

## ADDITIONAL ARTICLES

August 29 and  
October 14, 1855. *Agreed upon between the General Post-Office of the United States of America and the General Post-Office of Prussia, providing for the Registration of valuable Letters to be conveyed in the closed Mails between the United States and Prussia.*

Registered letters. **ARTICLE I.** Letters, alleged to be valuable, posted at any post-office in the United States or its Territories, and addressed to Prussia, or any part of the German Austrian Postal Union, or posted in Prussia or the German Austrian Postal Union, and addressed to the United States, and deliverable at the respective exchange offices of New York, Boston, and Aachen, (Aix-la-Chapelle,) to be thence conveyed by means of the American and English and the English and Belgian mail lines, shall be registered at the office of mailing, on the application of the person posting the same: *Provided*, That the full postage chargeable thereon to destination, together with a registration fee of five cents on each letter, be prepaid at such mailing office: *And provided, also*, That such registration shall not be compulsory, and shall not render the respective Post-Office Departments of the United States or Prussia, or their revenues, liable for the loss of such letters or packets, or the contents thereof.

Postage and registration fee to be prepaid.  
Registration not to be compulsory and not to create any liability for loss.  
Letters mailed in the interior of either country. **ARTICLE II.** All such letters or packets mailed in the interior of the United States or Prussia, and the German-Austrian Postal Union, respectively, shall be received, registered, and receipted for, as directed in the general regulations issued in each country in regard to the registration of valuable letters, and shall be sent to the exchange offices of New York and Boston, or Aachen, respectively, for the purpose of being forwarded thence by the first outgoing mail.

Separate letter bills. **ARTICLE III.** The respective exchange offices of New York, Boston, and Aachen shall make a separate letter bill for each registered letter, or parcel of registered letters, originally mailed at said exchange offices, or sent to them to be forwarded, as prescribed by the regulations referred to in Article II., and shall enter therein the name of the person addressed, the post-office to which it is to be mailed for delivery, and the rate of postage for each letter. The postmaster of said exchange office will then mail each such letter, or parcel of letters, in a separate package from the unregistered letters, and seal each package after tying it in the usual manner. The letter bills of such registered letters shall not be enclosed in the packages containing them; but shall be enclosed in a separate wrapper or envelope, sealed, and addressed to the postmaster of the corresponding exchange of Aachen, Boston, or New York.

Separate packages.  
Letter bills not to be enclosed in packages.  
Duty of postmasters on receipt of registered letters. **ARTICLE IV.** On receipt of registered letters for delivery or distribution at either of the respective exchange offices of Aachen, Boston, or New York, the postmaster of such receiving office will compare the letters with the bill, and endorse it "correct," if it is found so, or will note the error, if there be one, in the manner prescribed with regard to registered letters received from an inland post-office. He will then fill up the corresponding return bill, noting upon it whether correct or otherwise, and will see that it is returned by the first mail thereafter to the office of mailing, (New York, Boston, or Aachen, as the case may be.)

**ARTICLE V.** Registered letters received at New York or Boston from Aachen, or received at Aachen from New York or Boston, and destined for an inland post-office, shall be forwarded in the same manner as other registered letters originally mailed at either office. Registered letters to be forwarded.

**ARTICLE VI.** The United States and Prussian Post-Offices shall reciprocally account to each other upon such registered letters as shall be exchanged between them, in the same manner as prescribed in the postal convention signed at Washington on the 17th of July, and at Berlin on the 26th day of August, 1852; but the registration fee of five cents shall accrue to the United States Post-Office Department upon all registered letters sent from the United States to Prussia, and to the Prussian Post-Office Department upon all registered letters sent from Prussia to the United States. Accounts between the two countries.

In witness whereof, the heads of the departments have affixed their names and seals of office to these presents, at the dates set opposite to each, respectively.

[L. s.]

JAMES CAMPBELL,  
Postmaster-General.

WASHINGTON, August 29, 1855.

[L. s.]

VON DER HEYDT,  
His Prussian Majesty's Minister of State  
for Commerce and Public Works.

BERLIN, October 14, 1855.

## ADDITIONAL ARTICLES

December 28, 1860, and April 24, 1861. . . .  
*Agreed upon between the General Post-Office of the United States of America and the General Post-Office of Prussia.*

IN pursuance of the power granted by Article I. of the postal convention between the United States of America and the Kingdom of Prussia, signed at Washington on the 17th of July, and at Berlin on the 26th of August, 1852, to select additional or different offices of exchange in either or both countries, by mutual agreement of the two post administrations, the following additional articles are hereby agreed upon, viz. :—

ARTICLE I. There shall be established, on the part of the United States, additional offices of exchange at Portland, Detroit, and Chicago, respectively, to correspond with Aachen (Aix-la-Chapelle) by closed mail through England, by means of Canadian mail packets, plying direct between Liverpool and Portland during the winter, and between Liverpool and River du Loup or Quebec, in summer.

ARTICLE II. The description of letters, &c. which shall be comprised in the closed mails forwarded from the aforesaid United States exchange offices to Aachen (Aix-la-Chapelle), and *vice versa*, from the Prussian exchange office of Aachen (Aix-la-Chapelle) to Portland, Detroit, and Chicago, respectively, shall be from time to time arranged by correspondence between the Post-Office Departments of the two countries.

ARTICLE III. The respective Post-Office Departments of the two countries are to account with each other for the international and other correspondence so exchanged by means of the Canadian mail packets, precisely in the same manner as if the sea transportation were performed by a United States packet between New York and Liverpool.

ARTICLE IV. The present articles shall be considered as additional to the original articles of the postal convention between the United States and Prussia, signed at Washington the 17th July, and at Berlin the 26th August, 1852, and shall go into effect in each country at the expiration of fifteen days from the time that notice is received of their being concluded.

In witness whereof, the heads of the departments have fixed their names and seals of office to these presents, at the dates set opposite to each, respectively.

[L. S.]

J. HOLT,

*Postmaster-General.*

December 28, 1860.

[L. S.]

VON DER HEYDT,

*Royal Prussian Minister of State  
for Commerce, Trades, and Public Works.*

BERLIN, April 24, 1861.

*Convention agreed upon between the Post Departments of the United States of America and of the North German Union for the Amelioration of the Postal Service between the two Countries.*

ARTICLE I. There shall be an exchange of correspondence between the United States of America and the North German Union, by means of their respective post departments; and this correspondence shall embrace :—

1st. Letters ordinary and registered.

2d. Newspapers, book-packets, prints of all kinds, (comprising maps, plans, engravings, drawings, photographs, lithographs, and all other like productions of mechanical processes, sheets of music, &c.,) and patterns or samples of merchandise, including grains and seeds.

And such correspondence may be exchanged, whether originating in either of said countries and destined for the other, or originating in or destined for foreign countries to which these may respectively serve as intermediaries.

ARTICLE II. The offices for the exchange of mails shall be, —

(a) on the part of the United States :

1st. New York.

2d. Boston.

3d. Portland.

4th. Detroit.

5th. Chicago.

(b) on the part of the North German Union :

1st. Aachen, (Aix la Chapelle.)

2d. Bremen.

3d. Hamburg.

The two post departments may at any time discontinue either of said offices of exchange, or establish others by mutual consent.

ARTICLE III. Each office shall make its own arrangements for the despatch of its mails to the other office by regular lines of communication; and should at its own cost pay the expense of such intermediate transportation.

The two offices, however, mutually agree, that, in making contracts for the despatch of mails from American ports, or from European ports, those steamers and lines should always be employed, so far as consistent with the rates of postage, by which the mails despatched shall earliest arrive at their destination; and when the speed is substantially the same, that the most favorable pecuniary conditions should be preferred. It is also agreed that the cost of international ocean and territorial transit of the closed mails between the respective frontiers shall be first defrayed by that one of the two departments which shall have obtained from the intermediaries the most favorable pecuniary terms for such conveyance; and any amount so advanced by one for account of the other shall be promptly reimbursed.

ARTICLE IV. The standard weight for the single rate of international postage, and rule of progression, shall be :—

1st. For letters, 15 grammes.

2d. For all other correspondence mentioned in paragraph two of the first article, that which the despatching office shall adopt for the mails which it despatches to the other, adapted to the convenience and habits of its interior administration. But each office shall give notice to the other of the standard weight it adopts, and of any subsequent change thereof.

October 21, 1867.  
*Post*, p. 1003.  
 Correspondence to be exchanged; to embrace what.

Offices for exchange of mails

Arrangements for despatch of mails, &c.  
 Cost of transportation.

Contracts for despatch of mails.

Weight for single rate of international postage.