station



This cover from Delaware Station to the same addressee as above, was printed by E. Cogan, 48 N. 10th Street in Philadelphia.

Elizabeth



Elizabeth, NJ, another new addition.

Elizabeth missent



An envelope missent to Elizabeth, NJ from Washington, DC – likely intended for Port Elizabeth. Printed by S. Rickards, 102 Nassau St., NY.

Freehold



Depicting George Washington, this envelope was sent to Jane Wyman, wife of Wyman the Wizard, discussed in detail in *NJPH* Whole No. [184](#).

Frenchtown



Jersey City



A Jersey City cover addressed to Marcus L. Ward. In 1862, Ward ran for Governor of NJ against Joel Parker, but lost. In 1866 he ran again & was elected.

Lambertville



A nice double ring Lambertville Jan. 6, 1863 cancel on an envelope with an embossed albino picture of Gen. McClellan, in charge of Union Forces on the Potomac.

New Brunswick



A New Brunswick cover printed by S.C. Upham, 310 Chestnut St., Philadelphia.

Newark

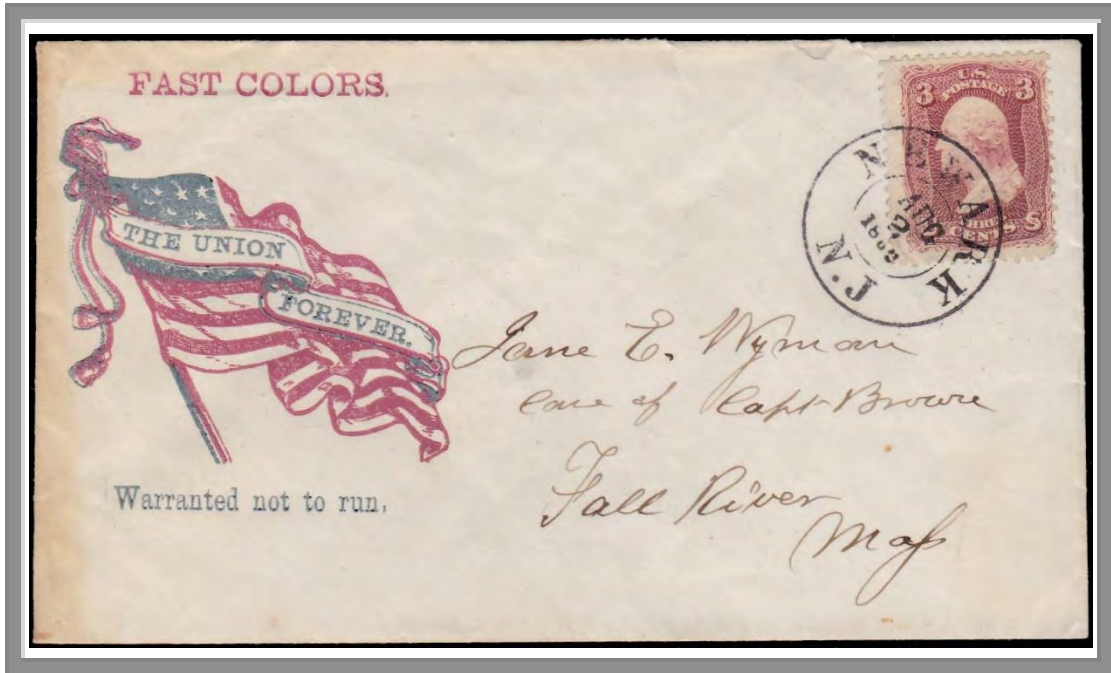


Newark, while known for its opposition to the war as bad for its economy, also had a strong contingent which supported it. A number of new Newark covers are shown.

Newark



Newark

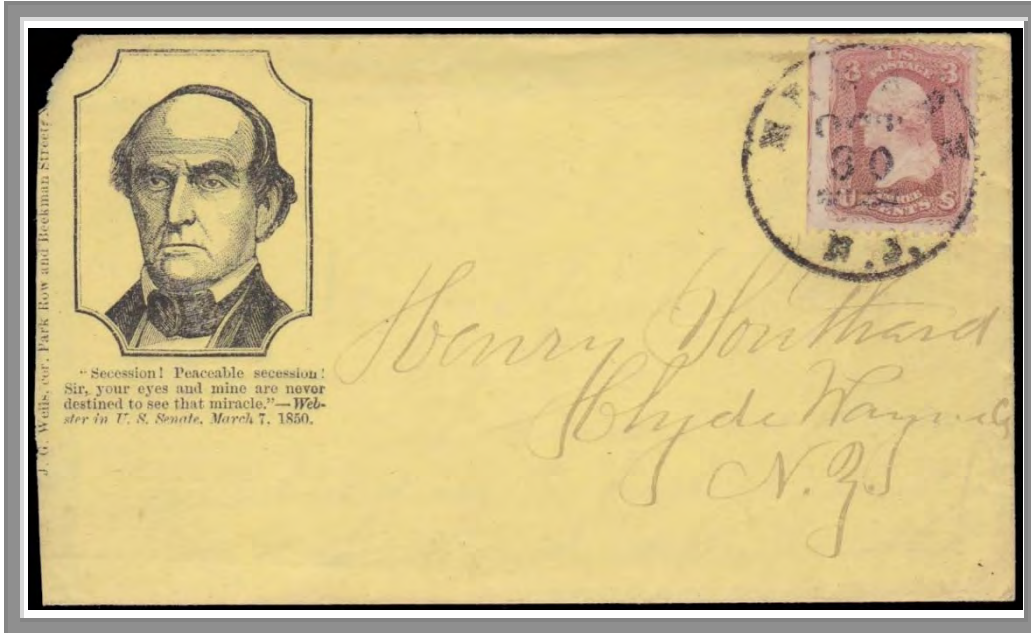


Another Wyman cover, sent to her family's home in Fall River – see *NJPH* Whole No. [184](#)

Newark



Newark



A picture and quote of Daniel Webster, printed by J.C. Wells. Corner of Park Row & Beekman Sts., NY.

Newark



This envelope celebrates the "contraband" status of Southern slaves who crossed the lines, or who joined up with Union forces. They were regarded as contraband, and hence did not need to be returned to their masters.

Newark



Both this and the following envelope show Union flags with 34 stars (1861-1863). Kansas became the 34rd state January 29, 1861 – a free state; West Virginia, breaking from Virginia, became the 35th on June 20, 1863.

Newark



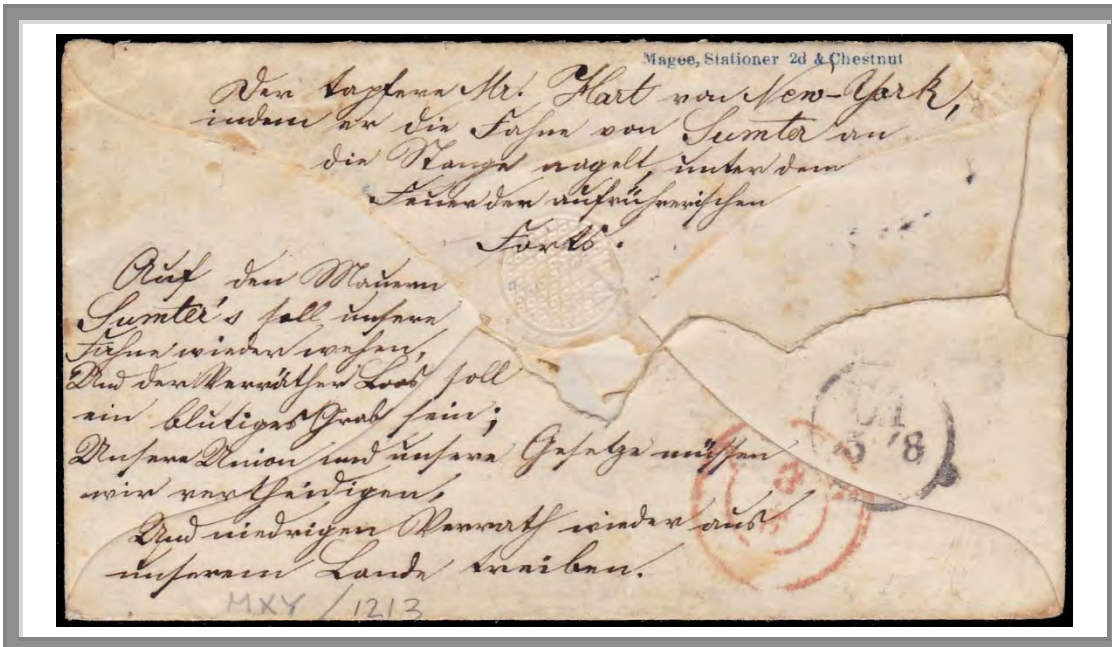
This patriotic envelope was also used as an advertising envelope, with a corner card from the J. Ives & Son Axle Manufacturers in Newark.

Newark to Württemberg

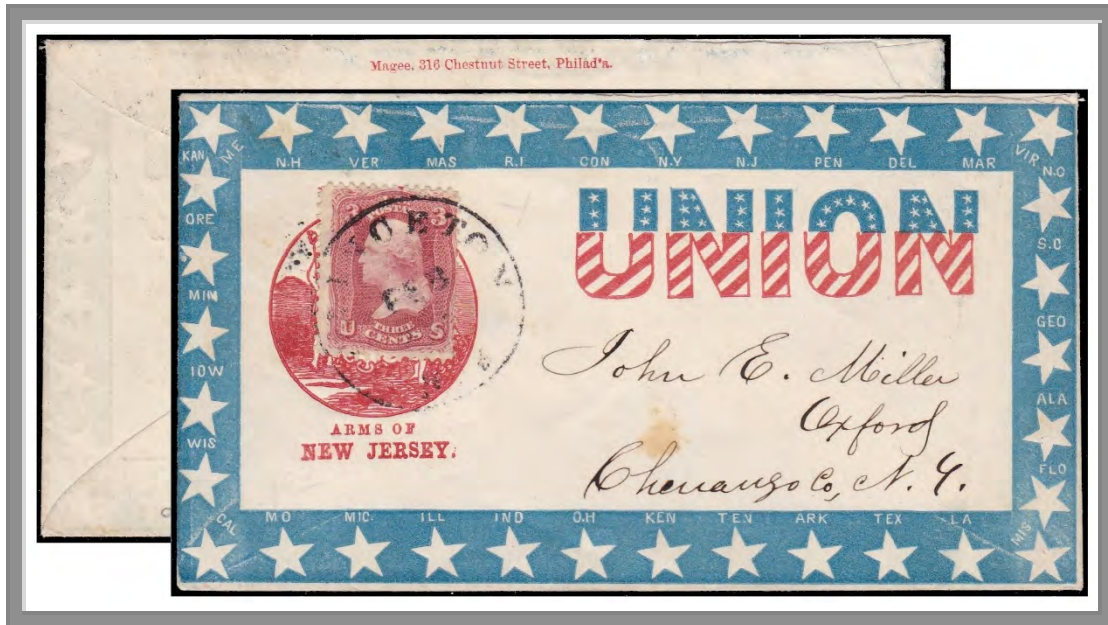


A rare overseas usage of a Civil War patriotic cover, sent from Newark to Stuttgart. This envelope was printed by Magee stationers in at 2nd & Chestnut in Philadelphia.

Reverse of cover to Württemberg, on which the writer has translated into German the text on the front.



Princeton



Another Magee envelope (address 316 Chestnut St, Phila.) showing NJ Arms, albeit covered by the stamp, sent from Princeton, NJ.

Progress



Yet another Magee cover, sent from Progress, NJ on May 23, 1864, to Christian Frech in the 68th Regiment of the Pennsylvania Infantry, addressed to him in a camp of the Army of the Potomac.

Squan Village



A cover sent with a manuscript postmark from Squan Village – current day Manasquan – to nearby Freehold, NJ, marked “Paid” – no stamps present.

Trenton



An August 6, 1861 double ring cancel from Trenton to Oxford, NY.

Trenton



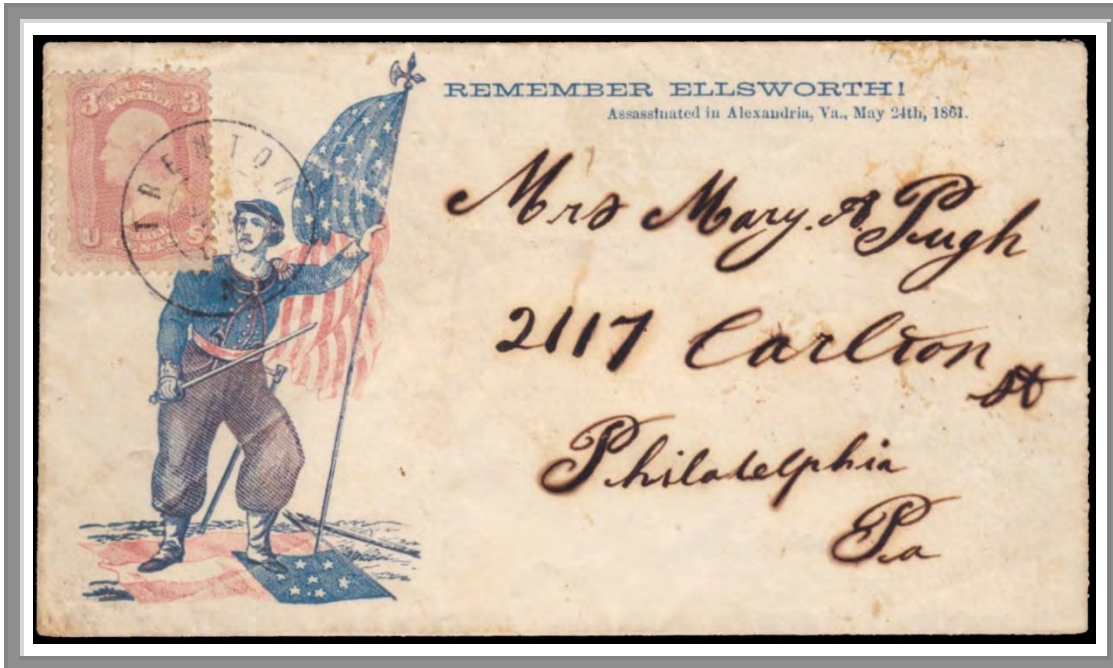
Another Magee envelope.

Trenton



This envelope is addressed to Mr. Magee himself, publisher of many of these envelopes, at 316 Chestnut St. in Philadelphia.

Trenton



Ellsworth, a personal friend of Lincoln's, became the first Union officer to be killed in the Civil War. He was shot when removing a Confederate flag large enough to be seen from the White House from Marshall's Inn, while occupying Alexandria, VA on May 24, 1861. His name became a rallying cry.

Trenton



A new double ring Trenton cancel, used on March 2, 1864.

Trenton



Westfield



A Westfield, NJ cancel on an envelope showing Martha Washington, addressed to the resort and mineral springs town of French Lick, Indiana. Published by the Union Stationery Depot, 106 Fulton, NYC.

PRINTERS OF CIVIL WAR PATRIOTIC ENVELOPES
seen on NJ cancelled envelopes in the Micchelli collection

See also <http://www.njpostalhistory.org/media/pdf/NJCWPats.pdf>

Printer	Address	City
Berlin & Jones	134 William St.	NY
Bloom & Smith		NY
Brown & Ryan	201, 203, 205 William St.	NY
E. Cogan	No. 48 N. Tenth St.	Philadelphia
Magee	316 Chestnut St 2 nd & Chestnut	Phila
Maguilla?	12 Frankfort St.	NY
Magnus, Charles	12 Frankfort St.	NY
C.A. Miller	25 Ann St.	NY
Morgan		
Mumford & Co.	38 & 40, Fourth St.	Cincinnati
D. Murphy's Son	113 Pearl St.	NY
D. Murphy's Son, Print.	65 Fulton & 372 Peart sts.	NY
New York Union Envelope Depot	144 Broadway (used by Brown & Ryan copyrighted envs.)	NY
William Nicholson	22 East State St.	Trenton
Norris & Lit...		Chicago
J.W. Orr	Clerk's Office. Dis. Ct o US,	Southern Dist. Of NY
S. Raynor Envelope Manufacturer		NY
S.C. Rickards & Co.	102 Nassau St	NY
A.S. Robinson		Hartford
Rosenthal, L.N. Lithographic Co.		Phila
Tingley, J. H.	152½ Fulton St.	NY
Union Envelope	Jas. W. Benham	
Union Stationery Depot	106 Fulton St.	NY
Upham, S.C.	310 Chestnut St	Phila
R. Weir	Dist. Clerk	Dist of Pennsylvania
Wells	103 Fulton St	NY
Wells. J.G.	Corner Park Row & Beekman Sts.	NY
G. M. Whipple & A.A. Smith		Salem, Mass.
W.R. Wills		Norristown,PA
Wm. P. Lyon & Whittemore		NY

Some interesting web sites:

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpcoop/nhihtml/cwnyhsarcpp.html>
<http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/> and search for civil war envelopes

List of articles from ~~VK~~ on NJ Civil War Patriotic covers and other Civil War articles

New Jersey Civil War Patriotic Covers in <i>NJPH</i> articles		Whole #	Vol	No.	Mo.	Year
New Jersey Civil War Patriotic Covers	Arch, Brad, ed.	100	20	5	Nov	1992
New Jersey Designs on Civil War Patriotic Covers	Lemmo, Peter S.	104	21	4	Sep	1993
NJ Civil War Patriotics - Update	Arch, Brad	104	21	4	Sep	1993
NJ Civil War Patriotics - Update	Kaplan, Earl	106	22	1	Jan	1994
Update on New Jersey Civil War Patriotic Covers	Micchelli, Richard J.	117	24	2	Mar	1996
Civil War Patriotic Covers cont	Arch, Brad	130	26	5	Nov	1998
A New Jersey Patriotic Cover	Rose, Robert G.	165	35	2	May	2007
A Bogus New Jersey Civil War Patriotic Cover	Rose, Robert G.	166	35	2	May	2007
New Jersey Civil War Covers	Micchelli, Richard J.	182	39	2	May	2011
New Jersey Civil War Covers: The Wyman Correspondence	Micchelli, Richard J.	184	39	4	Nov	2011
Civil War Patriotics: The Story of the Beverly Hospital	Hughes, William E., Walton, Jean & Micchelli, Richard J.	185	40	1	Feb	2012
A Soldier's Letters from Camp Ruff	Micchelli, Richard J.	190	41	2	May	2013
Further Civil War Soldier's Letters	Micchelli, Richard J. & Mathewson, Craig	191	41	3	Aug	2013
NJ Soldier Letters in the Civil War	Buttacavoli, Dennis	195	42	3	Aug	2014

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