

70  
Richard Cranch Esq.  
Braineo Massachusetts

General Post Office  
Philadelphia Jan 7 1794

Sir

The Vice President has requested that a Post office may be established at Braineo. I presume it will not only prove of great convenience to him but many Gentleman & persons in business there. Tho' the Office will yield but a trifling revenue, and for the profit not be worth notice, yet its nature requires that the holder of it should be highly worthy of public trust. We therefore concluded to make a tender of it to you, hoping that the pleasure of accommodating your Neighbours, and probably some convenience to yourself respecting your Correspondence, might induce you to accept of it. If however any circumstances forbid it, I pray you to commit the papers herewith transmitted to some Gentleman conveniently situated, and agreeable to yourself & fellow citizens, who will accept of the Office. These papers will give all the requisite information for conducting the business, which may be commenced as soon as the oaths are subscribed and taken, and the bond executed. A Commission will be forwarded as soon as the bond and oaths are returned.

I am &  
your &  
J P

Sebastian Bauman Esq.

Genl Post Office  
Phil Jan 7 1794.

Sir

Your Letter of the 31 Ult: has been received. I have not charged you with the amount of the Bill on W. Goods. If you can obtain a post Note, perhaps you can purchase a bill on Philadelphia at short sight which will answer equally well — \* for the amount of it please to remit it to me and not introduce it in your account with the General Post Office — If you can obtain a post Note, perhaps you can purchase a bill on Philadelphia at short sight which will answer equally well —

P.S. I have this day drawn  
on you in favor of 103<sup>55</sup> dollars.

I am &  
yours

Wm. Augustus Reed Hutchins  
Post Master Springfield

General Post Office Jan 8 1794

I have received your letter of the 28<sup>th</sup> Ult. To determine on the removal of any person from office it is not necessary to wait for his conviction of crimes in a Court of Justice. The reasons contained in my letter to Mr. Syman, I think sufficient to justify me in placing a person in the Post Office at Springfield in your stead. Your Conclusion is right, that the same Motives will lead to a removal of others. Hence you may see grounds for acquiring in your own — I do not suppose the printers of Newspapers less virtuous than other men. It is the nature of their business which generally renders it inexpedient for them to hold the Office of Post Masters —

Till I receive <sup>your letter</sup> I did not know or suspect, that any deputy postmasters were in the practice of selling out when they were disposed to quit their offices! Such bargains are not calculated to make a favourable impression of either party.

I shall in a few days authorise a person to receive the Post Office at Springfield; and request you to get your accounts ready to be closed —

I am &  
Your &  
J P

W<sup>r</sup> Simon Spring  
Sir

General Post Office  
Philadelphia Jan 9 1794

I have received your letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> Ult: On the 22nd of November I forwarded by the Mail Post Notes in your favour for 354 Dollars and 6 Cents, which was the balance due to you for the Quarter ending the 1st of October 1793. —

Agreeably to your request I herewith enclose Post Notes in your favour amounting to Seven Hundred dollars as follows, viz:

N<sup>o</sup> 2512 for 150  
 2513 for 150  
 6256 for 100  
 6257 for 100  
 6258 for 100  
 6259 for 100

700. Dollars

The above Notes are in full of your Account to the 31 Day  
of December 1793 inclusive —

Be pleased to sign the enclosed receipt and transmit it to me —

I am &  
yours.  
C. B.

Mr. Thomas Dinkins  
Sir

General Post Office  
January 9. 1794

I have received your letter of the 4th stating the buttress  
of your office and your claims for an increase of pay. And consult  
your friend Col. Wadsworth. You are aware I observe of the difficulty  
of discrimination and it is a serious one. The discretionary power  
you refer to will probably never be lodged with the Post Master Genl.  
J. P.

Mr. Thomas Dinkins General Post Office Jan<sup>r</sup>. 10. 1794  
Sir

On the 4th of December you forwarded to  
Charleston a post bill dated Norfolk August 25<sup>th</sup> which imported to  
accompany two single Letters, and a packet weighing 3½ Ounces.  
the amount of the Bill four dollars. But when you sent the  
bill to Charleston, it was accompanied with three single letters  
only, and those had been opened. I request Sir, you will recollect  
all the circumstances respecting this Norfolk Mail, so far as  
they were known to you, that the Mischief may be traced  
to its source. You will particularly note when and in  
what Condition it came into your hands —

Such things are as disreputable to the Department  
as injurious to the individuals whose letters are detained —

I am &  
yours.  
J. P.

Mr. Benjamin Stidell  
Merchant Charleston Sir

General Post Office Jan<sup>r</sup>. 10. 1794

I have received your letter of the 16<sup>th</sup>  
relative to the detention of your Letters from Norfolk, and the  
loss of others sent in the same Mail. I am greatly obliged  
by your representation of this gross abuse of trust somewhere —  
If it be practicable to trace the mischief to its source it shall  
be done. I hope you have sustained no essential Injury  
from it

I am &  
yours.  
J. P.

Mr. Samuel Dayton  
Sir

General Post Office Jan<sup>r</sup>. 10. 1794

In your letter of October 23<sup>rd</sup> your re-  
quested the table of rates of postage might be sent you —  
They accompany this —

You mention your having for three months,  
before sent the Letters & Newspapers to Charlotte in Meck-  
lenburg. & that you <sup>had</sup> agreed to send them for one year — but  
you do not say on what terms you have so agreed —  
I shall be obliged by your informing me as soon as you can —  
Please to note the distance between Salisburg & Charlotte, and  
what places the post boy passes thro' on his two routes of go-  
ing & returning, and their distances from each other —

I am &  
yours.  
J. P.

74 Mr Robert Nicholson General Post Office Jan 9th 1794  
PM Williamburg

Sir

Your Letter of the 1st is received, with your  
last Quarters accounts -

I thank you for your attention to the security  
of the Mail, by getting a new portmanteau -

Although you are far advanced in life I deem it  
expedient to think of a Successor, yet from the tenor of your letter  
I conclude you do not mean to relinquish the post office at present  
but only wish for a provisional appointment of another person,  
to supply your place when the events you mention shall require it.  
Conceiving this to be your meaning, and desiring you to hold  
the office as long as you can conveniently attend to it. I send  
inclosed the forms of the oaths required to be taken by every person  
employed in the Department of the post office; and being taken  
by the Gentleman you recommend (Mr Joseph Ferguson) he can  
occasionally assist you in performing the duties of the office, and  
take charge of it by himself, whenever it shall be necessary.

By giving you occasional aid, he will get acquainted with the  
business before it shall devolve upon him - Truly upon your  
information, that in all other respects he is duly qualified -

I will desire my Assistant to draw very soon for the balance  
in your hands -

I am &  
your &  
T. P.

Mr Thomas Peter  
PM Cabin point

Sir

Carter Harrison Esq<sup>r</sup> has just informed me  
that a letter which he sent from Philadelphia on the 3d of  
December did not reach the person to whom it was directed  
till near the close of that month. It should have arrived in less  
than half the time at your office - It was apparent that it had  
been opened - Be so good as to inform me what you know about  
this Letter - when it came to your office and under what circumstances

I am &  
T. P.

General Post Office Jan 10. 1794

The Rev<sup>r</sup> Ephraim Ward  
Brookfield Massachusetts

D<sup>r</sup> Sir

General Post Office Jan 10. 1794

Mr Foster two days since handed me  
your Letter of the 19th ult: advising the establishment of a  
post office at Brookfield - Seeing it will occasion no detention  
of the Mail. I cannot object to it, though at Offices in such places  
where there are but very few persons engaged in trading business.  
I have observed that the number of Letters received is trifling -

I asked Mr Foster if you would take the trouble of the  
Office? he could not tell. It is important to have faithful men in  
the small as well as the large post offices. There is one postmaster  
in New Jersey of your profession: and as it will concenter a  
variety of Intelligence it may afford you some amusement -

If it would not be convenient to you to take the office, you will  
oblige me by recommending an honest and careful man who will  
accept of it, and who lives near the house where the Mail  
Carriage usually stops -

I am &  
your &  
T. P.

Mr Thomas Sumpter Jun<sup>r</sup> General Post Office Jan 10. 1794

Sir

Agreeably to your request I herewith enclose  
Post Notes in your favour as follows - viz

N 5014 for	200
5015 for	200
6264 for	100
6265 for	100
2528 for	180
	780

The above Notes amounting to Seven hundred and Eighty dollars  
with three hundred being the amount of your draft in favor of  
Mr Ashe is in full of your pay from Jan 1. to October 1. 1793  
By next Mail I shall forward to Mr Bacot Cash to enable him  
to take up my draft on him in your favor for 300 dollars -

I am &  
your &  
T. P.

76 W<sup>r</sup> Anthony Starwell General Post Office Jan<sup>r</sup> 7. 1794  
Bennington  
Sir

After the transmission of Orders for paying your Quarters dues to the 1st of October, Mr<sup>r</sup> Bainbridge, letter founder presented your draft in his favour. As nothing was then due, the draught could not be paid with propriety. But as he said it was not his practice to send away his types without payment, and lest the approaching frost should close the North River & prevent your receiving the types till next Spring I begged him to ship them immediately, & I would be responsible for the payment. He readily consented, & I hope you have long since received them. Lately he presented the same draught which I have paid.

How do your riders now perform between Bennington & Rutland - and between Rutland & Burlington? It seems that we are to have no British mails to carry this winter

I am &c.  
Your &c.  
J.P.

Mr<sup>r</sup> Samuel Green  
Postm<sup>r</sup> Annapolis Sir

General Post Office  
Phil<sup>a</sup> January 10. 1794

As the nett proceeds of your Office is not sufficient to pay Mr<sup>r</sup> Cleaver Davis, I herewith enclose Baltimore Branch Bank Notes endorsed in your favor for Ninety dollars which be pleased to pass to the Credit of the General Post Office.

I shall draw on you in a few days in favor of Mr<sup>r</sup> Davis for the amount of his last Quarters pay.

I am &c.  
Your &c.  
C B

Alexander Turnball Esquire General Post Office  
Sir Phil<sup>a</sup> January 10. 1794

Therewith enclose Baltimore Bank Notes amounting to Sixty five dollars, which please to pay to Mr<sup>r</sup> Henry Storffer together with the enclosed draft on you, in

his favor for Seven dollars and Fifty cents and transmit me his receipt for the same.

I am &c.  
Your &c.  
C B

Mr<sup>r</sup> William R. Curtis  
Sir

General Post Office  
Philadelphia Jan<sup>r</sup> 11. 1794

I now acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 12th October, with your accounts and Six dollars and Seventy one cents. Your accounts for the Quarter ending July 1<sup>st</sup> 1793 with Six dollars and Fifty eight cents have also been received and the money placed to your credit in the Books of this office.

I am &c.  
Your &c.  
C B

Mr<sup>r</sup> John Griffith  
Sir

General Post Office  
Phila. Jan<sup>r</sup> 11. 1794

Your letter of the 18<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>r</sup> with your accounts and Six Dollars & Fifty six Cents came duly to hand.

On the 31<sup>st</sup> July last, received Six dollars and twenty five Cents from you which I acknowledged not long after it was received.

I am &c.  
Your &c.  
C B

Mr<sup>r</sup> Miles McCarty  
Sir

General Post Office  
Phil<sup>a</sup> Jan<sup>r</sup> 11. 1794-

I now acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24 Ult<sup>r</sup> with your accounts and eleven dollars and eight Cents which sum is placed to your credit in this office. With this you will receive some blanks for letters received and sent, also quarterly accounts.

I am &c.  
Your &c.  
C B

78 W<sup>r</sup> Anthony Harwell  
Sir,

General Post Office  
Phil<sup>a</sup> Jan<sup>11</sup> 1794

Your letter of the 1 Instant requesting  
that a draft may be sent to you for your last Quarters pay, has  
been received — Your draft of the 1st October 1793 in favor of Mr.  
John Bain for 122 dollars, has been presented and paid —

Nathaniel Fellows one of your Riders has also received of  
Mr. Frederick Hill 5 dollars the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 1793 which has  
not been charged to you until lately — By our Books you have  
only five dollars and 50 cents due on your account to the  
1<sup>st</sup> January 1794 for which sum I herewith enclose a draft  
in your favor on the postmaster at Pennington —

I am &  
yours  
C. B.

W<sup>r</sup> Cyrus D. Hart  
Sir,

General Post Office  
Phil<sup>a</sup> Dec<sup>24</sup> 1793

I herewith enclose two drafts drawn by  
Ashbel Ely on you in favor of the Postmaster General as follows:  
One dated Jan<sup>1</sup> 1793 for 22.  $\frac{94}{100}$

D<sup>o</sup> July 4 D<sup>o</sup> 28.  $\frac{4}{100}$   
 $\underline{50.28}$

You will please to accept these drafts and return them to me that  
I may place them to the credit of Mr. Ely and to your debit

I am &  
yours  
C. B.

W<sup>r</sup> Nicholas Power  
Sir,

General Post Office  
Philad<sup>a</sup> Jan<sup>13</sup> 1794

Your letter of the 3 Instant has been received  
and agreeably to your request I herewith enclose a copy of our statement  
of your last account rendered, by which you will see the letters  
remaining on hand the 1 July 1793 amounted to 9  $\frac{14}{100}$  dollars —

On the examination of your account errors were discovered which  
increased the balance 68 cents more than you had stated it.

I am &  
yours  
C. B.

W<sup>r</sup> Thomas Glostier  
P.M. Warrington  
Sir,

General Post Office Phil<sup>a</sup> Jan<sup>14</sup> 1794

accounts is received —

It is probable that Col<sup>r</sup>. Hawkins may receive for his  
brother John, one or two Quarters pay for carrying the mail, when  
your balance may be comprehended — In future, you may retain  
your balances until drawn for. This it will be convenient for us to  
do, in favour of the Contractor for carrying the mail on your  
route

I am &  
yours  
C. B.

Thomas W. Bacot Esq.  
Sir,

General Post Office  
Philadelphia Jan<sup>13</sup> 1794

I herewith enclose Post Notes of the Bank  
of the United States in your favour for 360 Dollars as follows

N <sup>o</sup> 6266 for	100
6267 - for	100
6268 - for	100
2548 for	60

I also enclose a draft in your favor on the postmaster at Georgetown  
for one hundred and eighty five dollars and Seventy nine Cents —

W<sup>r</sup> Thomas Sumpter jun<sup>r</sup> will present my draft on you date  
in May last for 360 dollars which please to pay and forward me  
his receipt —

Should you want a further supply of money to enable you to  
settle with those persons who made the contract with you, please  
to inform me and I will send it immediately —

W<sup>r</sup> Furnival has paid to Madam Lachois Forty Dollars for which  
I have her receipt — As I think it probable her distressed situation  
may require more than was contemplated by you at the time of  
writing your letter, please to inform me how far you would  
wish W<sup>r</sup> Furnival to advance —

I am &  
yours  
C. B.

80 Elihu C. Goodrich Esq.  
Claverace Sir

General Post Office Jan<sup>r</sup> 14. 1794.

Mr. Gelston is in want of blanks - Be pleased  
to deliver to him what remain in your hands - He will also present  
you an order for the balance of your account

I am &

Your O<sup>r</sup>  
T. P.

Mr. Cotton Gelston

General Post Office Jan<sup>r</sup> 14. 1794

Sir,

Your Letter of the 1<sup>st</sup> with your accounts  
are received - The blanks wanted shall be sent you - Those remain-  
ing with Mr. Goodrich at Claverace will also be delivered on  
your application - I have also to request the favour of you to receive  
of Mr. Goodrich the balance which remains in his hands, and  
keep it with your own balances subject to order -

I should choose to have copies of the accounts of letters connected  
with Mr. Postivich's line -

I have suggested to the Committee of Congress the expediency  
of turning the post from Stockbridge directly to Hudson, instead  
of Kinderhook

The order for the balance in Mr. Goodrich's hand  
is enclosed -

I am &

Your O<sup>r</sup>  
T. P.

Mr. Paul Woolfolk  
PM Hanover Court house Sir

General Post Office Jan<sup>r</sup> 14. 1794

Your Letter of the 6<sup>th</sup> is arrived, advising  
of your intended removal from Hanover Court house, and  
recommending Mr. Paul Philman to succeed you -

Relying on your recommendation, I now enclose a bond and  
the forms of the oaths to be executed and taken - You will be  
good as to see the bond executed with sufficient securities -

On the return of the bond and oaths, a commission with a  
corresponding date will be sent to Mr. Philman - Please  
to fill up the blanks in the bond prior to its execution -

Blanks will be forwarded as you request -

I am &  
Your O<sup>r</sup>  
T. P.

W<sup>r</sup> Asa Chadwick  
Sir

Genl Post Office  
Phil<sup>d</sup> Jan<sup>r</sup> 14. 1794

I herewith enclose a draft in your favour on  
Col. Bauman for Fifty dollars which is the sum due to you  
for the carriage of the mail to the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1794 -

I am &  
Your O<sup>r</sup>  
C. B.

Mr. Robert M<sup>c</sup> Whorter  
Sir

General Post Office  
Philadelphia Jan<sup>r</sup> 14. 1794

I herewith enclose a draft in your favor  
on the postmaster at Wilmington for 66<sup>50</sup> Dollars which is the  
sum due to you for the carriage of the mail for the last quarter  
ending Jan<sup>r</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> 1794

I am &  
Your O<sup>r</sup>  
C. B.

Mr. John Harrison  
Sir

General Post Office  
Phil<sup>d</sup> Jan<sup>r</sup> 14. 1794

Your letter of the 11<sup>th</sup> instant with your  
accounts and Seventy dollars has been received and the money  
placed to your credit in the books of this office

I am &  
Your O<sup>r</sup>  
C. B.

P.S. With this you will  
receive 200 Sheets Postm<sup>r</sup>  
Bills -

Mr. Edward Archer  
PM Norfolk Sir

General Post Office Jan<sup>r</sup> 14. 1794

Your letter of December 30<sup>th</sup> with your  
accounts of the Quarter ending September 30<sup>th</sup> has been received -  
If this were a single instance of delay I should not notice it:  
but as your accounts has frequently been in arrear, I must desire  
you to forward them more promptly in future - The nature  
of Post Office accounts admits of closing them quarterly, with perfect  
punctuality. I trust you will in a few days forward the accounts  
of the last quarter -

I am &  
Your O<sup>r</sup>  
T. P.

Alexander Campbell Esq

General Post Office  
Philadelphia Jan<sup>r</sup> 16. 1794

Sir,

On the 3d of January, 1792, I wrote you an answer to yours of Dec<sup>r</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> 1791 respecting the debt due from W<sup>m</sup> James Hayes late post master at Richmond. A copy of my answer is inclosed. Not hearing from you, I again wrote to enquire what had been done - Two years have now elapsed, & I have received no answer.

I beg you to favour me with immediate information on the subject. Your solicitude to have the business closed, and the readiness professed on the part of W<sup>m</sup> Hayes to give effectual security for the payment, authorize me to hope that by this time you have received two Instalments -

I am &

Your &

T.D.

Post Master General

Mr Anthony Moore

Sir,

General Post Office  
Phil<sup>a</sup> Jan<sup>r</sup> 15. 1794

I have received your letter of the 9 Inst and agreeably to your request, herewith enclose a draft on the Postmaster at Alexandria for One hundred and sixteen dollars and fifty seven Cents, which is the sum due to you for the carriage of the Mail to the 31 day of December inclusive

I am &

Your &  
C.B.

Mr William Bawcutt

Sir,

General Post Office  
Phil<sup>a</sup> Jan<sup>r</sup> 16. 1794

Your letter of the 6 Instant has been received. I now enclose a draft in your favor on the postmaster at Alexandria for one hundred and four dollars and 17 Cents which is the amount of your last quarters pay.

I am &  
Your &  
C.B.

W. Otis Silsby

Sir,

General Post Office  
Philadelphia Jan<sup>r</sup> 16. 1794

I herewith enclose a draft in your favour on the postmaster Portsmouth for seventy eight dollars which is the amount of your last quarters pay

I am &  
your &  
C.B.

Mr Robert Rochester

Sir,

General Post Office Jan<sup>r</sup> 15. 1794

I have received your bond and oaths, and now inclose your Commission of postmaster for Hagerstown

The twenty two dollars, 38 cents transmitted by your Uncle as the balance of his accounts came safe to hand

I am &

Your &  
S.P.

Mr Cleaver Davis

Sir,

Genl. Post Office  
Phil<sup>a</sup> Jan<sup>r</sup> 15. 1794

I now enclose a draft in your favor on the Postmaster at Annapolis for two hundred and twenty three dollars and Seventy seven Cents, which is the balance due on your account as Contractor to the 1 January 1794. I herewith enclose a Statement of your account by which you will observe that I have charged you with the balance due on your account as postmaster to the 1 July 1793. —

I am &  
your &  
C.B.

James Arthur p.m. Chestertown

Genl P.O. Jan<sup>r</sup> 16. 1794.

Sir, Your letter of yesterday expresses your consent to take the post office at Chestertown. I now inclose a commission, with a bond & the forms of the oaths the two latter you will return when executed.

I am & T.D.

W<sup>A</sup> M<sup>r</sup>. Christopher Collins

General Post Office Jan<sup>r</sup> 16 1794

Sir

I duly received your letter of Dec<sup>r</sup> 7<sup>th</sup>  
which I answered the 21<sup>st</sup>. enclosing papers for the qualification  
of Benjamin Grayson our to succeed you in the post office at  
Kinsale, agreeably to your recommendation —

Your letter of the first instant has been received,  
when my letter of Dec<sup>r</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> appears not to have reached you.  
If my letter should not arrive, Mr<sup>r</sup> Orr may take charge of  
the office as soon as he has taken the oaths prescribed by law, and  
you are pleased to commit the same to him.

Yours  
F. P.

W<sup>r</sup> Levy Hillary  
P.M. Frederichtown

General Post Office Jan<sup>r</sup> 15 1794

Sir

I have received your letter of the first  
instant with your account & balance of twenty one dollars 38 cents.

Should you quit Frederichtown in the spring,  
William Murdoch Beall Esquire, whom you recommended,  
may succeed you — Till then no appointment need be made.

But as the time of your removal is not absolutely fixed, I  
now enclose a bond and forms of oaths, to be executed and taken  
whenever you relinquish the office; and when returned to the  
General post office, a commission with a date corresponding  
with that you affix to the bond, will be sent to Mr<sup>r</sup> Beal —

I will note your name as a candidate for the post office at  
the Federal City. But do not think it proper to say more until  
the establishment shall take place —

I am &  
Your O.  
F. P.

W<sup>r</sup> John Hamm

General Post Office Jan<sup>r</sup> 15 1794

Sir I have received your bond & oaths, and now inclose  
your commission of Postmaster at Elston: and am &

Yours  
F. P.

John Lovett Esq<sup>r</sup>  
P.M. Lansingburg Sir

General Post Office Jan<sup>r</sup> 17 1794

Your letter of the 25<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>r</sup> was received  
in due time, but I was too much occupied to give it an immediate consideration —

The inconvenience your townsmen must feel at the detention  
of their mail at Albany from Saturday night till the next  
Thursday Morning, is obvious; and I am willing to afford a  
remedy if it can be done on moderate terms —

The fact with respect to your printer is doubtful thus  
that whether he brings you the mail from Albany or not,  
he will always send further on Saturday to obtain the New  
papers, for the benefit of his own press. Now six or seven shillings  
go<sup>r</sup> per week — that is for each sloop. I should imagine equal to  
the entire expence of it; and perhaps would surmount the  
average value of every mail he should carry —

The printer has I presume provided for the bringing up of his newspapers in the most economical manner,  
and if the real expence of the carriage be divided between us  
ought he not to be satisfied? To this I will chearfully agree,  
by way of Experiment, and not at present as a permanent  
Establishment —

If I have mistaken any fact, you will be so good as  
to inform me, and may expect an immediate answer —

I am &  
Your O.  
F. P.

W<sup>r</sup> Joseph Burnard  
Sir

General Post Office  
Phil<sup>a</sup> Jan<sup>r</sup> 16 1794

Therewith inclose two drafts in your  
favor, one on Mr<sup>r</sup> Libbey for 109  $\frac{1}{2}$  Dollars and the other on  
Mr<sup>r</sup> Daniel Swall for 15  $\frac{5}{10}$  Dollars making together 125  
dollars — I wish you to send me an account of the several sums  
that you have received for the carriage of the mail for the last  
year and from whom you received them. I am &  
Yours

86 W<sup>r</sup> John Carter  
Providence Sir.

General Post Office Jan<sup>r</sup>. 16. 1794

You long since gave me reason to expect your post office accounts. Near ten months ago I repeated my request to have them transmitted; but they are yet detained. The nature of post office accounts admits prompt and regular settlements. I know not nor can I imagine why yours are kept back - after waiting so long and respecting my calls for them, you must excuse me for now assuring you that this will be the last -

I am &  
yours  
T. P.  
Postmaster General

W<sup>r</sup> John Griffith  
PM Bridgetown  
East N Jersey Sir

General Post Office Jan<sup>r</sup>. 15. 1794

Your letter of yesterday is received, and as soon as may be your account shall be stated for a final settlement -

You mention your intended removal from Jersey, and desire a successor may be appointed -

As the route thro' Bridgetown occasions a deviation from the most direct road between Philadelphia & New York, and the hour of passing Bridgetown is suggested to be inconvenient to the post master, and consequently sometimes causes a detention of the post rider, Mr. Grumman has urged the expediency of leaving Bridgetown out of the line altogether.

I should be glad of your sentiments on the subject after a previous consultation with the principal inhabitants -

The great importance of dispatch to the two extremes of this road (Phil<sup>s</sup> & N York) may require an omission of some intermediate posts of small moments in case they produce a detention of the mail. On the receipt of your answer a speedy decision will be made. I am &

Col<sup>r</sup> John Wilson  
Brunswick Sirs  
New Jersey

General Post Office Jan<sup>r</sup>. 16. 1794

I have formerly troubled you about a person suitable to keep the post office at Brunswick - W<sup>r</sup> Keenan was recommended - With much difficulty some accounts were obtained of him - others are yet in arrear. I lately wrote him for the last time desiring a transmission of his account. - They do not come - I must remove and wish his place may be supplied by a man of some punctuality and who will be agreeable to you and other principal persons in business at Brunswick -

Will you have the goodness to enquire for a fit man to take the office, and when found and willing to accept of it, let me know his name?

I hope you will excuse me for repeatedly troubling you in this business. If I was on the spot, I should be obliged to make the same enquiry & request which I now do by letter -

I am &  
yours  
T. P.

Jeremiah Libby Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Sir

General Post Office Jan<sup>r</sup>. 14. 1794

Your Letter of the 2d and your account are received -

No state officers have a right to frank letters. The packet from Massachusetts was therefore rightly charged

I have been much embarrassed about the compensation to postmasters. The restoration of the privilege of franking would gratify most of them. I know it will operate unequally; and that consideration induced me to suggest the mode of compensation provided in the existing law -

But that also has produced its difficulties. Whatever limitations are provided, within which compensation may be granted made, unless the postmaster general

in his allowances, goes to the utmost extent, dissatisfaction will ensue: for every postmaster will think his services equal to the highest admirable reward —

I have often thought on your claim for an increased compensation. To the Committee of the last house I mentioned the reasonableness of discriminations; but how to effect it was the difficulty. To the present Committee I have stated one case that of the postmasters between Philadelphia and New York, some of whom are obliged to turn out of bed six nights out of seven, to receive and dispatch the mail — To this may be added the cases of postmasters in central situations, from which divers postroads diverge, and whom it may be necessary to employ occasionally as agents of the General post office, — and of those at Seaports, who receive and forward many mails of Ship Letters without receiving equal numbers in return —

About a week before the receipt of your letter, I had proposed to Mr. N. Gilman, that the rider from Exeter to Hampton Falls should have two pairs of locked saddlebags. That one should be sent to Newburyport, where the post master should put into all the Exeter Mails — This pair the portsmouth Stage should leave at Hampton Falls — not to be opened — but delivered to the Exeter rider, who would come there with the second pair of bags, containing the Exeter Mail going southward, & which the portsmouth stage would take to the Office at Newburyport, where the post master would open it & forward such as were destined beyond his office.

M<sup>r</sup>. Gilman approved this plan, and said he would write to one of his brothers to have it put in execution — It corresponds with the idea suggested in your letter —

There has been no further discovery respecting the mail from your office of Oct<sup>7</sup> for New York — The postmaster at Springfield will shortly be removed. He has notice of it — other causes induced the measure

I should hope that he was incapable of the criminal act referred to. His Correspondence with you is remarkable; and he ventures to assert one thing which is not true, viz — that no mail directed to any other office, was ever opened at his this he presumes to say in his letter to you of November 23<sup>d</sup>. Yet three days after (Nov 26<sup>th</sup>) in his letter to me he confesses that he has opened the Stockbridge mail & taken out letters! This letter to me was to apologize for the act for which I had reproved him: and his apology was, that tho' he was sensible it was not agreeable to his instructions, the importunity of M<sup>r</sup>. Sedgwick (who was of Stockbridge) prevailed upon him to do it —

Some blanks will be sent you today. The cost of postmaster bill, here, of such paper as you see them printed on, is half a dollar a quire — Perhaps you may get them done cheaper, and thus conveniently supply not only your own office but the others in your State and neighbourhood —

Please to advise me on the subject. Probably I shall reduce the form before any more are printed.

I remain &  
Yours  
J. P.

W<sup>r</sup>. Loring Andrews  
Sir

General Post Office Jan<sup>r</sup> 17. 1794

I did not acknowledge the receipt of your letter of Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>. relative to the misconduct of James R. Hutchins, the postmaster at Springfield, in opening contrary to standing Instructions, a mail directed to you; tho' I wrote him, manifesting my displeasure — I have since upon other complaints, determined to remove him, of which I have already given him Notice —

There are objections applying to printers generally against their holding post offices: but the situation and con-