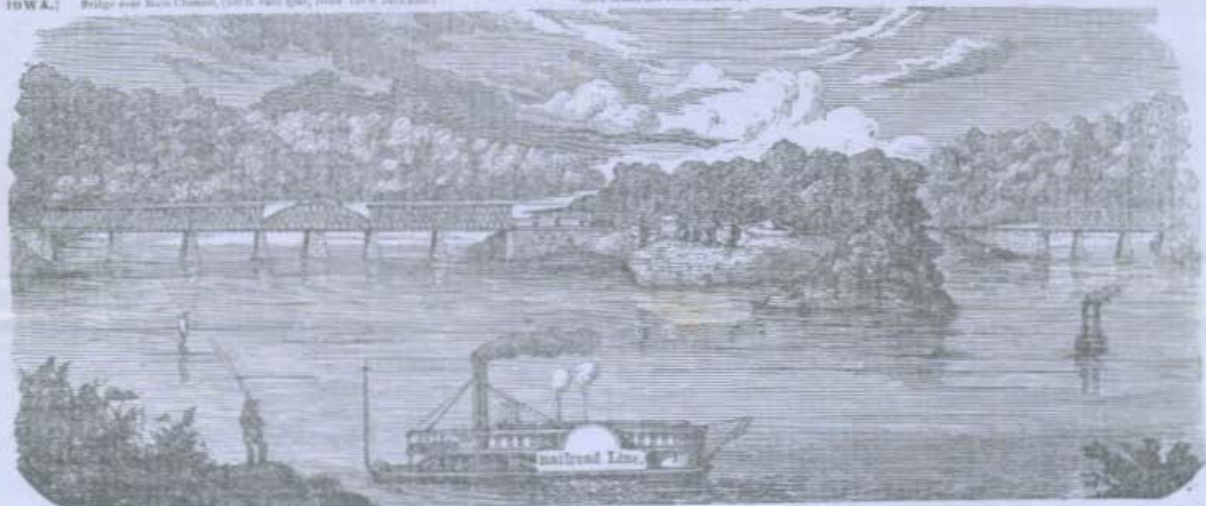


IOWA: Bridge over Main Channel, (1855, each span, Three 120 ft. each side.)

Rock Island and Fort Armstrong.

Bridge over French, (1855 ft. each span.) ILLINOIS.



H. A. Potter & Son, Publishers, N. Y.

Engraved by

RAILROAD BRIDGE OVER THE MISSISSIPPI, CONNECTING ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS, WITH DAVENPORT, IOWA.
ISLAND CITY HOTEL--TUXBURY & ARNOLD, PROPRIETORS.

City of Rock Island, July 16th, 1855.

Dear Father,

Arrived here Friday after stopping at all the large towns or cities on the route. I like the appearance of this city very much and should think it a good trading point being the end of the Rail Road.

Davenport on the opposite side of the river is quite a pretty place, somewhat larger than this.

Last Friday for the first time in my life I witnessed the public execution of a man for the murder of his wife. There was a great concourse of people present came in from the towns in the vicinity, the juror decided that he was guilty and

Mr. S. P. H.



PHILADELPHIA

Philadelphia den 11 ten Februar 1849.

Lieber Vorgesetzter!

Die mein Brief enthält die am 2. ten März geschriebene Schrift
sah ich nebst dem in der Schrift geschriebenen Aufsatz die mich
nicht ganz zufrieden hat, und habe diesen geschrieben Brief
nicht mehr alle geschickt sind, aber mich sehr geschmeichelt.
Lieber Vorgesetzter ich habe seit dem in der Schrift geschriebenen
Satz 2 Briefe geschrieben geschickt und habe bis jetzt
noch keine Antwort erhalten, solltest du gleich
mein Brief u nicht bekommen haben, so will ich dir
noch einmal schreiben, Lieber Vorgesetzter ich will
dir von mein Geld 15 Gulden zu Lehen lassen,
wenn du 10 ...

U.S.A.: 1849 Entire Letter from Philadelphia to Wurtenburg with various transit marks including the octagonal framed "LIVERPOOL/SHIP" datestamp, a fair boxed "COLONIES/ &c ART 13" and London and Boulogne transit c.d.s's; the postal charge is "42" in red crayon. The contents are surmounted by a most attractive printed illustration of "PHILADELPHIA" as seen from across the harbour, with both sailing ships and a steam ship taking a prominent place in the picture. An extremely attractive Transatlantic item.

550-



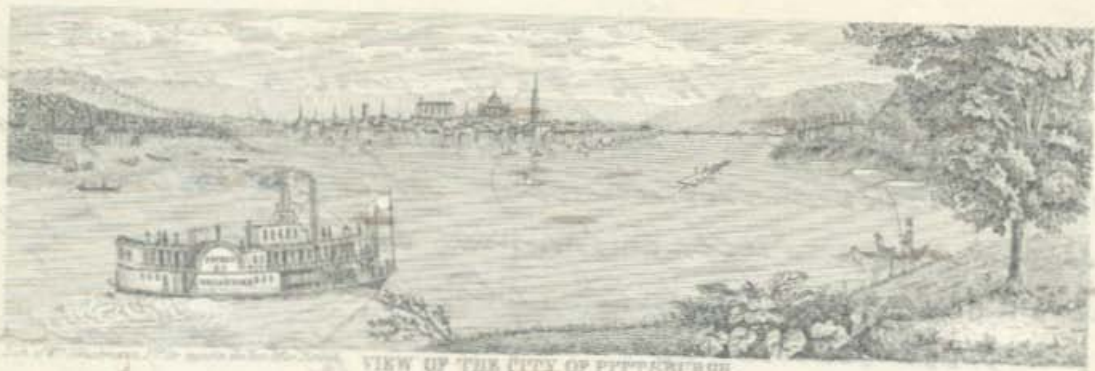
CINCINNATI.

View South of Indian River Channel.

Covington Ky. Apr. 16, 1847.

Dear Sir

Your communication of the 17th ult., has been duly rec^d. through the hands and care of Chas^s Harbenton Esq^r. In reply I have to say that I am not engaged in preparing skeleton maps of the kind used in this office (Sur. Gen^l's office Dubuque): but dear Sir: after your departure from Cincinnati and at your request I made diligent search for the plates and



VIEW OF THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH.

Pittsburgh April 4th 1854

Dear Sir

Mrs. Black has called to see me in relation to the judgments against the Manchester property. The first one as I told you when you were here had been paid off with the exception of the costs. The other which was for about \$200 is still due and one of the instalments of which the property was appraised has been payable some time back and it is only owing to the indulgence of the creditor's attorney that the property has not been sold.

You have money in your hands which ought to be appropriated to the payment of this debt. or if not, to the payment of the board and schooling of the child.

Mrs. Black tells me that with the

6002

6000

And, Obedience I have made a remark of your
 that the distance is long - about 25 miles



Published by Geo. H. Derby & Co. Bookellers.

VIEW OF GENEVA, N.Y.

Dear Sister.

Geneva Dec. 1st 1847

The morning I left Watertown finding
 no boat going directly to Geneva, and not wish-
 ing to depend on any uncertainty, I made my
 way toward Auburn, where I arrived safely though
 some-what fatigued, a little before noon.

Having heard so much said about the
 Universalist Church at Auburn, I went there
 to meeting that after-noon. The building is truly
 a spacious edifice - the finish inside though plain,
 presents a magnificent aspect. The audience by
 no means few in number, were most of
 them decorated in the most beautiful attire.

THE WESTERN MAILS



PICKET POST ARIZ. TER./NOV 14 1878. This was a military camp located near Picket Post Butte in Pinal County. Post Office was established on April 10, 1878 and name changed to PINAL June 27, 1879 and then discontinued on November 28, 1891. Only two examples of this postmark exist - both on a piece of a cut square 3¢ government stamped envelope.

SAN CARLOS Gila Co. ARIZONA/OCT 25 1882. This was the famous Indian Reservation located on the south bank of the San Carlos River, about one mile from its junction with the Gila River and across from the military CAMP SAN CARLOS. Post Office established October 22, 1875. War Department stamps used from forts and Indian Agencies, such as the 3¢ stamp shown above are scarce.

FT. DEFIANCE ARIZONA/JUL 11 1886. The fort was established September 18, 1851 in what was then the New Mexico Territory. Located at the mouth of Cañon Bonito, in present day Arizona, near the New Mexico border. Post Office established April 9, 1856 and discontinued October 21, 1863 after Arizona became a territory. Reestablished August 4, 1880. The post was abandoned by the military April 25, 1861 and it became the Navaho Indian Agency, but the post office continued as FORT DEFIANCE. Cover shown bears the only recorded example of the type I postmark as ARIZONA.

THE WESTERN MAILS



FORT BOWIE, APACHE PASS

APACHE PASS, ARIZONA TERRITORY. This was the location of FORT BOWIE which was established July 28, 1862. The post office was established as APACHE PASS Dec. 11, 1866 and changed to FORT BOWIE June 22, 1880. It was discontinued Nov. 30, 1894. The fort was located high up out of the desert in the pass which lies between the Chiricahua and Dos Cabezas mountains in southern Arizona.



The following historical note is in regards to the address on the cover shown above. In June of 1880 Lt. Chas. B. Gatewood was in the field with the 6th U. S. Cavalry in pursuit of the Apache chief Victorio and his band of marauding Indians. He pursued them into old Mexico where Victorio was killed by Mexican regulars.

In 1886 Gatewood, with an interpreter and two Indian Scouts, followed the Apache chief Geronimo into old Mexico and convinced him to surrender to Gen. Nelson A. Miles. Gatewood was one of the heroes of the Indian wars and was never officially given credit for his single feat of heroism.

Camp Goodwin A. T.
23rd Nov. 1864.

Dear Basil,

I have just returned from another one of those damned damned ~~scouts~~ ^{scouts} on which as usual nothing has been accomplished. I have been about 20 days and sick the greater part of the time. Left Barr at Bowie sick and am not well myself, nor do I ever expect to be while I remain in this wretched locality. "Old Pat" has already another order published for me to leave the Company in readiness for another scout to start day after tomorrow, if obliged to go I shall go under protest for I think it will be an injustice. Putnam is not popular as a commanding officer, wants everything himself. Mrs P. gave birth to a boy

THE WESTERN MAILS

CAMP GOODWIN & THE FOUNDING OF FORT APACHE

CAMP GOODWIN was established June 12, 1864 on the Tularosa river near its junction with the Rio Gila in what is now Graham County, Arizona. Later, the same year, it was moved 32 miles west and renamed Fort Goodwin. It was abandoned as a military establishment in 1871. There was no post office at the fort, although, some five years later, one was established on the site under the name of Goodwin - 1875-1880.



The cover shown above was carried by a military express to Fort Bowie where it was placed in the post office as per postmark "APACHE PASS ARIZ NOV 30 (1869)". The name of the post office at the fort was changed to FORT BOWIE June 22, 1880 in Cochise County and discontinued November 30, 1894.

Major John Green emigrated to the United States from Germany and joined the U.S. Army as a private in 1846. He rose up through the ranks, with many citations for gallant and meritorious service in the Civil and Indian wars, to Brigadier General. Green was awarded the medal of honor for distinguished gallantry in action against the hostile Modoc Indians at the Lava Beds in California on January 17, 1873. He exposed "himself in the most fearless manner to great danger by walking in front of the line when the men hesitated to go forward as ordered and reassuring the command which then advanced upon the Indians who were concealed among the rocks" Heitman. Seven months before the letter was written he distinguished himself for action against the Indians at Mount Turnbull, Arizona Territory.

THE WESTERN MAILS

If not delivered within 10 days, to be returned to



H. C. Ficklen Esq
Danville



Coltair Bell Co
Marshall.

Return to *Leis M. Stoffel*
FORT BOWIE, Cochise Co., Arizona.
If not delivered within 10 days.



The Potter Publishing Co
#86 & 92 Federal Street,
"Yankee Blade" *Boston,*
Mass.

FORT BOWIE, ARIZONA TERRITORY was established July 28, 1862. Located in Apache Pass, in the Chiricahua Mountains, south of the town of Bowie. It was on the stage and mail line, on the Tucson-Mesilla road near a spring of fresh water. The post was abandoned Oct. 17, 1894. The post office was established as APACHE PASS Dec. 11, 1866 and changed to FORT BOWIE June 22, 1880. It was discontinued Nov. 30, 1894.

THE WESTERN MAILS



FORT APACHE was established on April 5, 1879 in what is now Navajo County, Arizona. The post office was established on August 13, 1879 and continues to operate as FORT APACHE. It was located in the timber country of the White Mountains, on the White river

The cover shown above bears the Type I postmark. The registered cover below bears the Type III.



THE WESTERN MAILS



FORT COLVILLE, W.T. The post was established in 1858 as a base of operation for the northwest boundary commission survey. The Post Office was established the same year and discontinued in 1883. It was located in northeastern Washington about 3 miles east of the present town of Colville. The military abandoned the post in 1883.

CAMP SIMEAHMOO, W.T. The post was established in 1858 to serve as a base for the U.S.-Canadian boundary survey. The Post Office was established the same year and both were discontinued in 1861. It was located in Whatcom Co. a few miles south of the International border. Cover shown bears the earliest and only handstamped postmark - **CAMP SIMEAHMOO W, T. Nov 6 1858.**

Letter by August V. Kautz to his cousin who was the wife of General James W. Denver. Kautz had emigrated from Germany to Ohio and was graduated from West Point in the class of 1848. At the time of this letter he was a Lieutenant. During the Civil War he rose to Brig. Genl and then to Maj. General in 1864 - 65. He was a member of the military commission that tried the conspirators for the assassination of President Lincoln. Kautz retired from the army January 5, 1892. He died September 4, 1895.

THE WESTERN MAILS

Edward A. W. Boundary Commission
Camp Leavenworth Sept. 1858.

Dear Cousin:

Your return to Washington, which I learn from the Report, and my change of station are sufficient reasons for resuming a correspondence which you will persist in suspending, by not answering my letters. I have been here now about two weeks at what may very properly be called the jumping off place of Uncle Sams Dominions, and a more solitary or gloomy locality could not have been selected for me. I did hope to meet you in Washington this winter, for I expected to get a leave of absence, but all that has been frustrated by my being ordered here. I have been waiting for several years for an opportunity to apply, but officers have been so scarce at the post where I have been stationed that I could not be spared, and when absent officers arrived so that I could have gone, this order came sending me down here. At any other time I should have liked the duty. But I have been about now more than six years, have had some hard and down

1858". The following extracts are from the letter: "I have been here now about two weeks at what may very properly be called the jumping off place of Uncle Sams Dominions; and a more solitary or gloomy locality". He wants a transfer, but no one to take his place. "you need hardly to expect to see me again, unless it be as a chief on a visit to Washington among a delegation of Flathead Indians, when you may hear me make a speech to your husband in Council, on the wrongs that have been inflicted on my people by the whites.... The Gold excitement has died away... in our vicinity but there are a great many miners on the river and considerable gold is being dug out.... the Indian difficulties are all quietted out here". He then says that the Indian problems are exaggerated by the news media and that the troubles in 1855 were much more serious. (See the Battle of Seattle letter in this collection) "but in about eighteen months there will be trouble with us when we get through the Coast Range of mountains. Col. Wright [George, later Brig. Genl., drowned July 30, 1865.] killed eight hundred horses... belonging to the Indians... a severe blow... for the Indians cant do without them and they will steal them back one by one from the whites..... Your cousin/August [Kautz]".

THE WESTERN MAILS



FORT HALLECK NEB. T. Post Office was established Jan. 2, 1863 while in Nebraska Territory. Then to Wyoming Territory July 29, 1868. Discontinued Jan. 20, 1886. The fort was established July 20, 1862 on the medicine Bow River at the base of Elk Mountain in S. E. Wyoming, to protect the Overland Trail and Salt - Denver stage line. Abandoned by the military July 4, 1866. SANTEE AGENCY AUG 4 1887. Indian RESERVATION post office established Sept. 9, 1865 and changed to SANTEE in 1897.



THE WESTERN MAILS



Fort
McKinney, W.T.
April 27 79

FORT MCKINNEY, WYOMING TERRITORY. The fort was established October 12, 1876 and discontinued as a military post November 9, 1894. The Post Office was established November 26, 1876 and discontinued December 15, 1894. Fort McKinney was located on the Wind River Indian Reservation and the post office was at the fort.



THE WESTERN MAILS



CAMP STAMBAUGH, WYOMING TERRITORY. The fort was established on August 20, 1870 near Atlantic City and the Oregon Trail. It was abandoned August 17th 1878 as a military post. The Post Office was established at the post on July 20, 1871 and discontinued December 23, 1878.



THE WESTERN MAILS



FORT FETTERMAN, WYOMING TERRITORY. The fort was established July 19, 1867 on the North Platte River, near the mouth of La Prele Creek. It was discontinued by the military Nov. 6, 1882. The Post Office was established Jan. 28, 1873 in Albany County - later Converse County - and discontinued Jan. 31, 1889. Covers from top to bottom were used in 1880 - 1886 - 1877.



CANTONMENT GIBSON .The post was established in April of 1824. It was located on the left bank of the Neosho River, three miles above its confluence with the Arkansas River, in what became the Cherokee Nation of the Indian Territory. The post office was established Feb. 28, 1827 and then changed to **FORT GIBSON** on Sept. 14, 1842. It was occupied by Confederate troops early in the Civil War, but retaken by Federal troops in April 1863. The fort was finally abandoned by the military on Sept. 22, 1890. Cover above was used "8 Feb 1832", prior to the establishment of the Indian Territory.

INDIAN TERRITORY

The Indian Territory was established June 30, 1834 from the western part of the Arkansas Territory. It consisted of the five civilized tribes or nations - Creeks - Cherokees - Chickasaw - Choctaw and Seminoles, who were forced to leave their lands in the southeastern part of the U.S., in what is known as "The Trail of Tears". In 1867 the Indian Nations, because of sympathy for the Confederate cause during the Civil War, were ordered to relinquish the western part of the Indian Territory to the Plains Indians - Cheyenne - Arapahoe - Wichita - Comanche - Kiowa and Apache. On May 2, 1890 this western part became the Oklahoma Territory. Then on Nov. 16, 1907 the Indian Territory was combined with the Oklahoma Territory to form the State of Oklahoma.

THE WESTERN MAILS



FORT GARLAND, COLORADO TERRITORY. The fort was established on June 24, 1858. Located in the San Luis Valley, near the mouth of Sangre de Cristo Pass, at the present town of Fort Garland. It was abandoned by the military November 30, 1883. The fort has been restored and is now a State Historical Monument. The **Post Office** was established on February 25, 1862. The covers shown were both postmarked in October of 1862.



THE WESTERN MAILS



KAW AGENCY, INDIAN TERRITORY. Post Office established June 28, 1880 and discontinued September 29, 1902. It was a sub agency of the Osage Agency, which had been established in 1873. Cover postmarked Feb 25 1885 to SPRING DALE IOA MAR 30 1885 and then forwarded to Winona, Ohio.

FORT SILL, INDIAN TERRITORY. Fort established in June of 1868 as Camp Wichita and name changed to FORT SILL August 1, 1869. Located on the Comanche, Kiowa and Apache Indian reservation in what is now Oklahoma. **POST OFFICE** established September 28, 1869. It is presently a branch station of Lawton, Oklahoma. The fort continues as an artillery school of the Army.



THE WESTERN MAILS



FORT RENO, INDIAN TERRITORY. Located on the North Canadian River a few miles above the present town of El Reno. It was established in 1874 to protect the Cheyenne-Arapaho Indian Agency on the opposite side of the river in what was then the Indian Territory, but changed to Oklahoma Territory May 2, 1890 and then to Oklahoma on November 16, 1907. The two lower covers were used during the territorial period.

THE WESTERN MAILS



CHICKASAW NATION

STONEWALL, INDIAN TERRITORY DEC 23, 188?. Unlisted county postmark.

CHEROKEE NATION

CODYS BLUFF IND..T. APR 27, 1905. Both post offices became part of the state of Oklahoma when formed November 16, 1907. Cover was received at NOWATA, IND.T. APR 27 1905, as per postmark on reverse, and was then forwarded to Coffeyville, Kansas.

NOWATA, IND. T.
APR
27
1905
REC'D.



THE WESTERN MAILS



Camp Supply, Oklahoma, in the days before statehood, as sketched by A. R. Waud for *Harper's Weekly*, February 27, 1869.



CAMP SUPPLY, INDIAN TERRITORY. Established November 8, 1868 as a military post and base for campaigns against the hostile plains Indians. It was located on the North Canadian River in what was the Cherokee Outlet, a division of the Five Civilized Tribes, in the Indian Territory.

The Post Office was established March 17, 1873 as CAMP SUPPLY and changed to FORT SUPPLY June 26, 1889. It was one of the posts having both stockade and blockhouses. The fort was discontinued as a military establishment February 25, 1895 and turned over to the Department of Interior.

Cover shown was used June 5 about 1879. The postmark also comes in black.

THE WESTERN MAILS



FORT RILEY, KANSAS TERRITORY Located in present day Geary County, on the east side of the mouth of the Pawnee River with the Kansas River, about one hundred twenty miles west of Fort Leavenworth. Construction began in 1853 and it was first called Camp Center; because its location was near the geographical center of the U. S. With the death of Major General Bennett C. Riley in 1853 it was renamed in his honor. The POST OFFICE was established December 20, 1855 and discontinued May 31, 1917. The cover shown above is postmarked "FORT RILEY NOV. 8" (1856). Cover below on May 17, 1858. The letter is addressed to Gov. James W. Denver in which the writer states that we "have laid out a town contiguous to this place [Fort Riley], called 'Junction City'. It is situated immediately at the junction of the Smoky Hill & Republican Rivers and about two miles & a half from here."



THE WESTERN MAILS



FORT RILEY The cover shown *above* is postmarked "Ft. Riley Ks/Dec 16". It has no year date but was most likely used during the Civil War. Cover *below* bears the Type III handstamp dated "May 29, 1887". Fort Riley was an army school for the cavalry and it was here that the famed U. S. & 7th Cavalry was organized in the fall of 1866. George A. Custer, already famous as the "boy general" of the Civil War, was its Lt. Colonel and second in command at the time. The fort was also a station on the Butterfield Overland Despatch route.



THE WESTERN MAILS



FORT LINCOLN, KANSAS This fort was located in Bourbon County, on the right bank of the Little Osage River near Fulton, Kansas, and about 12 miles northwest of Fort Scott. It was built by General James H. Lane in 1861 for protection against the Confederates during the Civil War. The post was abandoned in 1864. The post office was established on November 25, 1861 and was discontinued on June 24, 1879.



THE WESTERN MAILS



FORT HARKER, Kansas. The cover shown above bears the Type I handstamp "FORT HARKER SEP 24 KAN" without year date but most likely used about 1867 or later. It is addressed to Fort Harker where it arrived on the 24th of September and was forwarded to Fort Wallace on October 9th as per the two postmarks. It was then forwarded to Fort Larned, Kansas. The cover below bears the Type II handstamp without year date.



THE WESTERN MAILS



FORT ELLSWORTH, Kansas. This fort was established in 1864 to protect the military road between Fort Riley and Fort Zarah. It was also the home station of the Butterfield Overland Despatch. The fort was located on the north bank of the Smoky Hill River about two hundred and forty miles west southwest of Fort Leavenworth. It was a crude establishment with a large sod house serving as a commissary and with the officers quarters and the barracks being nothing more than dugouts in the bank of the river with no stockade. In November of 1866 the name was changed to Fort Harker and in January 1867 it was moved to a new site near the present town of Ellsworth. It had originally been named for Elmer Ephraim Ellsworth a friend of Lincoln and the first officer to be killed in the Civil War. The Post Office was established on January 4, 1866 and the name was changed to Fort Harker on December 3, 1866. The cover shown above was used August 31, 1866.



THE WESTERN MAILS



CHOCTAW NATION

CHOCTAW AGENCY WEST Feb 26, 1843. The post office was established on June 26, 1833 and discontinued on Oct. 10, 1871. The letter is in relation to tribal matters and a general council to be held with the Creeks, Cherokees and Choctaws. Written by Nathaniel Falsom, Chief of Mushalattulbee District, to John Ross, principle Chief of the Cherokee Nation.. Rated 12½¢ for under 150 miles.



CHEROKEE NATION

CHEROKEE, CHEROKEE NATION Apr 8, 1844. The post office was established on May 9, 1842 and discontinued in 1844-45. Only three or four known of this the onlu postmark from this office. Letter written from the Cherokee Baptist Mission by a school teacher. Rated 25 cents for over 400 miles.

THE WESTERN MAILS



FORT WASHITA The folded letter below was written from the "Indian Agency Clear Fork of Brazos/Texas April 27, 1853" and mailed from Fort Washita May 9, 1853. To quote from the letter: "The Agency is situated on the Clearfork half way between Fort Belknap and Phantom Hill ... The Indian excitement has subsided and all is quiet". He reports on farming in Texas and that part of the 5th infantry may go to El Paso to establish a post. The writer is Captain Benjamin Wingate who rose from the ranks as a private. He was made a Brevet Major for gallantry at the battle of Valverde, New Mexico where he was wounded on February 21, 1862 and died from the wounds on June 1st.

Fort Washita was located about a mile or so east of the False Washita River and about thirty miles above its junction with the Red River.



THE WESTERN MAILS



FORT WASHITA, Chickasaw Nation, Indian Territory. The site of this fort was selected by Col. Zachary Taylor in 1841 and established by Captain George A. H. Blake and the 2nd Dragoons on April 23, 1842. The post office was established on Nov. 4, 1844 with Samuel C. Humes as postmaster. It was discontinued on May 24, 1880. However it did not operate between Aug. 19, 1846 and May 8, 1849. Fort Washita was never located in the Arkansas Territory but the Post Office Department carried it on the books during the early years. Thus the postmark FORT WASHITA, ARK. On May 2, 1890 the Indian Territory became the Oklahoma Territory.

Fort Washita was abandoned by the U.S. Army on April 16, 1861, with the Confederate troops from Texas occupying it until the close of the Civil War. The U.S. Army never occupied it again and on July 1, 1870 it was turned over to the Department of the Interior for use by the Chickasaw Nation.

The cover shown above is postmarked "Fort Washita C N/My 27, 1846/Paid 10". The cover at the top of opposite page was written from Camp Belknap on July 22, 1852 and placed in the mails at Fort Washita on Aug. 2nd. The writer states that an express has just arrived with the sad news that "Capt Marcy [Randolph B.] who left this post with his comp. to explore the head waters of the Red River is reported to have been defeated by the Indians. The report says that they fought two days and not a man escaped. The information comes from an Indian and may be correct but it is not believed to be so bad as reported.... When this information was received at Phantom Hill [Fort] I was in the place of going to the Concho [River] with 15 or 20 [men]. We started for this place [Camp Belknap] with a command of 50 men and a train of wagons for provisions. I think we will have trouble with the Indians this fall - perhaps a general Indian war." The incident referred to was a false report but did much to publicize the Red River Exploring Expedition of 1852 under command of Marcy. This was one of several exploring expeditions made from Fort Washita in the 1850's which were instrumental in establishing several forts for the army.

Fort Gibson Ark
Nov 9th 1848

10⁴

Wm Wingate
Lexington
Scott County
Ind