

Mr. Jacob Lash

General Post Office
Trenton Septem^r. 28. 1797

Sir,

You will receive inclosed the Counter part of your Brothers Contract from Bethania to Wyeths Court House — You may supply the Contractor for that Route with a pair of Saddle Bags for the Mail and charge the expence thereof in your Account of Contingent Expences. I have no Locks for the Mail or I would send you one

I am &c I H

Robert Patton Esq.

September 28, 1797

Sir

I enclose for you a letter from a Mr. Schaacke of Pittsfield complaining that mails for that place are made up at your Office only once a week — after the first of October next the mail will be carried to Pittsfield three times a week from May first to November first and twice a week from November first to May first. the proper days for making up the Mails during the first period will be Monday Wednesday & Friday & for the second Tuesday and Saturday —

I am &c I H

Mr. William Schaacke

Sep. 28, 1797

Sir

The Post Master of Philadelphia is inform'd that the Mail on the new route from New York to Vermont will hereafter be sent three times a week in Summer and twice

a week in Winter

This is the most expeditious Route for the Pittsfield Mail and I hope in future you will receive your newspapers with the necessary regularity through that Channel

I am &c I H

Isaiah Thomas Esq.

September 28, 1797

Sir

My Objection to the Schedule which you suggested for Mr. Towers's Contract was founded on a supposition that he resided in Worcester — As this is not the case you will be pleased to alter Mr. Towers's Schedule in the manner you propose

I am &c I H

Samuel Mathis Esq.

September 29th. 1797

Sir

I was lately favored with yours of the 9th Instant relative to the establishment of an Office at Lancaster Court House — I am sorry to find that the Papers for the new Office, which I think were sent to the care of Mr. Dinkins, had not been received, and that it was inconvenient for the person to whom I sent the appointment to hold the Office — I had previously to the receipt of your Letter concluded to trouble Mr. Chesnut with another set of Papers as he was so good as to say he would take charge of them and fix upon a proper character for the Office —

I am much chagrined at the

the frequent failures that certainly happen to the Northward of Camden; to this ^{cause} alone must be attributed the accumulation of Newspapers at that Office - I can have no Idea of the present provision for the conveyance of the Mail, between Camden and Charleston, being insufficient for that purpose; if the Contractors were regular in performing their stipulations with the Public; and while they are not so. No provision that can be made, having that regard to the productiveness of the Route which the Law requires, will ensure a regular conveyance of that Mail - My Endeavours to introduce Punctuality in the Transportation of the Mail in the Southern States have not been seconded by those to whom that important Business is entrusted, and the Contractors are at such a distance that their failures cannot always be ascertained in such a manner as is necessary to charge them with the penalties they incur on such Occasions -

James I. H.

Mr. Reuben Bacon

Trenton 29th Sep. 1797

Sir

At the time I received your first Letter, which you wrote me upon your Return from Rhode Island, we were moving the Office from Philadelphia to this place, which necessarily occasioned a good deal of confusion, and will account for the delay that has happened in my replying to it.

I now enclose you a Bond & Contract for the Routes in the neighbourhood of New Port and I shall rely on your using every diligence in commencing the Conveyance of the mail on them as Mr. Mumford's time has already expired, but as you say your riders are prepared to enter upon the

business I hope the public will suffer little or no inconvenience from your receiving the papers at so late a period - Upon a calculation of the expence which would attend the conveyance of the mail from Providence to Newport three times a week, made when the Contract was offered to you, ^{and} which was estimated at Three Hundred and forty eight ^{dollars}, a liberal Compensation was left at Twelve Hundred and forty dollars a year for the other Routes - I am therefore in hopes you will have a good Contract for the three Routes as the Compensation I can assure you is considerably above the common average rate for similar services throughout the United States.

James I. H.

I will write to the Post Masters at New London New Port and Providence to deliver the mail to yourself or any person properly authorized by you to receive it -

Moses Austin Esq.

Sept. 30th 1797

Sir

By this Post I send Mr. James Austin the necessary papers for establishing an Office at Austinville. When the Bond and Oaths are regularly executed he will be pleased to return them to the General Post Office and I will send him a Commission -

Your proposal for the route from Bethania to Wythe court house came too late as I had previous notice to the receipt of it contracted with Mr. Lash of Bethania to carry the mail on that Route.

James I. H.

Appointed Sept. 30. 1797 Mr. James Austin Post Master at Austinville -

Wm. Wilkinson Esq.

General Post Office
Trenton Sep 30. 1797

Sir

Mr. Reuben Bacon of Stockbridge Massachusetts has contracted to carry the Mail between Newport and Providence to whom you will be pleased to deliver that mail or to any person properly authorised by him to receive it —

James I. H.

Jacob Richardson Esq.

September 30. 1797

Sir

Mr. Reuben Bacon of Stockbridge Mass. has contracted to carry the Mail on Mr. Mumfords Route to whom you will be pleased to deliver it or to any person properly authorised by Mr. Bacon to receive it —

James I. H.

Mr. Lyman Law

September 30. 1797

Sir

Mr. Reuben Bacon has contracted to carry the Mail from New London to New Port to whom you will be pleased to deliver the mail or to any person properly authorised by him to receive it —

James I. H.

Samuel Freeman Esq.

September 30. 1797

Sir

Mr. Allens appointment as Deputy Post Master of Limericks is now enclosed —
I have not heard from Mr. Paine

respecting his appointment to that Office and it is probable he may not write to me upon the subject after the conversation with you —

Mr. Allen will no doubt receive the Papers which were directed to Mr. Paine when the Office was established —

James I. H.

Messrs Stoddard & Bacon

September 30. 1797

Sirs

Inclosed you will be pleased to receive the Counterpart of your contract, from New York to Bennington, executed here — Colonel Bauman of New York will furnish your driver with a Portmantau for the Mail on that Route which is to be left at the respective Post Offices on it — Those lately established are Shaaron, Great Barrington, and Williamston —

James I. H.

Mr. Reuben Bacon

Oct. 1. 1797

Sir

Your Contract for the Routes in the Neighbourhood of New Port was enclosed under Cover of my letter of the 29th to you, which I desired Mr. Bauman to forward by the Stage for Bennington that leaves New York to morrow morning —

I now enclose you the Counterpart of your Contract from Springfield to Kinderhook executed by me
Should mine of the 29th have met

with any detention, you may send this Letter to your Agent at New London, if you do not go yourself, and the Post Masters at New London, Providence and New Port, to whom I have written upon the Subject are to consider it as a sufficient Authority for delivering the Mails for Mumfords respective Routes, to yourself or any persons properly authorised by you to receive them -

The Counterpart of the Contract from New York to Bennington is sent to Messrs Stoddard & Bacon at Pittsfield, on that Route I have established Offices at Sharon, Williamston and Great Barrington -
 James I H

Appointments of Post Masters Oct 2. 1797

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| Jeremiah Allen | in the room of James Paine removed at Limerick Me |
| Samuel Godfrey | at Ellicotts Lower Mills Maryland |
| Burr Powell | at Middleburg Va |
| Joseph Blackwell | at Fauquier C. H. d. |
| Robert Pollard | " King & Queen d. |
| William White | " Kempsville d. |
| Abner Whitney | " New Lebanon No. C. |
| Charles Grice | " Elizabeth city d. |
| David Hall | " Beaufort d. |
| Alex. Carmatt | " Swansboro d. |
| John Cornwell | " Great Bridge Va |
| Edward Doughty | " North West River Bridge Va |
| Joseph Welsh | " Stamford Kentucky |
| Walter Robinson | " White Ponds South C. |

Appointments of Post Masters Oct 2. 1797 ^{A 96}

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------------|
| Joseph Harley | Lower three Runs South C. |
| Doctor Gillet | Gilletts Mills South C. |

Alex. Farnival Esq. Oct 2. 1797

Sir

By this Convejance I send you a Letter and two Packets for Mr. Samuel Godfrey at Ellicotts lower Mills on the new Post Route. May I request the favor of you to have them forwarded to Mr. Godfrey by a safe Convejance -
 James I H

Thomas Archer Esq. Oct 3. 1797

Sir

An Office is established at King and Queen and I send a Letter and two Packets for Mr. Robert Pollard who is appointed Deputy Post Master of that Place - Will you be so good as to forward these Packets to Mr. Pollard
 James I H

Mr. Charles McMarine Oct 2. 1797

Sir

I send three Letters and six Packets for Elizabeth City, North West River and New Lebanon where I have established Post Offices and appointed Messrs Grice, Whitney and Doughty the Deputies - Pray be so good as to forward the Letters and Packets, as directed -
 James I H

William Uguhurst Esq. General Post Office
Trenton 3 Oct. 1797

Sir

I have established Post Offices at the following places on the new Post Road from Augusta to Coosahatchie viz. The White Ponds, Lower three Runs, or Harleys Bridge and Doctor Gillets Mills and appointed Messrs. Robinson Harley and Gillet the Deputy Post Masters, for whom I send by this Post three Letters and Six Packets directed to your Care.

Will you be pleased to forward the Letters and Packets as directed? —
Sam^l J. H.

Edward Archer Esq.

Oct 3. 1797

Sir

Offices are established at the Great Bridge and Hempsville on the new Route from Norfolk to Elizabeth City and by this Opportunity I have sent two Letters and four Packets for the persons appointed Deputy Post Masters at those places to whom you will be pleased to send them — Sam^l J. H.

Mr. John Schooley Jr

Oct 3. 1797

Sir

By this Post I send you 2 Letters and Four Packets for Middleburg and Fauquier Court house where Offices are established you will be pleased to forward the Letters and Packets to Messrs Powell and Blackwell by the first Opportunity that offers — and oblige yours & J. H.

Mr. Fran^z X. Martin

Oct 3. 1797

Sir

You will receive by this Conveyance two Letters and four Packets directed to Messrs. David Hall and Alex. Carmalt at Beaufort and Swansboro' — Will you be so good as to send the Letter and Packets by the first Opportunity from Newbern — Sam^l J. H.

Walter E. Strong Esq.

Oct 3. 1797

Sir

By this Post you will receive a Letter and two Packets for Mr. Joseph Welsh at Stamford where an Office is established — you will be pleased to forward the Letter and Packets to Mr. Welsh and oblige yours & J. H.

Mr. Parmenas Bryant

Oct 3. 1797

Sir

An Advertisement will shortly be published in Mr. Davis's Paper at Richmond for carrying the Mails of the United States on the respective Post Routes in the state of Virginia — When this happens you will have an Opportunity of forwarding your proposals for Mr. Thornton's route, the Contract for which will expire on the 31st of March next —
Sam^l J. H.

Col. Sebastian Bauman

General Post Office
Trenton Oct 3. 1797

Dear Sir

I find the Contract from New York to Bennington was ^{to have been} not in Operation until the first Instant when I suppose the Contractors for that Route commenced carrying on it - The Offices on that Route are as follows -

Shaaron Con^{ts} Sheffield Map^s Great Barrington Map^s
Hochbridge Map^s Pittsfield d^o & Williamston d^o -

That Mail is to leave New York - From May the first to November the first every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 5 A M and return to New York Saturday Tuesday and Thursday by 6 P M -

From November the first to May the first -
Leave New York every Monday & Thursday at 7 A M and return the next Thursday and Monday by 5 P M -

You will be pleased to furnish Postmanteaus for the Route - Locks cannot be supplied for a few Months as they were all used before I was apprised of it and I have only lately written for a supply of them from England - If you have any spare Locks you should be very careful of them for the principal Mails -

I hope you sent my letter for Mr. Bacon by Mondays Stage for Bennington - I now send you ^a letter for

Mr. Bacon which is to be sent by the stage on Friday morning -

I suppose you will have a mail made up for that route on Thursday Evening - The Vermont and Canada Mails

will be sent on the new Post Road after the Contract has been a little time in Operation - this will open the Contents of the Western

Mail, which is represented to be of a very inconvenient size and daily increasing -

James J. H

Mr. Samuel Foote

Oct. 4. 1797

Sir

Mr. Loyal Case is appointed to succeed you in the Office at Middleburg to whom you will be pleased to deliver the Letters which remained on hand at the expiration of the Quarter and any other Articles of Post-Office Property that may be in your Possession -

Will you be so good as to render your account for the last Quarter and transmit the balance you owe the General Post Office without delay & James J. H

Appointed October 4, 1797 Mr. Loyal Case
Post Master at Middleburg in the room of Samuel Foote resigned -

Appointed Oct 4, 1797 Alban Gilpin to succeed Frederick Bates (resigned) as Post Master at Gochland Court house Vt.

Mr. James Morris

Oct. 4. 1797

Sir

Please to forward your account for the last Quarter to this place and the balance in Bank Notes - You will receive a supply of Post Bills by this Conveyance - James J. H

Capt Charles F. Bates General Post Office
Trenton Oct. 4. 1797

Sir

The Assistant Postmaster General will draw on you in favor of Mr. Oglesby the Contractor for balance due by Mr. Frederick Bates the late Postmaster at Goochland Court House to the General Post Office - Mr. Bates says the draft will be paid by you in his absence - Will you be so good as to request the person Mr. Bates left the Office in charge of, to send the Accounts for the last Quarter -

Sam^r & J. H.

The Accounts alluded above are received

Alex. Turnival Esq.

Oct. 4. 1797

Sir

As no Opportunity at present offers for England or Ireland you will be pleased to send the Letter for Messrs. Wetland Cotterill & Sons by the first Vessel for Hamburg from your Port -

Sam^r & J. H.

Messrs. Wetland, Cotterill & Sons
Birmingham, in England -

Oct 4. 1797

Gentlemen

The Locks and Keys you sent the Post Master of Philadelphia for the Mails of the United States are found on trial to answer very well - I wish you therefore to complete the Order which Mr. Patton sent you sometime ago for Locks and Keys, and as the former are at present much wanted pray send as many of them as can be got ready by the

the earliest Opportunity that offers for New York, Philadelphia or Baltimore after the receipt of this Letter

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Sam^r & J. H.

(note - sent by the British Packet)

Joseph Stunn Esq.

October 3. 1797

Sir

The Inhabitants of Burlington seem very desirous of having a Post Office kept in that ^{place}; as such an Establishment would considerably affect your Compensation I have ~~not~~ delayed taking any steps to that purpose, in hopes of hitting upon some arrangement that would satisfy them without injuring you -

Suppose a Post Office established at Burlington, for what price would you contract to have the mail carried there daily (weather permitting) & continue to hold the Post Office at Bristol? the contract to continue four years - I shall be glad to hear from you on the Subject as soon as is convenient to you -

Sam^r & J. H.

Mr. Ozias Silsby

Oct. 4. 1797

Sir

A new Post Road from Haverhill to Dover has been lately established which passes through Kingston, and was my reason for having an Office at that place - As the Contractor for that Route will call with the Mail at Kingston, it is unnecessary for you to do it especially as it is not on your Road and will be attended with some Inconvenience to you -

Sam^r & J. H.

Matthew Brown J. Esq. General Post Office
Trenton Oct 5. 1797

Sir

The Counterpart of Mr. Logan's Contract is now enclosed and I thank you for having obtained a Contract for that Route upon very reasonable terms when compared with the proposals of others which were extravagantly

I wish to accommodate Casenovia with the Mail - will it be best that it should form a part of the Route from Rome to Kanandaigua? or may it be more conveniently accommodated by including it the new route from Old Fort Schuyler to Oxford Academy? If the former will be the most expedient Arrangement will you be so good as to know from Mr. Logan what additional Compensation he will require for calling with the Mail at Casenovia?
Sam^l J. H.

I have allowed ten dollars for making a Contract which may be charge in your account of Contingent Expenses - Pray send Mr. Logan's Bond and Oath - I have altered Mr. Logan's Schedule so as to connect with the time now fixed on for the mails leaving Rome for Albany - The Albany mail is to arrive at your Office every Thursday and Sunday by 11 A.M. and return the same days at 10 P.M.

Mr. James I. Wilkinson Oct 4, 1797

Sir

Your account for the quarter which ended in June last and four dollars and thirty one Cents were duly received and that sum is passed to the Credit of your account with this Office -

I observe at the foot of your Letter a Charge of four dollars for Contingent Expenses which does not appear in

your Account Current - It will be necessary for you to state the particulars of the Charge before I can determine whether it can be allowed - If any Articles have been furnished for the use of the Office a bill and receipt should be transmitted to support the Charge -
Sam^l J. H.

Nathan Hayward Esq. Oct 5th 1797

Sir

I consent to your delivering the mail at Boston and Plymouth at five o'clock P.M. instead of four O'clock the hour fixed in your Schedule - Mr. Watson will be so good as to make the necessary alteration in the Schedule of the Contract I sent you -
Sam^l J. H.

Mr. William Wooddy October 5. 1797

Sir

The Counterpart of your Contract was sent to Mr. Davis at Richmond, on writing a few lines to him he will send to you -

Mr. Furrival will furnish you with a Postmanteau for the new Route from Baltimore by Leesburg to Culpeper Court House, and the Postmaster on that Route will deliver you the Mails upon your producing this Letter to them -

I have established Offices at Elliotts lower mill and at Middleburg and Fauquier Court House in

in Virginia at which places you will call with the Mail

The other Offices are Montgomery Court House
and Culpeper Court House —

I hope you will have the
mail carried with great Regularity by which alone you
can give the necessary satisfaction to the Department as
well as the Public at large — James I. H.

Alex. Farnival Esq.

Oct. 5. 1797

Sir

Mr. William Wooddy to whom I have
just written a Letter upon the subject, has the Contract for
carrying the mail from Baltimore by Ellicotts lower
Mills to Leesburg, and from thence to Culpeper Court
House in Virginia —

You will be pleased to deliver Mr.
Wooddy the mails for the Offices on his Route and
furnish him with a suitable Portmanteau for the conveyance
of them —

I have established new Offices at Ellicotts
lower Mills and at Middleburg and Fauquier Court House
in Virginia — The other Offices on Mr. Wooddy's route
are Montgomery Court house Leesburg and Culpeper
Court House —

James I. H.

Oct 5. 1797 Appointed David Smith Post Master at
Vienna in Maryland in the room of John Read resigned —

Oct 5th 1797

Mr. Jacob Spangler

Sir

I have reason to think that Mr. Shelby
has not carried the Mail from New York to Martinsburg
since the 30th Ult^o when his Contract for that expired and
that a Letter of mine to him, of which the enclosed is a Copy
must from that Circumstance be still in your Office, as it
could not have reached it before Monday the 2^d Instant —

The object of this Letter is to request that you will immedi-
ately on the Receipt of it have all the Mails in your Office
for the Martinsburg Route sent to that Office and bring on
such as are remaining there — This is to be continued until
you know whether Mr. Collins will undertake the Contract
from Martinsburg to Yorktown upon the same terms I have
offered him — Until it can be known of which Mr. Shelby
or Mr. Collins will inform you, I shall depend on your
exertions to prevent any interruption in the conveyance of the
Mail —

Mr. Burrall having drawn on you for the
public Money in your hands. I now enclose you Sixty
dollars to enable you to defer any expences arising in
the execution of this Business — James I. H.

Mr. Jesse Brown

Oct. 6. 1797

Sir

I consent to the following Schedule for
the Mail between Hartford and Norwich —
From the 15th Oct to the 15 April — Leave

Leave Norwich every Monday by 6 a.m.
Arrive at Hartford same by 6 P.M.

Returning

Leave Hartford on Tuesday by 6 a.m.
Arrive in Norwich same by 6 P.M.

From the 15 April to the 15 October

Leave Norwich Monday by 6 a.m.
Arrive in Hartford same by 6 P.M.

Returning

Leave Hartford Wednesday by 6 a.m.
Arrive in Norwich same by 6 P.M.

Mr. Leffingwell will be pleased to make the
alterations in your Schedule for that Mail accordingly -
Sam^l J. H.

John Reed Esq.

October 6. 1797

Sir

I am obliged to you for having fixed on a
proper Character to succeed you in the Post Office at Vienna

An Appointment is now sent to Mr. Smith, may I request the
favor of you to have the Bond executed by him with sufficient
Security and when returned to this Office I will send him a
Commission -

Mr. Burrall will draw on you for
the balance due the Office in favor of Mr. Newman -
Sam^l J. H.

Appointed October 6. 1797 David Smith Post Master
at Vienna in the room of John Reed

H. P. Dering Esq.

October 6. 1797 508

Sir

I now enclose you the Counterpart of the Con-
terpart of the Contract from Sag Harbor to New York and
have made the alteration in the Schedule agreeably to your request

You have also enclosed several blank forms of Oaths which
are to be taken by such persons as may be entrusted with the mail
by the proprietors of the Stage - Sam^l J. H.

Appointed Jacob Walters Post Master at Lewistown
in the Room of John Norris resigned

Joseph Shurtleff Esq.

October 6. 1797

Sir

I am favored with your Letter of the 27th
Ult^o covering Mr. Starin's Contract and Bond, and Mess^{rs}
Beal & Co's Bond and Contract for the Route from Albany to
Rome - I have made the alteration requested by Mess^{rs}

Beal & Co in their Schedule by which they are allowed to
leave Rome on the same days they arrive there viz. Sundays
and Mondays at two o'clock P.M. and arrive at Old Fort
Schuyler the same days by 6 P.M. - Mr. Beal agreeably
to the Schedule he fixed on at the time of making their
proposals for the Route was not to arrive at Rome until
Thursday and Sunday - The Schedule I sent him was
made conformable to that which he proposed, of course
he could not be detained at Rome from Saturday as
you have mentioned - The alteration however will be
accommodating to the Contractors and cannot be atten-
ded with any inconvenience to the public - I