

***CW/VFM-70: Paper Money of the Confederate States of America***

Notes were first issued in April of 1861 in denominations of \$.10, \$.50, \$1, \$2, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100, \$500, \$1000 under various acts of the Confederate Congress. The amount issued totaled \$1.7 billion. As the war progressed, inflation caused prices of everyday items to soar to unthinkable heights; and some vendors wouldn't even take Confederate currency because they realized it was worthless. The interesting thing about Confederate notes is that all but the \$.50 ones were hand signed, although not all were actually signed by the men whose signatures appeared on them. Originally these notes featured Greek deities and happy slaves, but later they featured national symbols and famous politicians. The other problem is that the currency differed depending on what state they were issued from.

Confederate Notes:

*Gift of Mrs. Harry T. MacKenzie in 1977*

\$1-issued by Traders Bank, Richmond, VA in September of 1861; appears to feature a woman and a man hard at work.

Original document: 1pp.

\$2-issued out of Richmond in April of 1863; 2<sup>nd</sup> series E, engraved by Keating & Ball; features Jubal P. Benjamin

Original document: 1pp.

\$5-issued out of Richmond in February of 1864; no series G, engraved by Keating & Ball; features State Capitol at Richmond, C.G. Memminger at right

Original document: 1pp.

\$10-issued out of Virginia (Pittsylvania?); features a Greek goddess caring for sheep, a prominent politician, and an unidentified little girl.

Original document: 1pp.

\$10-issued out of Richmond, VA in April of 1863?; this bill features goddesses.

Original document: 1pp.

*Added to the Collection by Michael Hobor, class of 1969*

\$10-issued out of Richmond, VA in February of 1864; features a cavalry scene in which the horsemen appear to be running from a great wave (probably a biblical allusion to the crossing of the Red Sea), and there is the likeness of a political figure in the corner as well.

Original document: 1pp.

*Added to the Collection Unknown*

\$20-issued out of Richmond, VA in February of 1864; this one features a large white building with two phrases on each side alluding to a peace treaty between the Confederacy and the Union. A political figure is also pictured in the corner.

Original document: 1pp.

*Added to the collection in 2008 by gift from Geoffrey Jackson, class of 1991*

\$.50-issued out of Richmond, VA in February of 1864; 1st series, engraved by Archer & Halpin on pink paper; features a bust of Jefferson Davis: Original document 1p

\$5-issued out of Richmond, VA in February of 1864; no series G, engraved by Keating & Ball; reddish network background, intricate blue reverse with "Five" in large letters; features State Capitol Building at Richmond, C.G. Memminger at right: Original document 2pp

\$10-issued out of Richmond, VA in February of 1864; 6 series G, engraved by Keating & Ball; reddish network background, intricate blue reverse with "Ten" in large letters; features horses pulling a cannon, R.M.T. Hunter at right; Original document 1p

\$20-issued out of Richmond, VA in February of 1864; series 3 D, two flourishes over "ICA" of "AMERICA", engraved by Keating & Ball; reddish network background, intricate blue reverse with "Twenty" in large letters; features State Capitol at Nashville, A.H. Stephens right, Original document 1p

\$50-issued out of Richmond, VA in February 1864; no series XA no flourish over "CON" of "CONFEDERATE", engraved by Keating & Ball; reddish network background, intricate blue reverse with "Fifty" in large letters; features Jefferson Davis; Original document 1p

\$50-issued out of Richmond, VA in February 1864; 2 series XA flourish over "CON" of "CONFEDERATE", engraved by Keating & Ball; reddish network background, intricate blue reverse with "Fifty" in large letters; features Jefferson Davis; Original document 1p

\$100-issued out of Richmond, VA in September 1862; small letter a below A; engraved by J.T. Paterson & Co; features railway train with diffused steam from locomotive, milkmaid on left; bears "Interest of Two Cents Per Day"; Original document 1p

\$500-issued out of Richmond, VA in February 1864; A, engraved by Keating & Ball, reddish with horizontal line background; features equestrian statue of Washington & Confederate flag at left, General T.J. "Stonewall" Jackson right; Original document 1p

*Added to the collection in 2013 from the Civil War Artifacts-Personal Effects Tray.  
Originally found in a book given to the library by Arthur Sipe, class of 1926 and Trustee  
1958-1964*

\$10-issued out of Richmond, VA, duplicate as described above from the gift by Michael Hobor

**Keywords:** Confederacy; Papers - Other;

**Location:** Civil War Vertical File Manuscripts, Special Collections & College Archives,  
Musselman Library at Gettysburg College.

**See also:** [Civil War Sources in Special Collections](#)