

**RSiegel Sale 779 Lot 333 July 10 1996**



**Little Rock Ark. May 15, 1862.** Double-circle ds on buff cover with **Houston Texas Red 5c Provisional Handstamp** at left, ms. "Due 5" deleted with "**PAID**" handstamp added on back by receiving postmaster at Kaufmann Texas, **exceptional four-page letter** from a soldier to his wife: *"Since leaving Arkadelphia (where I wrote you last) I have not found a P.O. from which I could send a letter towards Texas. The mails are all stopped below here on account of the Govt. failing to pay Contractors. This is a very bad state of affairs both for the community & the soldiers...We've been trying very hard for some time to get over to Memphis, but before we could get to the point of Shipment (Pine Bluff) the Brig. Genl. of this District considering it unsafe for us...on account of the presence of the enemy's gun boats on the Miss. river & wanting to augment the force in this state ordered us to this place...Captain Johnson's spy company which came just in advance of us have just returned from a scout...bringing in with them a squad of the enemys scouts which they captured...President Davis has ordered Beauregard to make no advance on the enemy for ten days as the French Minister was in Richmond & was preparing a proposition to settle the difficulty between the governments. He aslo ordered the agent in this state to stop burning cotton until further orders."* etc. Letter with separations archivally mended, cover with ink erosion from heavy deletion of "Due 5" and opened irregularly at left, otherwise Fine, very scarce usage and and most desirable letter for the Arkansas or Texas student, with 1990 C.S.A. certificate