

will be charged by Venezuela such rates of inland postage as are now or may hereafter be established by the laws of Venezuela, which shall be collected at the place of destination, and shall belong exclusively to Venezuela.

Expense of  
sea transporta-  
tion.  
Mailable arti-  
cles exempt  
from other rates.

Each country shall defray the entire expense of sea transportation of the mails which it shall despatch to the other country.

ARTICLE V. It is distinctly agreed that all mailable articles despatched from one country to the other shall be exempt in the country of destination from any rate or fee whatever beyond the charges prescribed by this convention, and shall be free from any detention or inspection, and promptly delivered to the persons addressed, being subject in their transmission to the laws and regulations of each country respectively.

Letters, not  
delivered, to be  
returned.

ARTICLE VI. Letters and other communications in manuscript, which, from any cause, shall not be delivered to their address, after the expiration of a proper period to effect their delivery, shall be reciprocally returned without charge to the Post-Office Department of the despatching country; but newspapers and all other articles of printed matter which cannot be delivered to their address shall not be returned, but remain at the disposal of the receiving country.

Newspapers.

Free transit  
for closed mails.

ARTICLE VII. The Post Departments of the United States and of Venezuela reciprocally engage to grant each to the other the gratuitous conveyance across their respective territories of all correspondence which shall be exchanged in closed mails with any countries to which they may respectively serve as intermediaries, provided always that such conveyance shall be effected by the ordinary means of mail conveyance in use, and that the countries taking the benefits of such gratuitous service shall reciprocally accord the like privilege of free transit across their respective territories. The privilege is also accorded to each administration of sending an agent, at its own expense, in charge of the mails in transit. The further privilege is accorded of a free transfer of closed mails in the ports and harbors of the respective countries from one vessel to another, in continuance of their conveyance to final destination.

Agent.

Rates for cor-  
respondence de-  
spatched to be  
forwarded.

ARTICLE VIII. Correspondence of all kinds which either department shall despatch to the other for the purpose of being thence forwarded in its mails to another country of destination to which prepayment is optional, shall be subject to the rates established by Article III. of this convention, added to the interior rate in force beyond the frontier of the forwarding country, so that only one interior rate shall be received by the forwarding department.

Correspondence  
between each  
government and  
its legation to be  
free.

ARTICLE IX. The correspondence between each government and its legation near the other, and that of the latter with the former, shall be conveyed to its destination free of postage, and with all the precautions which both governments may find necessary for its inviolability and security.

Amendments  
hereto may be  
made.

ARTICLE X. In case any change or amendment in the provisions of this convention shall be desired by either party, the same may be proposed by such party; and when the details thereof shall be agreed to and approved by both parties, this convention shall be considered as changed or amended accordingly.

This conven-  
tion when to take  
effect, and how  
long to continue.

ARTICLE XI. This convention shall take effect from a day to be fixed by the two Post Departments, and shall continue in force until annulled by mutual consent, or until one of the two Post Departments shall have given to the other a previous notice of one year of its intention to abrogate the same.

Done in duplicate and signed at Washington on the 19th day of July, A. D. 1865, and at Caracas on the 26th day of June, A. D. 1866.

[L. s.]

W. DENNISON,

*Postmaster-General.*

[L. s.]

J. M. ALVAREZ LUGO,  
*Minister of Internal Improvements.*

*Postal Convention between the United States of America and the Colonial Government of Hong Kong, China.*

ARTICLES of agreement between the Post Office Department of the United States and the General Post Office at Hong Kong. August 10, 1867.

For the purpose of establishing and regulating the interchange of mails between the United States and Hong Kong and dependent Chinese ports, by means of the direct line of United States mail packets plying between San Francisco and Hong Kong, via Yokohama in Japan, it is agreed between the Post Office Department of the United States and the Post Office Department of Hong Kong:

Contracting  
parties.

ARTICLE I. The post offices of New York and San Francisco shall be the United States offices of exchange, and the General Post Office at Hong Kong the office of exchange of the colony of Hong Kong for all mails transmitted under this arrangement.

Offices of ex-  
change estab-  
lished.

ARTICLE II. There shall be an exchange of correspondence between the United States of America and the colony of Hong Kong, by means of United States mail packets, plying between San Francisco and Hong Kong, comprising letters, newspapers, and prices current originating and posted in the United States, and addressed to and deliverable in Hong Kong and those Chinese ports with which the Hong Kong post office has postal relations, including the ports of Canton, Amoy, Swatow, and Foo-chow, and, vice versa, of correspondence originating and posted in Hong Kong and the Chinese ports above designated, and addressed to and deliverable in the United States.

Correspond-  
ence to be ex-  
changed.

ARTICLE III. The postage to be levied and collected at the office of mailing in the United States, upon letters, newspapers, and prices current, destined for Hong Kong and the above designated Chinese ports, with which Hong Kong has postal connections, shall be ten cents per single rate of half an ounce or under on letters, and two cents each on newspapers and prices current; and the postage to be levied and collected at Hong Kong and dependent Chinese ports, on correspondence originating in those ports and destined to the United States, shall be eight cents per single rate of half an ounce or under on letters, and two cents on each newspaper or price current.

Rates of post-  
age upon letters,  
newspapers, &c.

No postal accounts shall be kept between the respective postal departments upon the correspondence exchanged between them under this arrangement, but each department shall deliver the correspondence which it receives from the other free of all postage charge, that is to say, the Hong Kong post department agrees to deliver without charge all letters, newspapers, and prices current, brought by the United States mail packets, addressed to Hong Kong, and, also, to forward without charge all such letters, newspapers, &c., as are addressed to the Chinese ports above named, south of Shanghai; and the United States postal department, on its side, agrees to deliver without charge all letters, newspapers, &c., originating in Hong Kong, or the ports mentioned, and forwarded by said packets addressed to and deliverable in the United States. All letters, newspapers, &c., despatched by either office to the other, under this arrangement, shall be plainly stamped with the words "paid all," in red ink, on the right-hand upper corner of the face of the address, and shall also bear the stamp of the mailing exchange office on their face, and that of the receiving exchange office on their back.

No postal ac-  
counts to be  
kept.

Letters, &c. to  
be stamped  
"paid all."

ARTICLE IV. The postal departments of the United States and of Hong Kong shall each return to the other, monthly, or as frequently as

Letters, &c.  
not delivered to

be returned  
monthly.

Exchange of  
mails between  
Japan and Hong  
Kong.

Letters from  
Hong Kong to  
the United States  
via San Francis-  
co.

Regulations,  
and how termi-  
nable.

When conven-  
tion to take ef-  
fect.

their regulations will allow, all letters, newspapers, &c., without claim, which cannot for any cause be delivered.

ARTICLE V. An exchange of mails shall also take place between the United States postal agency at Yokohama, Japan, and the Hong Kong Post Office, by means of United States mail packets, comprising correspondence originating in Japan and addressed to Hong Kong and the Chinese ports above designated, and vice versa, correspondence originating in Hong Kong and dependent Chinese ports and addressed to Japan, subject to the same terms and conditions as those established by Article III. of this convention, with respect to the correspondence exchanged between the United States and Hong Kong and dependent Chinese ports.

ARTICLE VI. All letters, newspapers, and prices current intended to be forwarded from Hong Kong to the United States by the direct line of United States mail packets running between San Francisco and Hong Kong must be specially addressed to be forwarded by that route.

ARTICLE VII. The two postal departments may by mutual consent make such detailed regulations as shall be found necessary to carry out the objects of this arrangement, such regulations to be terminable at any time on a reasonable notice by either office.

ARTICLE VIII. This convention shall come into operation the first day of November, 1867, and shall be terminable at any time on a notice by either office of six months.

In witness whereof, I have hereto set my hand and the seal of  
[L. s.] the Post Office Department this twelfth day of November, 1867.

ALEX. W. RANDALL,  
*Postmaster-General.*

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the colony of Hong Kong, at Victoria herein, this tenth day of August, 1867.

[L. s.] RICHARD GRAVES MAC DONNELL,  
*Governor and Commander-in-Chief.*

Approved.

I hereby approve the foregoing convention, and in testimony  
[L. s.] thereof I have caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

By the President: ANDREW JOHNSON.  
WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *Secretary of State.*

WASHINGTON, November 12, 1867.

*Postal Convention between the United States of America and the Empire of Brazil: Signed at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on the 14th day of March, 1870; Approved by the President of the United States on the 9th day of May, 1870.* March 14, 1870

THE United States of America and his Majesty the Emperor of Brazil being desirous to promote the friendly relations existing between their respective citizens and subjects, by placing the communications by post between the two countries upon an advantageous footing, have resolved to conclude a convention for this purpose, and have named as their plenipotentiaries, — that is to say :

The President of the United States, Henry T. Blow, a citizen of the United States, their Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary near the court of his Imperial Majesty ;

His Majesty the Emperor of Brazil, the most illustrious and most excellent João Mauricio Wanderley, Baron de Cotegipe, Senator and Grandee of the Empire, member of his council, commander of his Order of the Rose, Minister and Secretary of State for the Marine Department in charge of the foreign affairs, &c. ; who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following articles :—

ARTICLE I. An exchange of correspondence shall hereafter take place between the United States of America and the Empire of Brazil by means of the line of mail packets, subsidized by the respective governments, plying monthly between the port of New York and the ports of St. Thomas, in the West Indies, and Pará, Pernambuco, Bahia, Rio de Janeiro, in Brazil, as well as by such other means of transportation between the seaports of the two countries as shall hereafter be established with the approval of the respective Post Departments of the United States and Brazil ; and this correspondence shall embrace —

1st. Letters and manuscripts subject by the laws of either country to letter rate of postage.

2d. Newspapers and prints of all kinds, in sheets, in pamphlets, and in books, sheets of music, engravings, lithographs, photographs, drawings, maps, and plans ; 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 they may respectively serve as intermediaries.

ARTICLE II. New York shall be the office of exchange on the side of the United States, and Pará, Bahia, Pernambuco, and Rio de Janeiro shall be the offices of exchange on the side of Brazil for all mails transmitted between the two countries under this arrangement, and all mail matter transmitted in either direction between the respective offices of exchange shall be forwarded in closed bags or pouches under seal, addressed to the corresponding exchange office.

The two Post Departments may at any time discontinue either of said offices of exchange or establish others.

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

1st. For letters or manuscript subject by law to letter rate of postage, 15 grammes.

2d. For all other correspondence mentioned in the second paragraph of the first article, that which each department shall adopt for the mails which

Correspond-  
ence to be ex-  
changed ;

to include  
what.

Offices of ex-  
change.

Rates of post-  
age, &c.