



**Art. 1.** There shall be an exchange of correspondence between the United Kingdoms of Sweden and Norway and the United States of America. This exchange of correspondence shall embrace: 1. Letters, ordinary and registered. 2. Newspapers, books, prints of all kinds (comprising maps, plans, engravings, drawings, photographs, lithographs, and all other like productions of mechanical processes, sheets of music etc.), and patterns or samples of merchandise, including grains and seeds. Such correspondence shall be exchanged whether originating in either of the United Kingdoms and destined for the United States or vice-versâ — or originating in or destined for such foreign countries to which the contracting countries may serve as intermediaries.

**Art. 2.** The offices for the exchange of mails shall be: on the part of Sweden, 1. Göteborg, 2. The Travelling Post Office N:o 1. between Göteborg and Stockholm, 3. The Travelling Post Office N:o 2. between Malmö and Falköping. On the part of Norway, 1. Christianssand, 2. Christiania, 3. the sea post office on the steamboat line between Hammerfest and Hamburg; and on the part of the United States, 1. New York, 2. Chicago.

The respective Postal Administrations are authorized, if circumstances should require it, to discontinue any of the offices designated for the exchange of mails or to establish others in their place.

**Art. 3.** The Post Offices of Sweden and Norway shall make their own arrangements for the despatch of mails to the United States, and in like manner the Post Office of the United States shall make arrangements for the despatch of mails to Sweden and Norway. The mails shall be forwarded by regular routes of communication, and each office shall, at its own cost, pay the expense of the intermediate transportation (sea and territorial) of the mails which it despatches to the other country. It is agreed that the cost of the international, ocean and territorial transit of closed mails exchanged in either direction between the frontiers of the respective countries shall be first defrayed by that one of the offices which shall have obtained from the Post Offices of the intermediary countries the most favorable

terms for such conveyance, and any amount so advanced by one office, for and on account of the other, shall be promptly re-imbursed.

**Art. 4.** The standard weight for the single rate of postage shall be:

1. For letters 15 grammes.

2. For all other correspondence mentioned in the second paragraph of the first article, that which each office adopts for the mails which it despatches to the other, adapted to the regulations prescribed for such correspondence in the despatching country. Each office shall however give notice to the other of the standard weight it adopts and of any subsequent change thereof.

The rule of progression shall be an additional single rate for each additional single weight or fraction thereof.

The weight stated by the despatching office shall always be accepted, except in the case of manifest error.

**Art. 5.** The single rate of postage for letter correspondence exchanged in direct mails between either of the United Kingdoms and the United States shall be:

I. By closed mail viâ England, without regard to the forwarding of the correspondence, whether to or from a Swedish or Norwegian sea-port or through Germany.

1. For letters from Sweden for the United States,

a) when prepaid in Sweden, 36 öre.

b) when paid in the United States, 14 cents.

2. For letters from the United States for Sweden,

a) when prepaid in the United States, 9 cents.

b) when paid in Sweden, 56 öre.

3. For letters from Norway for the United States,

a) when prepaid in Norway, 12 skilling.

b) when paid in the United States, 15 cents.

4. For letters from the United States for Norway,

a) when prepaid in the United States, 10 cents.

b) when paid in Norway, 18 skilling.

II. By direct regular steamship communication between ports in the United Kingdoms, whether the port be Swedish or Norwegian, on the one side, and ports in the United States on the other side.

1. For letters from Sweden for the United States,
  - a) when prepaid in Sweden, 24 öre.
  - b) when paid in the United States, 9 cents.
2. For letters from the United States for Sweden,
  - a) when prepaid in the United States, 6 cents.
  - b) when paid in Sweden, 36 öre.
3. For letters from Norway for the United States,
  - a) when prepaid in Norway, 7 skilling.
  - b) when paid in the United States, 9 cents.
4. For letters from the United States for Norway,
  - a) when prepaid in the United States, 6 cents.
  - b) when paid in Norway, 10 skilling.

Insufficiently prepaid letters shall be charged with the postage for unpaid letters, after deducting the prepaid amount.

On all other correspondence mentioned in the second paragraph of the first article, the rate shall be for the mails despatched, by either route, that which the despatching office shall adopt, adapted to the regulations prescribed for such correspondence in the despatching country. But each office shall give notice to the other of the rate it adopts and of any subsequent change thereof.

**Art. 6.** The Atlantic sea rate on the correspondence, sent in closed mails through England, shall not exceed 6 cents per ounce for letter mails and 6 cents per pound for other correspondence; nor shall the charge for sea-conveyance thereof between England and the United Kingdoms exceed 2 cents per single letter rate, or 6 cents per ounce net weight of letter mails, and 6 cents per pound for other correspondence.

It is also agreed that the entire cost of the sea-transportation between the boundaries of the respective countries by any direct line of steamships, adapted to the conveyance of mails and employed by the respective Post Offices, shall not exceed 2 cents for each single letter rate, or 6 cents per ounce net weight of letter mails, and 6 cents per pound of other correspondence.

It is further stipulated that the Atlantic sea-rate on the correspondence, sent in closed mails through Germany, shall

not exceed 5 cents per 30 grammes of letters and 10 cents per kilogramme of other correspondence.

It is also understood and agreed that the Norwegian Post Office shall be re-imbursed for the closed mails sent through Germany, which have been forwarded by the direct steamboat-line between Christianssand and Hamburg worked on Norwegian account, by a sum, corresponding to the Swedish and Danish rate of transit for closed mails sent through Sweden and Denmark.

**Art. 7.** Ordinary letters may be sent prepaid or unpaid, but on registered letters and on all other correspondence mentioned in the second paragraph of the first article, prepayment shall be obligatory.

**Art. 8.** Registered articles shall, in addition to the postage, be subject to a register fee of 30 öre in Sweden, of 8 skilling in Norway and of 8 cents in the United States. This fee as well as the postage shall always be prepaid. Each office is at liberty to reduce this fee for the mails it despatches.

**Art. 9.** Any correspondence may be registered, as well the international as that originating in or destined for other countries to which the Post Offices of the contracting countries may serve as intermediaries for the transmission of such registered articles.

Each office shall notify the other of the countries to which it may serve as intermediary.

**Art. 10.** The accounts on the international correspondence exchanged in either direction, shall be adjusted and settled on the following basis, viz:

#### I. between Sweden and the United States.

From the total amount of international postages and register fees for correspondence between Sweden and the United States, collected in Sweden, the Swedish Postal Administration shall deduct the amount which, without exceeding the highest rates agreed upon, has been paid for the conveyance of the mails to the frontier of the United States. From the total amount of international postages and register fees for correspondence exchanged between Sweden and the

United States, collected in the United States, the Postal Administration of the United States shall in like manner deduct the amount which, without exceeding the highest rates agreed upon, has been paid for the conveyance of the mails to the frontier of Sweden (or of Norway, in case of conveyance by direct steamship communication or through England).

Of the amount of the two net sums thus obtained, Sweden shall receive one moiety and the United States the other.

## II. between Norway and the United States.

From the total amount of the international postages and register fees for correspondence between Norway and the United States, collected in Norway, the Norwegian Postal Administration shall deduct the amount which, without exceeding the highest rates agreed upon, has been paid for the conveyance of the mails to the frontier of the United States. From the total amount of the international postages and register fees for correspondence between Norway and the United States, collected in the United States, the Postal Administration of the United States shall in like manner deduct the amount which, without exceeding the highest rates agreed upon, has been paid for the conveyance of the mails to the frontier of Norway (or of Sweden, in case of conveyance by direct steamship communication or through England).

Of the amount of the two net sums thus obtained, Norway shall receive one moiety and the United States the other.

**Art. 11.** The correspondence mentioned in the second paragraph of the first article shall be despatched under regulations to be established by the despatching office; but these shall embrace the following:

1. No packet shall contain anything which shall be closed against inspection, nor any written communication whatever, except to state from whom and to whom the packet is sent, and numbers and prices placed upon patterns or samples of merchandise.

2. No packet may exceed two feet in length or one foot in any other dimension.

3. Neither office shall be bound to deliver any article the importation of which may be prohibited by the laws or regulations of the country of destination.

4. The custom duties that may be chargeable in each of the two countries may be levied for the use of the customs.

5. Except as above no charge whatever shall be collected on the letters and other correspondence exchanged. The small local carriers fee now chargeable in Sweden may however be levied to the use of the Swedish office; and as long as a fee of 2 skilling for the delivery of poste restante letters and one of 4 skilling for letters posted after the general time for collecting the post, are chargeable in Norway, these fees may be levied to the use of the Norwegian office.

**Art. 12.** The Postal Administrations of each of the United Kingdoms and that of the United States shall establish by agreement and in conformity with the arrangements in force at the time, the conditions upon which the offices may exchange in open mails the correspondence originating in or destined for foreign countries to which they may serve as intermediaries.

It is however always understood that such correspondence shall only be charged with the rate applicable to international correspondence augmented by the postage and other taxes due to foreign postal administrations, and any other tax for exterior service.

**Art. 13.** The postal accounts between the respective offices, which according to Art. 10 are to be settled separately between Sweden and the United States and between Norway and the United States, shall be stated quarterly and transmitted and verified as speedily as practicable, and the balance found due shall be paid to the creditor office either by exchange on London or at the debtor office, as the creditor office may desire.

The rule for the conversion of the monies of the respective countries shall be established by common agreement between the respective offices.



**Art. 14.** When in a port, whether belonging to either of the United Kingdoms or to the United States, a closed mail is transferred from one vessel to another, without any expense to the office of the country where the transfer is made, such transfer shall not be subject to any charge by one office against the other.

**Art. 15.** Official communications between the respective Postal Administrations shall not be the occasion of any accounts between them.

**Art. 16.** The respective Post Offices shall by mutual consent, make detailed regulations for carrying the articles of this Convention into execution, and in like manner modify such regulations from time to time as the exigencies of the service may require.

**Art. 17.** Letters wrongly sent, wrongly addressed, or not deliverable for any cause shall be returned to the despatching office, at its expense for the return, if any expense shall be incurred. Registered articles, in the second paragraph of the first article mentioned, shall also be returned in like manner. Other articles shall be left to the disposition of the receiving office.

Any postages not collected upon the correspondence returned, but which shall have been charged against the receiving office shall be deducted from the account.

**Art. 18.** This Convention shall take effect from and on the First day of July 1873. It shall be continued in force until one year from the time when any of the Governments of the respective countries shall have given notice of its wish to terminate the same. It is to be ratified and the ratifications are to be exchanged as soon as possible.

Done in duplicate original at the City of Washington, this fifteenth day of March in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy three.

Oluf Stenersen.  
(L. S.)

Jno A. J. Creswell,  
Postmaster General.  
(L. S.)

Ratificerad i Stockholm den 16 maj 1873 och i Washington den 15 mars s. å. Ratifikationerna utvexlade i Stockholm den 26 maj 1873.

Deuxième convention additionnelle à la convention postale  
du 21 août 1867 entre la Belgique et les États-Unis de l'Amérique.

L'administration des postes de Belgique et l'office général des postes des États-Unis ayant reconnu l'opportunité d'apporter des réductions aux taxes fixées par la convention du 21 août 1867 et par la convention additionnelle du 1<sup>er</sup> mars 1870 (2), les soussignés, dûment autorisés par leurs gouvernements respectifs, sont convenus des articles suivants :

ARTICLE 1<sup>er</sup>. — Le port simple international des lettres échangées en dépêches directes par la voie de la Grande-Bretagne entre la Belgique et les États-Unis est fixé comme suit :

1<sup>o</sup> A 40 centimes pour les lettres affranchies originaires de la Belgique;

2<sup>o</sup> A 8 cents pour les lettres affranchies originaires des États-Unis.

ART. 2. — Le port simple international des lettres affranchies à acheminer par les lignes directes de bateaux à vapeur à établir entre les deux pays, conformément à l'article 6 de la convention du 21 août 1867, est fixé à 30 centimes pour les lettres expédiées de la Belgique et à 6 cents pour les lettres expédiées des États-Unis,

The postal administration of Belgium and the general post office of the United States having recognized the propriety of reducing the rates of postage fixed by the convention of 21 August 1867, and by the additional convention of 1 March 1870, the undersigned, duly authorized by their respective governments, have agreed upon the following articles :

ARTICLE 1. — The international single rate upon letters exchanged in direct mails, via Great Britain, between Belgium and the United States is fixed as follows :

1<sup>o</sup> At 40 centimes for prepaid letters originating in Belgium;

2<sup>o</sup> At 8 cents for prepaid letters originating in the United States.

ART. 2. — The international single rate for prepaid letters sent by the direct steamship lines to be established between the two countries, in conformity with article 6 of the convention of 21 August 1867, is fixed at 30 centimes for letters sent from Belgium and at 6 cents for letters sent from the United States of which 10 centimes (2 cents)