

A Black Issue Date Stamp on Confederate Currency

A search for its location — by Dr. Enrico Aidala

On June 4th, 1862, the Treasury Department of the Confederate States reported the “.... issue [of] Treasury notes of the denomination of one hundred dollars, bearing interest at the rate of two cents per day.... These notes,, offer to the holder the double advantage of an interest of \$7.30 per \$100, while retained in his hands, and the capacity of being used as currency whenever he may desire to pay them away.”

Later on, a Collector or Depositary wrote to the Secretary of the Treasury for the Confederate Government, Christopher Gustavus Memminger asked if it was possible to have someone else do the issuing and if a stamp would be acceptable for this purpose. Memminger answered saying he had only one absolute requirement and it was that a date had to be applied to these notes for the purpose of interest calculation.

For interest calculations the only requirement is an issue date, but on the back of many of the so called 7.30 Confederate Notes (T-39, T-40 and T-41) we also sometimes find manuscript issue endorsements by military officers and government agents. Issue Date Stamps by depositaries are not rare, and they generally presented the name of the issuer and/or the place of issue.

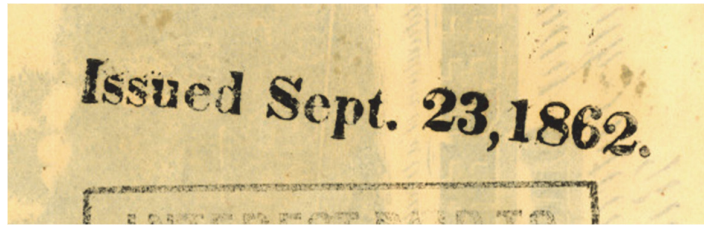


Fig. 1 Black Issue Date (BID) Stamp example

Only a few of the issue stamps are found without any name and place. The purpose of this paper is to locate as precisely as possible where one of these date stamps was used during the Civil War (Fig. 1).

The key evidence in this research was the observation that this Black Issue Date Stamp (BID Stamp) was found alone or with the signatures of only five military officers, all of them from the Army of Georgia. They are Capt. & AQM N. B. Brown, Capt. & AQM Thomas Burke, Capt. & AQM James Hightower, Capt. Jesse R. Hodges Sikes, and Capt. & AQM Nathaniel O. Tilton (Fig. 2).



Fig. 2 From the database, BID stamps with officers' signature or handwritten officers' signature.

1a: BID stamp and T. A. Burke, 1b: handwritten T. A. Burke, 2a: BID stamp and N. B. Brown, 2b: BID stamp and N. B. Brown stamp, 2c: handwritten N. B. Brown, 3a: BID stamp and N. O. Tilton, 3b: handwritten N. O. Tilton, 4: BID stamp and J. H. R. Sikes, 5: BID stamp and J. C. Hightower

I started an extensive research of the 7.30 notes with the endorsements by the five officers, with or without the BID Stamp, in the databases of Heritage Auctions and Stacks-Bowers, on eBay, on some U.S. currency dealer websites, and also with the help of the Trainmen, a group of collectors, authors, and researchers who specialize in Type-39, -40, and -41 Confederate Treasury notes and their endorsements, to which I belong.

At the moment I was able to find a total of 105 notes, 68 with the BID Stamp alone or with the signature of the five officers, 37 without the BID Stamp but with the officers' signature; in particular:

- 19 notes show only the BID Stamp
- 19 notes were issued by Capt. Thomas Burke: 5 with the BID Stamp, 14 without it
- 35 notes were issued by Capt. N. B. Brown: 27 with the BID Stamp, 8 without it
- 25 notes were issued by Capt. Nathaniel O. Tilton: 10 with the BID Stamp, 15 without it
- 4 notes were issued by Capt. James Hightower, all with the BID Stamp
- 3 notes were issued by Capt. Jesse R. Hodges Sikes, all with the BID Stamp

Table 1 below shows the entire database. The BID Stamps are in **red font**; some notes presented two BID stamps and only the first one has a military officer signature. Hw = handwritten; * = B. Dawson June 19/63 endorsement; † = Thos. McGrath signature.

Type	SN, plate	Date	BID Stamp	BID Stamp or other Issue date	Officer	IP stamps
T39	4908 Ad	06/17/62	Sept. 29 1862	John Boston 24 June 1862	--	Savannah 63, 65; Macon 64
T39	4965 Ad	06/17/62	Sept. 29 1862	24 June 1862 John Boston	--	Savannah 63, 65; Macon 64
T39	4968 Ac	06/17/62	Sept. 23 1862	John Boston 24 June 1862	--	Savannah 63, 64
T39	5572 Ag	06/13/62	Oct. 07, 1862	Hw Issued 28 August 1862	---	Knoxville 63; Hw I.P. 64, Columbia 65
T39	18582 Aa	07/09/62	Oct. 7, 1862	---	---	Macon 65
T39	26837 Ab	07/24/62	Sept. 23 1862	Issued 7th of August	Jno D Cameron Capt AQM	Savannah 63, 64
T40	50159 Ah	09/23/62	Oct. 7, 1862	---	---	Macon 64, 65
T40	50463 Aa	09/23/62	Oct. 10, 1862	---	---	Knoxville 63; Richmond 64
T40	50465 Ae	09/23/62	Oct. 10, 1862	---	---	--
T40	50905 Aa	09/23/62	Oct. 10, 1862	---	---	Savannah 63, 64; Advertising Note Kenneth Route Atlanta
T40	52039 Ad	09/23/62	Oct. 8, 1862	---	---	Tallahassee 64
T40	52072 Ad	09/23/62	Oct. 8, 1862	--- *	---	Savannah 63, 65; Macon 64
T40	5219? Ah	09/23/62	Oct. 9, 1862	---	---	---

Type	SN, plate	Date	BID Stamp	BID Stamp or other Issue date	Officer	IP stamps
T40	52224 Ac	09/23/62	Oct. 7, 1862	---	---	Tallahassee 64
T40	52301 Af	09/23/62	Oct. 8, 1862	---	---	Macon 64, 65
T40	52333 Af	09/23/62	Oct. 7, 1862	---	---	Macon 64, 65
T40	52737 Af	09/23/62	Oct. 9, 1862	---	---	Richmond 64, 65
T40	53101 Ag	09/23/62	Oct. 8, 1862	---	---	Augusta 63
T40	53165 Ag	09/23/62	Oct. 8, 1862	John Boston Feb 18 1863	--	Savannah 63, Charleston 64, Columbia 65
T39	21545 Ac	07/24/62	Sept. 9th , 1862	Sept. 23, 1862	TA Burke	Savannah 63, 64
T39	21560 Ac	07/24/62	Sept. 9th , 1862	Sept. 23, 1862	TA Burke	Savannah 63, 64
T39	21561 Ac	07/24/62	Sept. 9th , 1862	Sept. 23, 1862	TA Burke	Savannah 63, 64
T39	21597 Ac	07/24/62	Sept. 9th , 1862	Sept. 23, 1862	TA Burke	Savannah 63, 64
T39	21600 Ac	07/24/62	Sept. 9th , 1862	Sept. 23, 1862	TA Burke	Savannah 63, Charleston 64, Columbia 65
T39	23355 Ac	07/24/62	---	Sept 19 1862 (Hw)	TA Burke	IP Unknown 63; Jackson 64; Tallahassee 65
T39	23400 Ac	07/24/62	---	Sept 19 1862 (Hw)	TA Burke	IP Unknown 63; Jackson 64; Augusta 65
T39	25332 Ah	07/24/62	---	Aug 12 1862 (Hw)	TA Burke	Savannah 63; Henry Savage Wilmington 64
T39	25340 Ah	07/24/62	---	Aug 12 1862 (Hw)	TA Burke	Henry Savage Wilmington 64
T39	25493 Ae	07/24/62	---	Aug 7 1862 (Hw)	TA Burke	Jackson 63, 64, 65
T39	25523 Ah	07/24/62	---	Aug 12 1862 (Hw)	TA Burke	Savannah 63; Henry Savage Wilmington 64
T39	25524 Ah	07/24/62	---	Aug 12 1862 (Hw)	TA Burke	Savannah 63; Henry Savage Wilmington 64
T39	25525 Ah	07/24/62	---	Aug 12 1862 (Hw)	TA Burke	Savannah 63; Henry Savage Wilmington 64
T39	25535 Ah	07/24/62	---	Aug 12 1862 (Hw)	TA Burke	Savannah 63; Henry Savage Wilmington 64
T39	25536 Ah	07/24/62	---	Aug 12 1862 (Hw)	TA Burke	Savannah 63; Henry Savage Wilmington 64
T39	25539 Ah	07/24/62	---	Aug 12/18 1862 (Hw)	TA Burke	Savannah 63; Henry Savage Wilmington 64
T39	25545 Ah	07/24/62	---	Aug 12 1862 (Hw)	TA Burke	Savannah 63; Henry Savage Wilmington 64
T39	25552 Ah	07/24/62	---	Aug 8 1862 (Hw)	TA Burke	Savannah 63; Henry Savage Wilmington 64
T39	25595 Ah	07/24/62	---	Aug 8 1862 (Hw)	TA Burke	Savannah 63, 64

Type	SN, plate	Date	BID Stamp	BID Stamp or other Issue date	Officer	IP stamps
T41	24793 X	10/22/1862	--	John Boston Feb 18 1863 and April 3 1863; April 6/63 (Hw)	NB Brown (Hw)	Savannah 64
T39	6140 Ae	06/17/62	Oct 27th , 1862	John Boston July 5 1862	NB Brown (stamp)	Savannah 63; Macon 64; Columbus, GA 65
T39	21564 Ag	07/24/62	Sept 16th, 1862	Reissued 9 April 63	NB Brown (Hw)	Augusta 63; Montgomery 64, 65
T39	21581 Ag	07/24/62	Sept 16th, 1862	----	NB Brown (Hw)	Augusta 63; Charleston 64; Columbia 65
T39	23308 Ae	07/24/62	Sept 9th, 1862	John Boston Nov 5 1862	NB Brown (Hw)	Augusta 63
T39	23322 Ag	07/24/62	Sept 9th, 1862	----	NB Brown (Hw)	---
T39	23364 Aa	07/24/62	Sept 1th, 1862	---- *	NB Brown (Hw)	Savannah 63, 65; Macon 64
T39	23371 Ad	07/24/62	Sept 9th, 1862	----	NB Brown (Hw)	Richmond 64,65
T39	23378 Ag	07/24/62	Sept 9th, 1862	----	NB Brown (Hw)	Savannah 63, Columbia 64,65
T39	23383 Aa	07/24/62	Sept 1th, 1862	----	NB Brown (Hw)	Savannah 64
T39	23391 Ad	07/24/62	Sept 9th, 1862	----	NB Brown (Hw)	Richmond 63; Augusta 64, 65
T39	25414 Ah	07/24/62	---	Aug 7 1862	NB Brown (Hw)	Savannah 63, 64
T39	25426 Ah	07/24/62	---	Aug 7 1862	NB Brown (Hw)	Savannah 63, 65; Augusta 64
T39	25430 Ad	07/24/62	---	Aug 5 1862	NB Brown (Hw)	Savannah 63, Charleston 64
T39	25465 Aa	07/24/62	---	Aug 7 1862	NB Brown (Hw)	--
T39	25499 Af	07/24/62	---	Aug 7 1862, †	NB Brown (Hw)	Macon 64
T39	25565 Ac	07/24/62	---	Aug 7 1862	NB Brown (Hw)	Savannah 63,64, 65
T39	25579 Ac	07/24/62	---	Aug 7 1862; John Boston Feb 18 1863	NB Brown (Hw)	Savannah 63; Macon 65
T39	26810 Ag	07/24/62	Sept 5th, 1862	----	NB Brown (Hw)	Savannah 63; Columbus, GA 65
T39	26816 Ah	07/24/62	Sept 9th, 1862	John Boston Nov 20 1862	NB Brown (Hw)	Augusta 63, 64, 65
T39	26825 Ah	07/24/62	Sept 9th, 1862	---	NB Brown (Hw)	Savannah 63, 64
T39	26846 Ag	07/24/62	Sept 5th, 1862	----	NB Brown (Hw)	Jackson 64; Columbus, MS 65
T39	26848 Ah	07/24/62	Sept 9th, 1862	---	NB Brown (Hw)	Savannah 63; Tallahassee 65
T39	26856 Ag	07/24/62	Sept 5th, 1862	---	NB Brown (Hw)	---

Type	SN, plate	Date	BID Stamp	BID Stamp or other Issue date		Officer	IP stamps
T39	26874 Ah	07/24/62	Sept 9th, 1862	John Boston Jan 5 1863		NB Brown (Hw)	Jackson 64; Richmond 65
T40	52523 Ah	09/23/62	Oct 21st, 1862	---		NB Brown (stamp)	Savannah 63, 64
T40	52533 Ac	09/23/62	Oct 21st, 1862	---		NB Brown (stamp)	Savannah 63, Augusta 64,65
T40	52544 Ah	09/23/62	Oct 21st, 1862	---		NB Brown (stamp)	Savannah 63; Charleston 64; Columbia 65
T40	52556 Ah	09/23/62	Oct 21st, 1862	---		NB Brown (stamp)	Savannah 64
T40	52560 Ah	09/23/62	Oct 21st, 1862	---		NB Brown (stamp)	Savannah 64
T40	52564 Ah	09/23/62	Oct 21st, 1862	---		NB Brown (stamp)	Savannah 63, 64
T40	52566 Aa	09/23/62	Oct 21st, 1862	---		NB Brown (stamp)	Augusta 64; Savannah 65
T40	52574 Aa	09/23/62	Oct 21st, 1862	---		NB Brown (stamp)	Savannah 63, 64
T40	52590 Ah	09/23/62	Oct 21st, 1862	---		NB Brown (stamp)	Savannah 63, 64
T40	52980 Aa	09/23/62	Oct 21st, 1862	---		NB Brown (stamp)	---
T39	21560 Aa	07/24/62	Sept. 5th , 1862	--		NO Tilton	Montgomery 63
T39	21574 Aa	07/24/62	Sept. 5th , 1862	--		NO Tilton	Montgomery 63
T39	25403 Ab	07/24/62	---	Aug 7 1862		NO Tilton	Savannah 63, Macon 64, Columbus, GA 65
T39	25424 Ab	07/24/62	---	Aug 7 1862		NO Tilton	Savannah 63, Charleston 64
T39	25444 Ab	07/24/62	---	Aug 7 1862		NO Tilton	Savannah 63, Macon 64, 65
T39	25446 Ab	07/24/62	---	Aug 7 1862		NO Tilton	Savannah 63, Macon 64, 65
T39	25449 Ab	07/24/62	---	Aug 7 1862		NO Tilton	Savannah 63, Macon 64, 65
T39	25450 Ab	07/24/62	---	Aug 7 1862		NO Tilton	Savannah 63, Macon 64, 65
T39	25451 Ab	07/24/62	---	Aug 7 1862		NO Tilton	Savannah 63, Macon 64, 65
T39	25454 Ab	07/24/62	---	Aug 7 1862		NO Tilton	Savannah 63, Macon 64, 65
T39	25460 Ab	07/24/62	---	Aug 7 1862		NO Tilton	Savannah 63, Macon 64, 65

Type	SN, plate	Date	BID Stamp	BID Stamp or other Issue date	Officer	IP stamps
T39	25461 Ab	07/24/62	---	Aug 7 1862	NO Tilton	Savannah 63, Macon 64, 65
T39	25463 Ab	07/24/62	---	Aug 7 1862	NO Tilton	Savannah 63, Macon 64, 65
T39	25465 Ab	07/24/62	---	Aug 7 1862	NO Tilton	Savannah 63, Macon 64, 65
T39	25466 Ab	07/24/62	---	Aug 7 1862	NO Tilton	Savannah 63, Macon 64, 65
T39	25467 Ab	07/24/62	---	Aug 7 1862	NO Tilton	Savannah 63, Augusta 65
T39	25488 Ab	07/24/62	---	Aug 7 1862	NO Tilton	Savannah 63, Macon 64, 65
T39	26802 Af	07/24/62	Sept. 5th , 1862	Sept. 23, 1862	NO Tilton	-
T39	26803Ae	07/24/62	Sept. 5th , 1862	--	NO Tilton	Richmond 63, 64, 65
T39	26809 Ae	07/24/62	Sept. 5th , 1862	--	NO Tilton	Wilmington 63; Henry Savage Wilmington 64
T39	26834 Af	07/24/62	Sept. 5th , 1862	Sept. 23, 1862	NO Tilton	Savannah 63, 64
T39	26848 Af	07/24/62	Sept. 5th , 1862	Sept. 23, 1862	NO Tilton	Richmond 64, 65
T39	26853 Af	07/24/62	Sept. 5th , 1862	Sept. 23, 1862	NO Tilton	---
T39	26883 Af	07/24/62	Sept. 5th , 1862	Sept. 23, 1862	NO Tilton	Savannah 63, 64
T39	26889 Af	07/24/62	Sept. 5th , 1862	Sept. 23, 1862	NO Tilton	---
T39	23314 Af	07/24/62	Sept 9th, 1862	---	JC Hightower	Savannah 63; Charleston 64, 65
T39	23317 Af	07/24/62	Sept 9th, 1862	---	JC Hightower	Montgomery 64, 65
T39	23319 Af	07/24/62	Sept 9th, 1862	---	JC Hightower	Savannah 63; Charleston 64, 65
T39	23325 Af	07/24/62	Sept 9th, 1862	---	JC Hightower	Savannah 63; Charleston 64, 65
T39	21555 Ah	07/24/62	Sept 9th, 1862	John Boston Feb 18 1863	JRH Sikes	Savannah 63
T39	21579 Ah	07/24/62	Sept 9th , 1862	Sept. 29, 1862	JRH Sikes	Wilmington 63, 64, Raleigh 65
T39	21599 Ah	07/24/62	Sept 9th, 1862	---	JRH Sikes	Charleston ??, Augusta 65

Looking at the table, the main observations are the following:

- The Date Stamp was present only on T-39 and T-40; no T-41 was found with the BID Stamp and only one T-41 was signed by one of the five officers, N. B. Brown.
- The issue dates on the BID Stamp were all between September 1st, 1862 and October 27th, 1862, in particular, September 1st, 5th, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 29th and October 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 21st, 27th. In addition, when two of these stamps were present on the same note, the second date (Reissue?) was September 23rd, 1862 in all the cases, except one note redated September 29th, 1862.

- Although the Date Stamp could be found alone (Date Only), it was extensively used by five military issuers, all Capt AQM from the Army of Georgia.
- The five military officers issued also notes with handwritten dates, meaning without the BID stamp, prior to September 1st, 1862, mostly in August (7th, 8th, 12th, 12/18th), except two cases where September 19th was manuscripted by Capt Thomas Burke.
- On eleven notes, it is present with the issue or reissue stamp (7) or endorsement (4) by John Boston, Depositary, Savannah (**Fig. 3**). All of these notes, except two, show only Georgia Interest Paid stamps.

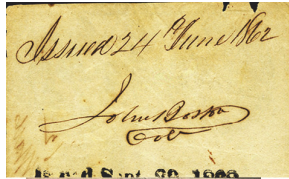


Fig. 3 John Boston Depositary, Savannah, handwritten signature and issue stamp



Fig. 4 Thomas McGrath, special agent for the confederacy: account paid for supply and signature on T-39 #25499. image Fold3.com



- Three notes show two signatures other than the previously listed military officers: one T-39 #25499 was signed by Thomas McGrath, special agent for the Confederacy: documents on the Fold3.com website show that he was present in Wilmington and later in Savannah in 1863 (**Fig. 4**); two notes were signed by B. F.(?) Dawson on June 19th, 1863 (there is no match to this name in the documents on Fold3.com for a military officer or government agent; this may be an endorsement by a civilian or the name may be unclear).
- Among the Registry Dates on the front, almost all the notes presented two dates, July 24th, 1862 (T-39) and September 23rd, 1862 (T-40). Four notes were dated June 17th, 1862, three with the BID Stamp only and one issued by N. B. Brown, another two BID Stamp only notes were dated June 13th, 1862 and September 7th, 1862, and the only T-41 in the database, issued by N. B. Brown, was dated October 22nd, 1862.
- One note, T-39, #26837 Ab shows the issue by J. D. Cameron, Capt. & AQM on August 7th, 1862; later the note was stamped with a BID on September 23rd, 1862 (the reason for the second issue date will be detailed later). Capt. J. D. Cameron cannot be considered one of the issuers using the BID stamp, since he wrote his name and a date as in the other examples of his endorsements, and this is different from the four known issuers using the BID stamp. But his issuance again confirms the presence of the BID stamp in Georgia and in the Savannah area.

Indeed, John D. Cameron was appointed as Captain & AQM on February 13th, 1862 with the 29th Georgia Infantry Regiment. The 29th remained at Camp Young on Wylly Island about eight miles southeast of Savannah (**Fig. 21**) through the Spring of 1862 until May 1863, and we could find two documents signed by Cameron in this camp in the National Archives. These data allow the location of Capt. & AQM Cameron around Savannah in the period of use of the BID stamp. We could infer that Cameron signed the note in Camp Young in August 1862, and later in September the note was issued with a new date to account for the payment of interest.

- Twelve notes presented two BID stamps: five signed by Capt. Thomas Burke (Sept. 9th & Sept. 23rd), six by Capt. N. O. Tilton (Sept. 5th & Sept. 23rd), and one by Capt. J. H. R. Sikes (Sept. 9th & Sept. 29th). Under the first stamp we find the signature of the officer, while nothing is written under the second stamp.

We could imagine at least two situations in that period with a large number of notes being prepared for issuance.

In one case the stamped date was placed on the note and it was signed by the officer; however, the note was not issued, and it was held and subsequently issued at a later date. On the later date it was stamped with the new date without the need of a new signature. Or, the stamped date with the officer's signature was placed on the note and given to a sergeant or someone else to buy whatever they needed in the following period. But if many days had passed, for the calculation of interest a new stamp date was placed on the note at the time of payment, again without the need for another signature of the officer.

Since these notes are interest-bearing currency, on the back of them we very frequently find stamps for interest payment from many different cities for the years 1863, 1864 and 1865. Studying the interest paid (IP) stamps, there was a predominance of IP stamps from Georgia cities, meaning Augusta, Columbus, Macon, and Savannah.

The precise numbers are the following (some notes will have more than one IP stamp):

IP stamps from Georgia among all the database notes (105 notes): $146/216 = 67.6\%$

IP stamps from Georgia among all the notes including a BID stamp (68 notes): $79/129 = 61.2\%$

IP stamps from Georgia among the notes with only a BID stamp (19 notes): $24/35 = 68.6\%$

From the statistical point of view, the Fisher's Exact Test with Yate's continuity correction demonstrated a statistical significance for the association of BID stamps to IP stamps from Georgia, with a $p=0.018$ and a $RR=0.76$.

According to the evaluation of the database, it is now possible to infer that the BID Stamp has its origin in Georgia: it was used by five Georgia officers, it was present in association with other Georgia issuers (Capt. & AQM J. D. Cameron and John Boston, Depository), and those notes more frequently remained in the State of Georgia as demonstrated by the statistical higher percentage of Interest Paid stamps from Georgia cities..

As a second step in the research, I tried to better locate the Stamp in Georgia by evaluating the military careers of the five officers during the summer-autumn of 1862.

Table 2 below shows the date of issue on the notes (handwritten or BID stamped) for the Georgia officers and for notes with only the BID Stamp and no endorsement by an officer:

	August 5	August 6	August 7	August 8	August 12	August 18		September 1	September 5	September 9	September 16	September 19	September 23	September 29		October 7	October 8	October 9	October 10	October 21	October 27
Stamp only													SO	SO		SO	SO	SO	SO		
N. B. Brown	hw		hw					#	#	#	#									#	#
T. A. Burke			hw	hw	hw	hw				#		hw	#								
J. C. Hightower										#											
J. H. Sikes										#				#							
N. O. Tilton			hw						#				#								

Capt. & AQM Nathan B. Brown:

There are seventy-six documents for Brown in the National Archives files for Officers and seventy-four for Nathan B. Brown in Georgia, 1st (Olmstead's) Infantry.

Born in New York, Nathan B. Brown was enlisted as a Private on August 1st, 1861, at Savannah, Georgia, in Chatham's Artillery; this company was organized into the 1st (Olmstead's) Georgia Infantry and later in October 1862 became independent upon reorganization of the Regiment.

Private N. B. Brown was detached to the Quartermaster Department in Savannah, from January 1862 until June 1862, as a clerk (**Fig. 5**). On May 3rd, 1862 he was recommended for appointment of Assistant Quartermaster in Savannah by Capt. H. Hirsh (**Fig. 6**) and after being commissioned Captain and AQM, he was discharged from the company on July 3rd, 1862 to take rank in the

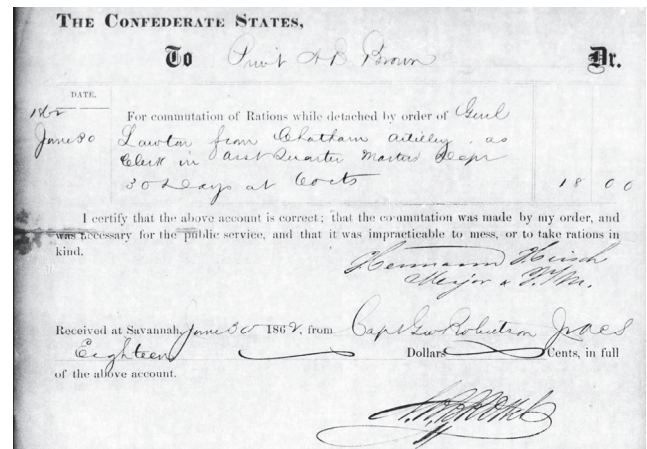


Fig. 5 Account for commutation of rations to Private N. B. Brown from Chatham Artillery as a clerk in the Assistant Quartermaster Department, Savannah, June 30th, 1862. image Fold3.com

Fig. 6 Capt.H Hirsh
"recommend private N.
B. Brown for the
appointment of Assistant
Quartermaster."
image Fold3.com

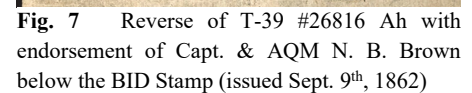


Fig. 8 Abstracts of payment, Capt. N. B. Brown, Paymaster for July-August 1862. image: *Confederate States of America Army Records MS 0169*, Georgia Historical Society



Fig. 9 Account of bounty payments by N. B. Brown for October 1862, for Barton Artillery, in Assistant Quartermaster's Office, Savannah, GA. images: *Confederate States of America Army Records MS 0169*, Georgia Historical Society.

Capt. & AQM Thomas A. Burke:

Thomas A. Burke was appointed Capt. & Assistant Quartermaster of the 54th Georgia Infantry Regiment on July 16th, 1862, to rank from April 30th, 1862; later was promoted to Major & Acting QM on August 19th, 1863, to rank from August 1st, 1863 and ordered to report for duty to Brig. Gen'l W. B. Taliaferro.

The 54th Georgia Volunteer Infantry was organized in Guyton, Georgia at the Camp of Instruction during the summer of 1862. It was deployed in the defense of Savannah until the summer of 1863 and they stationed all around Savannah, GA until they moved to Charleston, SC. The regiment before 1864 was often split in assignment with Colonel Way in command of six companies and Lieutenant Colonel (Major) Rawls in command of the other four companies. In some references the 54th Georgia Volunteer Infantry is known as Rawls' Georgia Infantry. The regiment served for some time in the department of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. Capt. Burke appears in the Regimental Return from July 1862 to February 1863; in July 1862 in Savannah; from August 1862 to the first months of 1863 in Beaulieu (**Fig.10**).

On the Burke's career summary from the National Archives, the Order 445 of July 23rd, 1862, showed him present at Camp Way, near Savannah. Later, from August 1862 to summer 1863, all the documents referred to Beaulieu as his Station or Head Quarters (Figs.11-12). Confederate camps tended to take the name of the commander of the unit occupying the ground. Thus, one camp might have had several names between 1861 and 1865.

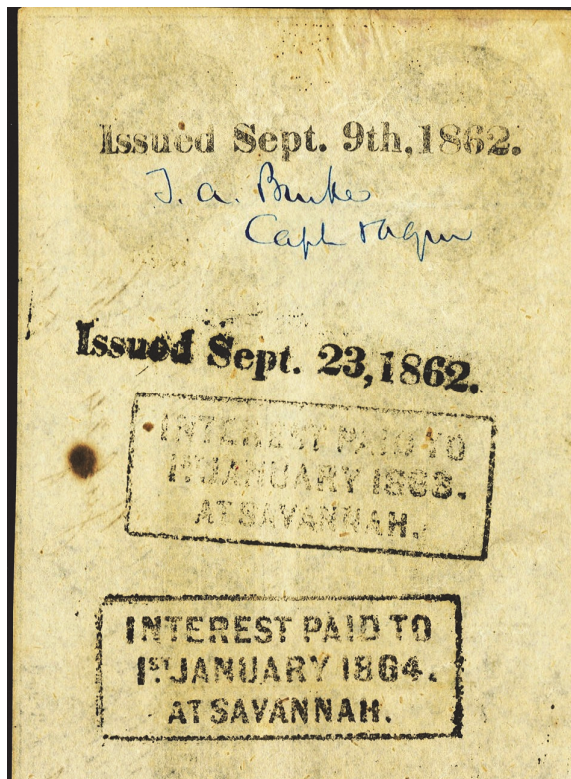


Fig. 10 Reverse of T-39 #21561 Ac with endorsement of Capt. & AQM T. A. Burke below the BID Stamp (Issued September 9th, 1862) and another BID stamp (Issued September 23rd, 1862)

The image shows a 'Confederate' Regt. Return form. At the top, it says '(Confederate.)' and '54 Ga.' Below this, the name 'T. A. Burke' is written in cursive. The form is divided into sections for August, September, and October 1862. For each month, it asks for 'Commissioned officers present and absent' and 'Station'. For August, the station is 'Beaulieu'. For September and October, the station is also 'Beaulieu'. The 'Remarks' section for each month is blank.

Fig. 11 Presence of Capt. & AQM Burke in Beaulieu, according to regimental returns, for August, September and October 1862. image Fold3.com

The image shows a handwritten order dated 'Oct. 31. 1862' from 'Head Quarters, Beaulieu'. The order is addressed to 'Captain T. A. Burke, A.Q.M.' and instructs him to 'proceed forthwith to Atlanta, Georgia, for the purpose of obtaining, if possible, from Captain Wm. Bacon, A.Q.M., one hundred and fifty (150) Army Wall Tents, & thirty (30) Officer's Wall Tents, for the 54th Regt, Georgia, Vol.' The order is signed 'Charles H. May' and 'Chief Commanding 54th Regt. Georgia, Vol.' At the bottom, it says 'I certify that the above is a correct copy of an order of which I am original in my possession.' and is signed 'T. A. Burke'.

Fig. 12 Order for Capt. & AQM Burke from the Head Quarters in Beaulieu, dated October 31st, 1862: "You will proceed... to Atlanta, Georgia, for the purpose of obtaining, if possible, from Captain Wm. Bacon, AQM, 150 army wall tents and 30 officer's wall tents for the 54th Regt, Georgia, Vol." image Fold3.com

Beaulieu, Chatham County, (pronounced “Bewly”) was located at the mouth of the Vernon River, 12 miles south of Savannah. This land was deeded on April 27th, 1737 to William Stephens (1671-1753), the first “president” of Georgia (1743-50). He recorded in his journal in 1740: “I was now called to give the place a name; ... I fancied that Bewlie, a manor of his Grace the Duke of Montagu in the New Forest was not unlike it much, as to its situation.... It was initially called Beaulieu, though now vulgarly Bewlie”.

General Robert E. Lee arrived in Savannah on November 11th, 1861; in planning the defense around the city, he visited Beaulieu and established a battery on Beaulieu Point. Across the Vernon River is Rosedew Island, where another battery set up a protection from the Little Ogeechee River and little bit south there is Genesis point, on the Big Ogeechee River, where Fort McAllister was erected (**Figs.13 and 25**).

In “Civil War Savannah: Savannah, immortal city,” Camp Beaulieu refers to the Beaulieu Plantation, on the Vernon River, ten miles south of Savannah, owned by Mr. David Cole, Sheriff of Chatham County.

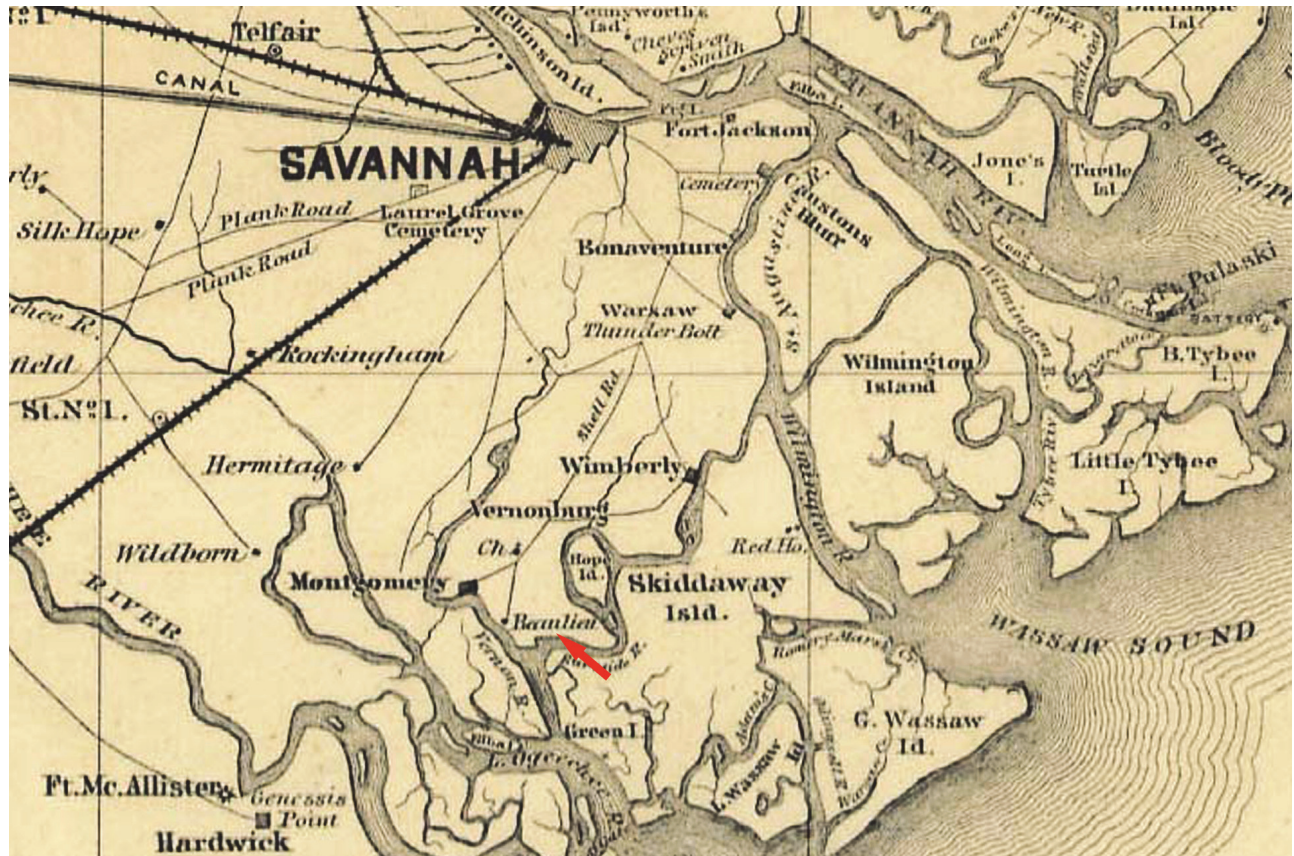


Fig. 13 Savannah area, Chatham County (from U.S. War Dept. Map of Portions of Georgia and South Carolina, 1865). Beaulieu (red arrow) and Fort McAllister and Genesis point (left inferior corner)

CHAP. XXVI.] CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.—CONFEDERATE.

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Position of troops in the Department of South Carolina and Georgia—Continued.

DISTRICT OF GEORGIA, COMMANDED BY BRIG. GEN. H. W. MERCER.

Station.	Command.	Number of companies.	Remarks.
Skidaway Shell road.....	Terrell Light Artillery	1	
	Major Milten's Partisans.....	1	
No. 3, Central Railroad.....	Chestate Light Artillery.....	1	
Charleston and Savannah Railroad Bridge.....	Company E, 47th Georgia Regiment.....	1	
Near city of Savannah.....	Battalion Savannah Volunteers Guard.....	3	
	White's Partisans.....	2	
Savannah.....	Effingham Hussars.....	1	
	47th Georgia Volunteers.....	8	
→ White Bluff and on White Bluff road.....	Company A, 2d Battalion Georgia Cavalry.....	1	
Coffee Bluff.....	Chatham Artillery.....	1	
	4th Louisiana Battalion.....	6	
	Randolph Mounted Rangers.....	1	
	Company D, Light Battery Georgia Regulars.....	1	
→ Near Thunderbolt.....	30th Georgia Volunteers.....	10	
Riceborough.....	Liberty Independent Troop.....	1	
Oglethorpe Barracks.....	Tatnall Guards.....	1	
Genesis Point.....	Martin's light battery.....	1	
	Hardwick Mounted Rifles.....	1	
	Garrison at Genesis Point.....	2	
Altamaha Bridge.....	Company I, 25th Georgia Regiment.....	1	
Savannah River batteries.....	Companies A, G, and I, 25th Georgia Volunteers; Company E, 25th Georgia Volunteers; Company K, 32d Georgia Volunteers; Company B, 47th Georgia Volunteers, and five unattached companies.....	11	
On Middle Ground road, near Battery Harrison.....	32d Georgia Regiment.....	9	
→ Near Beauieu.....	Banks' Partisans.....	1	
	54th Georgia Volunteers.....	10	
	Joe Thompson artillery.....	1	
South Newport.....	Liberty Guards.....	1	
	Lamar Rangers.....	1	
Darien.....	McIntosh Cavalry.....	1	
South of Altamaha.....	Battalion cavalry.....	6	
Near Little Ogeechee River, 12 miles from city.....	Battalion Sharpshooters.....	4	
→ Carston's Bluff.....	Columbus Artillery.....	1	
	Eight companies 25th Georgia Regiment; seven companies 29th Georgia Regiment; three unattached companies.....	18	
Macon, Ga.....	10th Georgia Battalion.....	5	Guarding stores and prisoners.
	59th Georgia Regiment.....	10	

Fig. 25 Official report on the positions of troops in the district of Georgia under Brigadier General Hugh W. Mercer on September 25th, 1862: see the 18 companies at Carston's (Causton's) Bluff, 8 from the 25th Georgia Regiment, see also other camp locations for Capt. N. O. Tilton, near Thunderbolt and at White Bluff (yellow arrows); see Beauieu (red arrow) with 10 companies from 54th Georgia Volunteers for Capt. T. A. Burke.

Capt. & AQM James C. Hightower:

In the National Archives, 11 documents are present for James C. Hightower in the file for Officers and 19 are found in the file for the 30th Georgia Infantry, with only one signature on an 1863 store delivery.

J. C. Hightower, born in Clark County, Georgia, was enlisted at Fairburn, Georgia, on September 25th, 1861, reporting to the 30th Georgia Regiment as a Private serving in the role of Acting Assistant Quarter Master. He was appointed on July 31st, 1862 to rank from June 28th, as Capt. & AQM reporting to the 30th Regiment Georgia Infantry and serving for a period of three years.

The Georgia 30th Infantry Regiment was assembled at Milledgeville, Georgia, in the fall of 1861. In September 1861, Georgia Congressman David J. Bailey established Camp Bailey with the permission of Governor Joseph E. Brown. Camp Bailey was located between Fairburn and Palmetto, Georgia along the railroad track. On December 16th, 1861, the 30th Georgia moved to Griswoldsville in Jones County, Georgia. By the 23rd it was encamped just below Savannah.

Capt. & AQM Hightower, according to Regimental Returns, was present in Camp Hardee in June 1862, had two periods of 10 days of furlough in July and August and was then present for the entire September and October period in 1862 (Figs. 14-15)

H (Confederate) 30 Ga.

Jas. C. Hightower
Reg't 2^d M., 30 Reg't Georgia Infantry.

Appears on
Regimental Return
of the organization named above,
for the month of *Sept*, 186*2*.

Commissioned officers present and absent :
Present

Station *Camp Hardee*

Remarks : _____

Regimental Return
of the organization named above,
for the month of *Oct*, 186*2*.

Commissioned officers present and absent :
Present

Station *Camp Hardee*

Remarks : _____

Fig. 14 Presence of Capt. & AQM Hightower in Camp Hardee, according to regimental returns, for September and October 1862. image Fold3.com

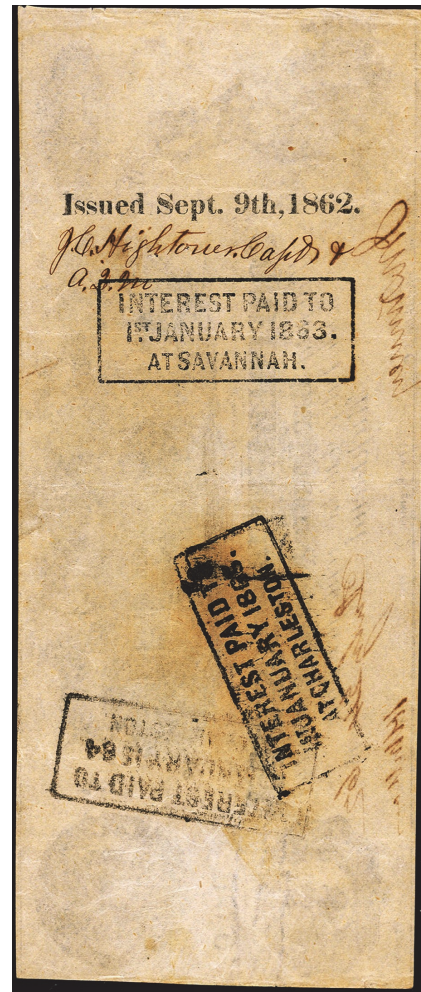


Fig. 15 Reverse of T-39 #23319 Af with endorsement of Capt & AQM J. C. Hightower below the BID Stamp (Issued September 9th, 1862)

Camp Hardee was located in an old field near Ferguson's place, a little over a mile above Bethesda Orphanage (Fig. 16). This Institution was founded in 1740 near Isle of Hope, 12 miles south of Savannah, by the Anglican preacher George Whitefield and is the oldest child-care institution in continual operation in the United States.

The Thirtieth served until the spring of 1863 in the department of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. It went to Mississippi, forming the brigade of Col. C. C. Wilson which comprised the 25th, 29th, and 66th regiments, First Battalion Georgia Sharpshooters, and the Fourth Battalion Louisiana. The 30th traveled to North Georgia and fought in the Battle of Chickamauga in late September 1863.

Hightower was relieved from duty on August 30th, 1864 with its regiment and assigned to duty with Lieutenant Colonel Robertson's Battn. Artillery, Army of Tennessee.



Fig. 16 Orphanage Asylum (Bethesda Orphanage): blue arrow, Camp Hardee: blue rectangle, Beaulieu: left inferior corner. From *Defense of Savannah* (compiled 1880-81 by Military Division of the Mississippi)

Roll of Muscogee Mounted Rangers, either in Cavalry or Infantry

Capt. L. A. Shorth	1
Sgt. H. L. Beuning	2
→ " J. H. Sikes	3
" Camak	4
" Dawson	5
Sgt. C. B. Mims	6
" L. B. Wood	7
" J. P. Perkins	8
" W. M. Munn	9
Capt. L. A. Blumchuck	10
" Carter	11
" Ragland	12
" Banks	13
Port. M. H. Halden	14
" J. H. Shims	15
" Saml. Hockkoy	16
" C. J. Harrison	17
" L. L. Abercrombie	18
" Enset Abercrombie	19
" Paul Butte	20
" Lewis Shims	21
" J. Stone	22

Fig. 17 Roll of Muscogee Mounted Rangers, either in Cavalry and Infantry. Lt. J. H. Sikes (red arrow). image Fold3.com

Capt. Jesse H. Sikes:

Jesse H. Sikes was born on October 10th, 1825 in Norfolk, VA. The documents in the National Archives are very sparse, but his story is very interesting.

He was enlisted at Columbus, Georgia, on July 10th, 1861, in the Muscogee Rifles as Second Lieutenant (**Fig. 17**). The Muscogee Rifles would become Company E, 12th Georgia Infantry. After organizing, the unit was assigned to Brigadier General Henry R. Jackson's command and shared in Lee's Cheat Mountain Campaign. Sikes' health failed him and he was furloughed at the hospital of Harrisonburg, Virginia on October 3rd, 1861, for chronic bronchitis as shown in the report by Acting Surgeon W. W. Butler M.D.'s hospital visit. His health not improving, he resigned the following spring on May 3rd, 1862.

An article in the June 20th, 1861 edition of the *Richmond Dispatch*, quoted from an article in the *Columbus Sun*, described: "We paid visits today to the shop of Mr. Moshell, of this city, to witness the operation of sword tempering, which is now an 'institution' of Columbus. Mr. Moshell has engaged the services of a superior work man from Tennessee, who, we believe,

was engaged in the service of that State in some capacity, and whose blades were subjected to a test established by a board of competent military men. The same test is applied to the blades turned out in Mr. Moshell's shop....

He is furnishing blades for the establishment of Mr. DeWitt, and challenges the Confederacy to turn out superior ones."

Though the service of Lt. Sikes with the Muscogee Rifles had been short, the men apparently thought very highly of him, so much so that they presented him with an A. H. DeWitt sword, marked MOSHELL and engraved on the top scabbard mount, in three lines: Capt. J. H. Sikes Muskogee Rifles Georgia (Fig. 18).



Fig. 18 Capt. J. H. Sikes' sword. Mark of Mr. Moshell at the base of the blade; engraving on the top scabbard mount; excellent guard.

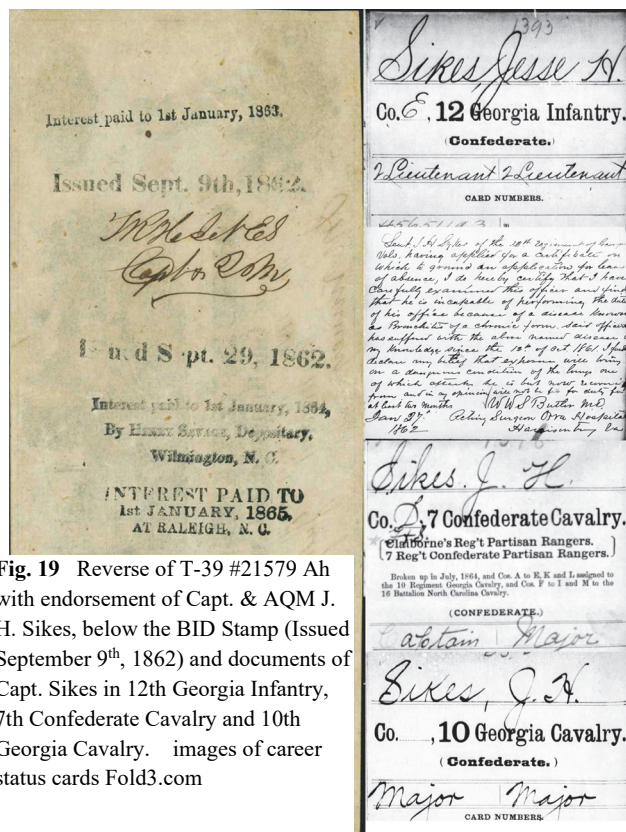


Fig. 19 Reverse of T-39 #21579 Ah with endorsement of Capt. & AQM J. H. Sikes, below the BID Stamp (Issued September 9th, 1862) and documents of Capt. Sikes in 12th Georgia Infantry, 7th Confederate Cavalry and 10th Georgia Cavalry. images of career status cards Fold3.com

Not content to sit at home, he raised a company of partisan rangers known as Captain J. H. Sikes' Company Partisan Rangers and reentered the service as Captain of Cavalry in the 7th Confederate Regiment, Claiborne's Partisan Rangers, also known as the 7th Regiment Confederate Cavalry, where he commanded Company D.

Sikes was an Infantry Captain and, later, Major, not a Quartermaster, who may have endorsed the only three known notes as an Acting QM for his unit (Fig. 19). "Acting" Quartermasters did not have the bond required of commissioned Quartermasters.

The 7th CSA Regular Cavalry Regiment was formed by consolidating the 4th North Carolina Battalion Partisan Rangers and seven independent Georgia cavalry companies. It served in the Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, then in General James Dearing's Brigade, Army of Northern Virginia. Sikes was captured on December 13th, 1862, near Zunia (Zuni?), Virginia, and was paroled until regularly exchanged and sent from Fort Monroe to City Point, Virginia

Sikes was appointed by Col. W. C. Claiborne on November 13th, 1863 as a Major, reporting to the 7th Regiment Confederate Cavalry, taking rank retroactively on September 12th.

On July 11th, 1864, the 7th was ordered to disband. Part of the regiment, including Major Sikes, was transferred to the 10th Georgia Cavalry.

Sikes was again captured on September 30th, 1864, at Peebles Farm, Virginia, and was committed as a prisoner of war to Old Capitol Prison, Washington, D. C, on October 6th and later to Fort Delaware on October 21st. Sikes was admitted to Pettigrew General Hospital No. 13, at Raleigh, NC, on February 10th, 1865, complaining of Phthisis Pulmonalis (meaning Tuberculosis); he was furloughed to recuperate on March 17th, 1865 and the War ended a couple of weeks later.

He died on May 18th, 1872 at Columbus, Muscogee, Georgia, where he is buried.

[No. 40.]
SPECIAL REQUISITION.

Sept. 6, 1862	Capt. J. H. Sikes 81 Tin cups 6 camp Kettles 3 Stew Pans 6 water buckets 5 Fry Pans 2 Hatchets 1 Axes 1 oven & Lid 2 axes 40 lb Nails 4 Wall Nails #6.
---------------	---

I certify that the above Requisition is correct, and that the articles specified are absolutely requisite for the public service, rendered so by the following circumstances:

W. C. Claiborne Capt. Comdg.
will issue the articles specified in the above Requisition.

W. C. Claiborne D. C. Commanding.
Assistant Quartermaster.

RECEIVED BY *Wilson M. C.* the 1st of September 1862, of *Capt. J. H. Sikes* Assistant Quartermaster.
Eighty one tin cups, six camp kettles, three stew pans, six water buckets, five fry pans, two hatchets, one axe, one oven and lid, two axes, forty pounds of nails in full of the above Requisition.

J. H. Sikes Capt. Comdg.
10th Georgia Cavalry

Fig. 20 Special Requisition signed by Capt. J. H. Sikes on September 6th, 1862 at Wilson, NC

According to the aim of this research, documents from the National Archives showed Capt. Sikes as being in Wilson, NC, at the end of August and the first of September 1862 (**Fig. 20**), when he signed the three notes known with the BID stamp.

We might assume that the 7th CSA Cavalry, which was formed with some companies of the Georgia cavalry, had one of those stamps for the needs of their Quartermaster and Capt. Sikes used it to issue the notes he endorsed while in North Carolina. Or, as an alternative, since he was not a Quartermaster, he may have signed the notes using the BID stamp from another Georgia officer who might have been present at that moment in Wilson, North Carolina.

Capt. & AQM Nathaniel Octavius Tilton:

Nathaniel Octavius Tilton was born on March 1st, 1831 in Wadmalaw Island, Charleston County, SC, and in the pre- and post-war period he was the superintendent of the upper rice mill at Savannah, GA. He was enrolled

In the period we are interested in for this paper, between June and October 1862 (Figs. 22-24), Capt. Tilton was present in Causton's Bluff, four miles southeast of Savannah. Fort Bartow, or the Causton's Bluff Battery, as it was known until 1863, was constructed early in 1862, because this area on the Saint Augustine Creek, part of the Wilmington River, strategically commanded the approach to Fort Jackson, on the Savannah River, and to the eastern line of the city. Charles C. Jones Jr, an eminent Georgian historian, states in his 1874 study, *The Siege of Savannah in December 1864*, that after February 1862, Confederate efforts were concentrated in protecting the water approaches to Savannah, which included "an interior line of forts and water batteries which, commencing with Fort Jackson and the Savannah River batteries, included Fort Bartow, works at Causton's Bluff and on Whitmarsh island, batteries at Greenwich, Thunderbolt, the Isle of Hope and at Beaulieu, and rested its right on the Rose Dew batteries". The first detailed official report on the strength of the garrison at the Causton's Bluff Battery was made under Brigadier General Hugh W. Mercer on September 25th, 1862 (Fig. 25).

At the end of October and in November 1862, Capt. Tilton was sent to Richmond, Columbus and Charleston "and other places as he may deem proper for the purpose of procuring clothing for the 25th Georgia Regiment."

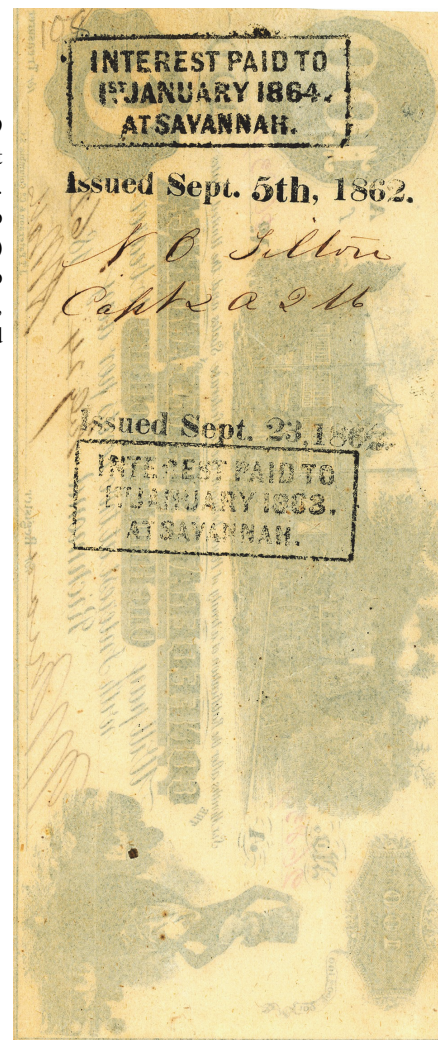
The Twenty-fifth, after being equipped and drilled, was assigned to the department of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. In 1863 it was sent to north Mississippi, forming part of the army assembled for the relief of Vicksburg. In September of that year, being transferred to Georgia, in the division of W. H. T. Walker, it shared the perils and glories of Chickamauga.

After the war, Nathaniel O. Tilton lived in Savannah, where he died on February 11th, 1902 for cardiac embolism, at the age of 70; he is buried in the Bonaventure Cemetery in Savannah, Ga.

(CONFEDERATE.)
25 Ga
A. O. Tilton
Dr. Mr. 25 Ga Reg
Appears on a
Return
of Troops at Causton's Bluff, Ga.,
for the month of July, 1862
Commissioned officers present and absent:
Present
for the month of Aug., 1862
Commissioned officers present and absent:
Present
Station Causton Bluff
Remarks:
for the month of Sept., 1862
Commissioned officers present and absent:
Present
Station Causton Bluff

Fig. 22 Presence of Capt. & AQM N. O. Tilton at Causton's Bluff, according to troops and regimental returns, for July, August and September 1862

Fig. 24 Reverse of T-39 #26834 Af with endorsement of Capt. & AQM N. O. Tilton below the BID Stamp (Issued September 9th, 1862) and another BID stamp (Issued September 23rd, 1862). image Crutchfield Williams



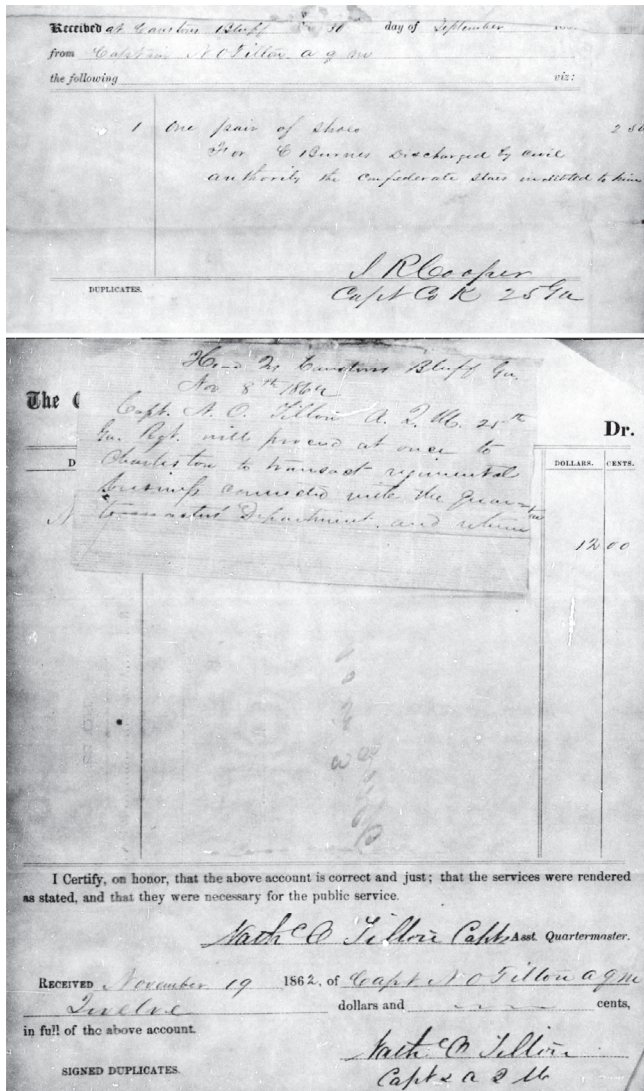


Fig. 23 Documents at Causton's Bluff: Receipt from Captain N. O. Tilton, AQM on September 30th, 1862, signed by his Officer Capt. J. R. Cooper (above) and order for travelling to Charleston and receipt for expenses on November 8th and 19th, 1862, signed by Capt. Tilton (below). images Fold3.com

From the evaluation of the history and careers of these officers, I was able to properly locate the Black Issue Date Stamp in Georgia. For a short period in Autumn 1862, the Quartermasters of the Georgia Army used this stamp in Savannah and the surrounding military camps for the purposes of their duties. The stamp could be properly named as the Savannah Black Issue Date Stamp, according to this research.

Acknowledgments:

I would like to thank Mr. Michael McNeil for the suggestions and the revision of the paper; the Trainmen for the courtesy in sending the images of the notes with the BID Stamps in their collections; Mr. Shannon Pritchard, www.oldsouthantiques.com, for the pictures of Capt. Sikes' sword and for information about this officer. All other images not attributed are in the collection of the author.

PostScript:

The text on Capt. Sikes in the book *Confederate Quartermasters, Commissaries, and Agents* on pp. 659-661 is in error with the statement that Sikes did not provide a date of issue. The author of this book never considered the possibility that a stamp and manuscript would be combined. Dr. Aidala has clearly shown that combinations of Black Issue Date stamps and manuscript endorsements are not at all uncommon. For this new understanding the author of the book is very grateful. — Michael McNeil

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