

practicable to do it. Although personally responsible for the debts of my deputies & it is my duty & interest to collect them with as little delay as possible I can assure you I make every allowance for persons similarly situated with yourself & shall be disposed to extend such further indulgence as you may wish for in paying the balance still due from the estate of your husband to the public as far as can be done with propriety.

I am J.H.

July 3^d 1801

Established an office at Newfound Mills 10 miles from Chesterfield Va & appointed Richard Price Esq P.M thereof

Samuel Mathis Esq
Camden Fla.

June 3^d 1801

Dear Sir:

Yours of the 23^d of March last on the subject of Mr Dinkins delinquency and the impropriety of allowing him to depart from Camden at an earlier hour than is stipulated in his Contract was duly received.

The receipt of that letter and one from a Gentleman of Camden at the same time stating the many inconveniences that would result from accommodating the contractor in the manner he proposed determined me to adhere to the present arrangement with which the citizens of Camden appear to be so well satisfied. I then discovered no disposition on the part of Mr Dinkins to make the necessary exertions for performing his contract with any credit to the department, he was therefore not entitled to any accommodation especially at the expense of the public - for these considerations my consent to the proposed alteration of his Schedule has been withheld. The failures & delays that have occurred of late on Mr Dinkins route are so unexampled that I shall return his pay for the current quarter & have written to his superiors to get the management of the Contract into their own hands or to place it in such as they may approve. I am now satisfied that the failures have

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not arisen from the impediments he represented from time to time as occurring at Nelsons Ferry; some no doubt would occasionally happen from that & other causes over which there can be no control & where satisfactory excuses on such occasions are forwarded they are always admitted. Mr Dinkins has forty four hours to carry the Mail One hundred & twenty miles which is scarcely two miles & three quarters an hour & if he had good horses & his tides only used common diligence they could always perform the tide even when delayed for several hours at the Santee. You may be assured every step on my part will be taken to compel a punctual performance of the contract between Camden & Charleston as the commercial importance of the latter place makes their accommodation an object of the first consideration - the mail is now carried with uncommon regularity on every part of the Southern Main Line except from Charleston to Camden & it is much to be regretted that the contract for that route has fallen into such improper hands - with every care to select proper characters as Agents of the Department I am sometimes deceived in them & this must continue to be the case while there is no criterion by which their qualifications can be correctly ascertained?

I am J.H.

Established an office at Southampton <sup>Aug. 26th May 30th 1801
Va. and
Appointed Hugh Milligan P.M thereof</sup>

Thomas Nelson Esq
Yorktown Va.

June 4 1801

Dear Sir, The Estate of the late William Johnson who formerly acted as Postmaster at Cartersville stands indebted to this office twenty five dollars & seventy three cents for a balance which remained due from him on his Post Office account - A draft was sent to Mr Samuel Marshall the Postmaster at Powhatan \$50. but payment was declined by the administrator on the Estate D. I. Marshall. Mr Marshall therefore returned it and remarks that he does not believe it can be obtained without compulsory measures. I therefore now enclose to you a

434 a statement of the account together with the bond given by Mr. Johnson on his appointment & must request you will institute a suit for the recovery of the balance that appears to be due on the statement.

I am J. H.

Robert Allen Esq
PM of Greensburg Va

June 5. 1801

Sir, I am to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 28th April on the business of your office - Though an Office is small it is necessary to render the accounts agreeably to the form prescribed by the rules of the department & to enable you to do this I now send you the Post Office law with my instructions some accounts current & the Tables of Post Offices which I find you have not received. By referring to the 11th Instruction to the deputies you will see the manner in which your returns are to be made at the end of every quarter or the last day of March June Sept & December & the papers that are to accompany them - The law & Instructions will afford you every information relative to the duties required of you, but if in transacting the business of your office you should meet with any difficulties by writing to the Assistant Postmaster General or myself you will always receive such other explanations as may be necessary for your government.

I am J. H.

Appointed Mr. William Sapondon PM of Newbern N.C.
in the room of Samuel Chapman resigned,

June 5 1801

William Dickson Esq
PM of Greenville Sc.

June 5th 1801

Sir, I send you by this conveyance the Post office law & my instructions to the deputies which have been written for - No alteration will probably take place by sending the mail by Lower C.R. & Newport to the Warm Springs until the expiration of the existing contract as the law that provides for the

435 accommodation of those places with the mail contracts that no existing arrangements shall be affected - the contract from Greenville to Charlotte (and will not expire until October 1802 of course) the present communication between the Warm Springs & Greenville will be continued until that period & the arrangements of the department may then be made so as to preserve it subsequently thereto

I am J. H.

David Kean Esq
PM of the Sweet Springs Va

June 5 1801

Sir,

Yours of the 31st March last from some cause unknown to me was not received until a few days since.

As no person can be found to hold the Post Office at the Warm Springs it will be continued at your house which I presume is as conveniently situated for it as any other so immediately in the neighbourhood of them. I have therefore concluded to appoint your brother to succeed you in that office by whom the enclosed bond & oaths are to be executed & returned to this office and on receiving them I will transmit him his Commission.

Blanks I find were sent on the 14th April & 14th May - if they do not reach your office the directions I presume are effaced or they are stopped at some of the offices on the way.

I am J. H.

Appointed Samuel Kean PM of Sweet Springs Va
in the room of David Kean resigned

June 5 1801

Zachariah Hawkins Esq
PM of Salisbury N.C.

June 6. 1801

Sir, I am just favored with yours of the 25th ulto concerning your bonds & oaths duly executed & inclosed you will be pleased to receive your Commission as Deputy Post master of Salisbury. I shall inform the Contractors of the establishment of an office at Salisbury & offer them the compensation it was said they demanded for including it in their route

I am J. H.

Joseph. Moffet Esq
P.M. of Danville Vt
Sir

June 6 1801

I am to acknowledge^d the receipt of Mr Dunbar's letter of the 23^d ulto accompanied by your bond & oaths as Deputy Post master of Danville & inclosed you will receive your Commission for acting in that capacity.

My proposals for carrying the mails on such of the routes as the existing Contracts will expire on the 1st of October next & on the new Post Roads lately established by Congress were forwarded to your office some time past. Under the Vermont Roads No 3^r you will find the route from Hanover by Newbury to Danville is arranged for one contract proposal for which will be received at this office until the fifteenth day of July next. Mr Fuller or any other person who may be inclined to contract for the route will no doubt avail themselves of the opportunity of forwarding their proposals for it.

I am J.H.

Mess^m Fordham Hedges
& Gelston

June 6 1801.

New York.

Sir, Presuming that you are willing to include Salauket in your route for the additional compensation I offered you in my letter of the 12th ulto I have established an office at that place where you will be pleased to call with the mail.

Mr Lachariah Hawkins is the Post master of Salauket.

I am J.H.

Daniel Brown Esq.
Camden S.C.

June 6 1801

Sir, The representations I received from yourself and others respecting the inconveniences that would result from allowing the Contractors to leave Camden at an earlier hour than is fixed

for his departure determined me to adhere to the existing arrangement which I am happy to find gives such general satisfaction.

The failures & delays that have occurred on Mr Dinkins route have become so numerous & extraordinary as to induce me to write to himself & his parties on the Subject & in justice to the Public a quarter pay will be retained until they are satisfactorily accounted for - every other step will be taken to restore the necessary punctuality in the Conveyance of that Mail from some cause or other Mr Dinkins appears to be quite unequal to perform what he has undertaken - the route no doubt presents some obstacles to a regular conveyance of the mail particularly at Nelson's Ferry where delays must occasionally be expected to occur but not so frequently as have been represented to me I am much obliged by your letter of the 22 March - you will always find me ready to correct abuses & to render this invaluable Institution as extensively useful as possible to the public notwithstanding every precaution on my part to select suitable characters improper persons are sometimes employed as Agents of the Department indeed I have found nothing more difficult in the execution of the duties of this office than to obtain correct information as to the qualifications of the candidates for appointments on which so much depends.

I am J.H.

Mr Joseph Coones
P.M. of Jeffersonton Va

June 9th 1801.

Sir, Mr Wooddy informs me that it is inconvenient for you to hold the Post office any longer at Jeffersonton & that you recommend Mr James Toll Sir as a suitable character for the appointment. I have therefore inclosed a blank bond & oaths of office to be executed by Mr Toll if he accepts the appointment & in that case the papers are to be returned to this office & on receiving them a Commission will be transmitted to him. You will be then pleased to deliver over all the articles of Post office property

in your possession and under your accounts to the time
when you leave the office.

I am J.H.

June 9th 1801.

Appointed Bradshaw Hall PM of Frankfort M^c in the
room of Henry Sampson resigned.

Marcellus Beattie PM of Carthage N.C.
in the room of Martin Hall resigned.

Peter Shuter P.M. of Middleton in Pa.
in the room of Will Crabb resigned.

William Chambers Esq^r
PM of Centreville Md.

June 9 1801

Sir, Mr Bourke declines holding the office at Queen-
town & there is no suitable person to act as Postmaster there I
wish you to send a line to him and he will return the blanks
to your office which were forwarded for the establishment of an
office at Queenstown.

I am J.H.

16th Joseph Cheuler
Charlestown S.C.

June 9 1801

Sir, Presuming that the letters you have enquired
for were returned as dead letters from Charleston S.C. I have
had those that were lately returned from that office carefully ex-
amined without finding any directed for C W Reister. If the
letters in question should be found & they contain any thing
valuable they will be registered and preserved & returned to
the writers of them where the places of their residence are
known.

I am J.H.

Joseph Hertick Esq.
PM of Danville Ky.

June 9. 1801.

Sir, On the 15th of May I sent you a supply of Post Bills.

and accounts current & on the 4th Inst. some blanks for keeping an
account of Letters & Newspapers received for distribution which I
hope you will receive safe if they should not reach your office
I will send you a further supply on hearing from you.

I am J.H.

June 10th 1801

Martin Hall Esq^r
PM of Carthage N.C.

Sir,

Agreeably to your request you will receive
inclosed a statement of your account current with this office
to the 10th Sept^r last exhibiting a balance of five dollars &
thirty two cents due from you to that period & you will observe
that no return has been received of your transactions for the
quarter ending the first of Jan^r 1798 & your account have
not been undated since the 15th Sept^r last. You no doubt have
copies of the transcripts & account current for the quarter ending
the 1st of Jan^r 1798 which you will be pleased to transmit to
gether with the return that will be wanting from the 15th of
Sept^r last to the time when you leave the office.

I am J.H.

Established an office at Jerusalem N.Y. near Bath N.Y.
June 10. 1801

Appointed Abraham Wagner PM thereof

William Norcross Esq^r
PM of Bordentown N.J.

June 10 1801

Sir, Yours of the 8th of April last remains unanswered
I am sorry to find that the new Post Route from Trenton to
Philadelphia proves so unproductive to the Revenue notwithstanding
it passes through several flourishing villages & towns —
this no doubt arises from the frequent communication with the
City of Philadelphia which affords so many private opportuni-
ties of corresponding without expence that letters I presume are
seldom sent by post. If you find it inconvenient to hold the office
any longer & no suitable character can be found to act as your
successor it will be discontinued & trifling as it is many inconve-

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nuances must be experienced in your village & its vicinity from
the want of a Post Office.

I am J.H.

M^r John Shaw
PM of Leesburg Va

June 10 1801.

Sir Postridies are expressly forbidden by the Post office
law from carrying letters out of the mail without accounting
for the Postage of them—they are required by law to receive &
account for Way letters but no Post Rider ought to receive a letter
to be conveyed out of the mail within two miles of a Post office
they are also required to receive letters from the Postmaster
to be delivered to persons residing on a Post Road & to collect &
account with them for the postage of such letters—if therefore
the Postridies carry letters from Leesburg to Alexandria &
Baltimore out of the mail without accounting for the Postage
of them they violate the law & subject themselves to a heavy
penalty of fifty dollars for each offence and if they persist in
such conduct I shall consider it my duty to prosecute the offend-
ers as an example to others—they will probably desist from
the practice when they are informed of the consequences of it
& it will be proper to give them a hint of their improper
conduct if it should be continued.

I am J.H.

Augustine Davis Esq
PM of the City of Richmond Va

June 10 1801

Sir I am glad to find from yours of the 3 Inst that M^r
Elisha Woody has transferred his Contract for carrying the mail
from Richmond to Farmington to M^r William Barden the private
Postridie on that route—the conveyance of the mail under M^r
Barden's management I presume will be more satisfactory to
the Public & productive to the revenue—it is only necessary on
such occasions to transfer the original contracted right in the
contract to the person who takes it & to authorise the quarterly

payments made to him. Copies of our Contracts are always ¹¹¹lodged
in the Treasury, the original contracts when transferred are ne-
ver cancelled & the bonds are retained that are given for the due per-
formance of them. M^r Woodys bond cannot therefore be returned,
but he may take one from M^r Barden for the performance of the Con-
tract which he thinks it necessary to do it.

I am willing to extend the Post road to Farmville im-
mediately & to allow Seventy two dollars a year for that service
if M^r Barden accepts of my offer he may carry the mail agree-
ably to the schedule you have suggested viz.

Leave Richmond every Tuesday at 12 O'clock noon and ar-
rive at Farmville the next Thursday at 2 pm.

Returning

Leave Farmville every Thursday at 10 Clock pm and arrive
at Richmond the next Tuesday at 9 am.

The above alteration will be noted on M^r Woody's schedule
when M^r Barden signifies his assent to it.

I lately sent an appointment of Post Master to a Gentleman
who resides at the Court House but if Farmville is considered a
more eligible situation for an office it may be removed to that
place & in that case it will be necessary for M^r Eggleston to recom-
mend a suitable person to act as Postmaster at Leggetton as
it is contemplated to have an office there.

M^r Woody can give M^r Barden a letter authorising me to pay
him the quarterly payments for carrying the mail on his route
become due.

I am J.H.

June 11 1801

Established an office at Walton near Catskill N.Y &

Appointed Gabriel North Esq of PM thereof

Established an office at Delhi near Catskill N.Y &

Appointed George Foote Esq of PM thereof

William Proctor Esq
PM of Athens Pa

June 11 1801

Sir I now acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 27th
ult accompanied by the register you have kept of the arrival &

departure of the respective mails at & from Athens for the month of April. If bank notes can be procured I wish you to transmit your balance if not they may be retained until it is convenient for the Assistant Postmaster General to give the Contractor a draft for what may be due from you at the time of drawing on you.

I am J.H.

Thomas O. Croswell Esq^r
PM of Catskill N.Y.

June 11 1801

Sir,

No^r Whitney writes me that he has just commenced carrying a weekly mail from Catskill to Athens agreeably to the Schedule he has hitherto observed going from Catskill by the present route & returning by Walton Delhi & Windham. I have therefore established Postoffices at Walton & Delhi and two letters & four packets are addressed to your office for Mess^{rs} Foote & North who are nominated to hold the appointments of Deputy Postmasters at those places. Will you be so good as to forward them by the Rider out of the mail.

I am J.H.

Joshua Whitney Esq^r
PM of Union N.Y.

June 11th 1801

Sir,

I am just favored with yours of the 29th ulto in answer to mine of the 28th April accepting my offer to carry a weekly mail from Catskill to Athens going from Catskill on the route originally established & returning from Athens by Walton Delhi & Windham. Offices are now established at Walton & Delhi at Judge North's & Mr George Foote where your Rider is to call with the mail in future. As it is an object of some importance to the Public to observe the Schedule I sent you in my letter of the 28th of April I wish you to conform to it with as little delay as possible under that arrangement the connection with the mails for Wilkesbarre & Canandaigua will be preserved & some delays in the correspondence with the offices on those routes must be experienced under the existing Schedule between Catskill & Union.

I am J.H.

Jedediah Baldwin
PM of Hanover N.H.

June 11 1801 43

Sir,

I have just received a letter from the Editor of the Dartmouth Gazette covering a newspaper in which he has published a part of my advertisement inviting proposals for carrying the mails of the United States on such of the routes as are in the neighbourhood of Hanover his charge he says is six dollars which you will be pleased to pay & charge in your account of Contingent expenses & transmit M^r Davis's receipt for the same as a voucher to support the charge.

I am J.H.

The Hon:

Elijah Payne Esq^r
Williamstown N.Y.

June 11 1801

Sir,

The Inhabitants of Randolph have applied for the establishment of a Post Office for their accommodation near the Meeting House in that town which is represented to be in a flourishing neighbourhood. I have therefore concluded to gratify them & have established an office at M^r Scene Wrights. Will you have the goodness to direct the mail carrier to call at M^r Wrights with the mail which I presume will be attended with no inconvenience to him as the Gentlemen who have recommended the measure say that the road leading by the Meeting house between Royallton & Williamston is the shortest & best for the Post Rider who I find usually travels an other road. I am with &c

J.H.

Established an Office at Randolph N.Y and
Appointed Scene Wright PM thereof.

June 11 1801

Appointed George Caldwell PM of Edinville Ky
on the road of Charles Stuart assigned.

June 14 1801

Richard Sherer Esq^r
PM of Lewisburg Pa.

June 12 1801

Sir, I am just favored with yours of the 2^d Inst signifying your resignation of the office of Deputy Post Master of Lewisburg & requesting that a Successor may be appointed - Will you do me the favor to select one of your neighbours for the appointment by whom the enclosed bond & oaths are to be executed & returned to this office & on receiving them a Commission will be forwarded to him. If you cannot find a suitable character to hold the office & you are under the necessity of resigning, it must be discontinued but rather than be deprived of the advantages resulting from this useful Institution I presume some person will be readily found as your Successor.

I am J. H.

Isaac E. Gano Esq^r
PM Frankfort Ky

June 12th 1801

Sir, Your favors of the 6th & 10th ulto were duly received & you will be pleased to accept my thanks for inserting in the Palladium an extract from my letter to you on the subject of the late failures in the conveyance of the Mails to the State of Kentucky. I am sensible they have in general arisen from causes over which there can be no control - the numerous impediments to a regular conveyance of the mails on both routes to Kentucky must be obvious to every well informed person and notwithstanding the exertions of the Contractors failures will occasionally occur on routes so extensive & where so many difficulties are to be encountered the impracticability of a run or any of the numerous accidents to which both the horses & riders are liable must frequently occasion delays & if only for a few hours the trip is lost - Under these embarrassing circumstances the Mails from Kentucky on Lanes route during the last Winter were received here with a degree of punctuality hitherto unexampled as will appear from the following extract of a letter from the Amtst. Post Master General to the Editor of the Kentucky Gazette on the subject:

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By the last post I promised you an account of the arrival of the mail at this City by the northern route which you will find enclosed - You will observe that only two delays occurred during the quarter ending the 31 December & those two in the two last weeks of the year - both of these delays arose from the impassability of water courses occasioned by heavy rains which fell at that time - during the quarter ending March 31 four delays of one week each occurred - the two first were occasioned by high water as mentioned in the account the others are too recent to be accounted for here, altho' the state of the roads and Weather in March leaves no room to doubt that they arose from unavoidable causes.

I am sorry to find that you are put to so much inconvenience from not having fixed hours for the arrival and departure of the respective mails at Frankfort, this however can only continue a few months longer as under the new arrangements for the Kentucky mails the routes are to terminate at Frankfort.

I will inform the Contractor of the situation in which Mr^r Mullany saw the mail at Limestone I presume the Rider must have had two mails on that occasion - to give such information as will expose any abuse in the department as a duty which every good citizen & Post master owes to the Public. I can only say that as soon as known the necessary steps will be taken to correct them.

I am J. H.

Joseph Gluster Esq^r
Reading Pa.

June 12 1801

Sir, I have received your letter of the 4th signed also by several other gentlemen inhabitants of Reading desiring the removal of M^r Gottlob Jungman from the Post Office at that place & recommending M^r Jacob Fyler as a fit person to be appointed in his stead.

It has been long been a rule in this office not to appoint the printer of a newspaper to the office of Postmaster, for however fairly & impartially they may conduct the business of their office the power which they have always given rise to jealousies & suspicions in rival printers. That M^r Jungman is the printer of a newspaper

that he has a rival in that employment in the same town
are sufficient reasons why he should not hold the office provided
a proper person who is not the printer of a newspaper can be
found willing to keep it. On this ground I concluded to make another
appointment at Reading about two years ago & wrote to a
gentleman there to name a suitable person, but Mr. Grammer's
friends interested themselves so much for his continuance that the
subject was dropped. I understand that Mr. Grider the gentle-
man whom you have named is also a printer of a newspaper
he cannot on that account be appointed. If you will take the trouble
to name a proper person who is not interested in the publication
of a newspaper he shall be immediately appointed.

I am J. H.

Richard Dobbs Spaight Esq'

June 15 1801

Newbern N.C.

Dear Sir,

I was duly favored with yours of the 22^d ulto
& am sorry to find that you still receive your mail so irregularly
at Newbern. On referring to the Transcript from the Postoffice
at Newbern I observe that the Postmaster of Petersburg makes
up but one mail a week for Newbern which accounts for some
of the delays you have experienced in receiving your Northern
mails. As mails are made up here every day for the State of
North Carolina & but once a week at Petersburg for Newbern it
must of course happen that some of the letters will be longer reaching
you than they would be if they were sent on the regular days.

The Mails for Newbern should leave this office on Mondays &
Wednesdays & ought to be received at Newbern the next Monday
& Tuesday at 4 p.m. the one mail is delivered in seven days &
eleven hours & the other in eight days eleven hours. I will write
immediately to Mr. Grammer on the subject & he will hereafter
make up two mails a week for Newbern.

Soon after you left the City I wrote to Mr. Shaw to send the
mail once a week to Newbern before he received my letter he left

Raleigh on his way to Philadelphia) - Mr. Shaw called on me
here accepted my offer for the weekly mail but was doubtful whether
the young man who acts as his Assist. could commence
carrying it until his return to Raleigh - he said he should
be in Philadelphia for two or three months & would write to his
Assist. to whom I have also written on the subject. Our
friend Mr. Steele showed me a letter from you on the distributing
System to which I find you attribute the failures that have
recently occurred. I have not time now but I think I can
make it appear to you that the delays have not arisen from
that cause when I have a little more leisure to enter on the
subject.

This letter will be sent off on Monday morning 15th Inst
& should reach you on the 22^d.

I am J. H.

W. Philip T. Richardson

Richmond Va.

June 15th 1801

Sir, I am just favored with yours of the 10th Inst making
proposals for carrying the Mail from Richmond to Charles-
City C.H. which will be duly attended to when the time arrives
for deciding on such as are received. I can only observe that five
dollars a mile reckoning the distance one way is about the average
price of a weekly mail on horseback for instance if the distance
from Richmond to Charles City C.H. is sixty miles the average
rate for that route would be three hundred dollars a year - as
you must be acquainted with the distance of the route you can
determine whether you are any way near the mark.

I am J. H.

William Edwards Esq'

June 11 1801

PM of Aquia Va

Sir, Your returns for the ^{last} quarter are received & twelve dollars
& seventy five cents which are placed to the credit of your account
in the books of this office - the receipt of the returns and money
appear to have been acknowledged by the letter I presume has mis-
carried from some cause or other.

I am J. H.

June 15 1801

James Davis Esq^r
PM of Williamsburg Va

Sir, I am to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 9th Inst. inclosing an account current for the quarter ending the 31st December last corrected referring to your account for that quarter. I find it has been examined & the error you committed against yourself corrected - the balance is one hundred & twenty eight dollars & twenty three cents sixty three cents more than you make it - the difference I presume arises from a trifling error discovered in your returns which you have not observed.

The Assist. Post Master General will send Mr. Moody a draft on you when he sends him his pay.

I am J.H.

John T. Mason Esq^r

June 14 1801

Attorney for the district of Columbia

Sir,

M^r James McRae late Postmaster of Alexandria Va is indebted to this office in the sum of two thousand four hundred & fifty five dollars & sixty nine cents which we cannot obtain from him. I have therefore inclosed his bond for 3000 Dolls dated the 12th December 1797 which you will find is also executed by Peter Wise & John Wise both of Alexandria as sureties, that it may be put in suit.

It is not probable that M^r McRae will contest the account, if he should authenticate copies of his accounts current from which the debits in the inclosed were taken will be produced.

Sometime during the last autumn an officer met me on the street & read to me some kind of process in a suit brought by Richard Parrott against Ignatius Pigman, supposing that I had goods of the latter in my possession. It appeared to me at the time that some further process would be issued in which I should have an opportunity to deny that I had any of his property in my hands. But to my surprise lately I was shown an execution of which the enclosed is a copy. I will thank you to ascertain the situation of the suit & whether the judgment may not be set aside.

Ignatius Pigman is a contractor for carrying the Mail & is

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intitled to receive from the Public a quarterly compensation, that compensation is paid to him at this office, but the money is properly in the possession of the United States until it is paid to him & I am not personally indebted or responsible to him for it. It would be proposito to suppose that the United States could be made garnishee or that the money due to those they employ could be arrested in their hands. Besides the difficulties & trouble attending suits & settling accounts it would often interrupt the public service. That would be particularly the case in respect to Mail carriers, many of them are diligent & active carriers altho bad economists & if their quarterly pay was not made them regularly it would be impossible for them to carry the mail.

I never had as an individual any property belonging to Mr. Pigman in my possession & never was indebted to him & if the judgement can be set aside I hope you will have it done.

Your fees & expenses will be paid in the presentation of your account.

I am J.H.

James Elliot Esq^r
PM of Brattleboro, Vt

June 15th 1801

Sir, I have consented to accommodate the Contractors for carrying the mail between Bennington & Brattleboro with the schedule they have suggested viz.

Leave Brattleboro every Monday Morning at 6 O'clock and arrive at Bennington the same evening by six o'clock. Returning

Leave Bennington every Tuesday Morning at 6 O'clock & arrive at Brattleboro the same evening by 6 o'clock.

Will you be so good as to communicate my assent to the alteration of their Schedule to the Contractors & deliver the mail accordinging

Turnpikes are among the most useful undertakings in a new country & ought to receive the most liberal encouragement from the Public. I presume from the nature of the country it will be found extremely arduous & of course expensive to make a good one on the route you have mentioned but as this department will be materially benefitted by the additional expence in the conveyance of the mail arising from the Toll will be chearfully paid by the Government.

I am J.H.

M^r Jacob Headly
Contractor
Romney Va

June 15 1801

Sir, I am informed that you have left Romney in several instances before the arrival of the Winchester mail & consequently the offices at Springfield and Frankfort have sustained the inconvenience of one weeks delay in receiving their mails by Winchester. — you will recollect that your Schedule says "Leave Romney at 8 a.m. or as soon as the Winchester mail arrives to obviate the like delays in future" I must request you to conform to that clause of your schedule & not leave Romney before the arrival of the Winchester mail.

I am J.H.

John J. Jacob Esq^r

June 15 1801

P.M. of Romney Va

Sir In reply to yours of the 6th Inst. I have to observe that there is no fixed hour for the arrival of the Winchester mail at your office — M^r Early's Schedule requires him to leave Winchester on Thursday at 8 a.m. and arrive at Moorefield on Friday evening — with tolerable industry he will arrive at Romney on Friday by 6 or 7 a.m. and on the presumption that he would arrive by that time M^r Headly was allowed to leave there at 8 a.m. (with this clause attached to his Schedule) or as soon as the Winchester mail arrived; from this clause in M^r Headly's Schedule you will observe that he cannot depart from your office with propriety before the arrival of the Winchester mail and I shall require him to comply with that clause in his Schedule which will remove the obstacle to a direct correspondence with the offices at Springfield and Frankfort.

I am J.H.

The Hon:

Joseph H. Nicholson Esq^r
Centreville Md.

June 15 1801

Sir, M^r James Cowan having signified his intention of resigning his appointment of Deputy Post master of Easton I take the liberty to request the favor of you to select a suitable character for that office. I presume M^r Cowan

would wish to deliver over all the articles of Post Office property to the Gentleman who succeeds him at the expiration of the current quarter the 30th Inst.

I have the honor to be

Yours &c J. H.

Col: John Hawkins
Harrisonburg, N.C.

June 16 1801

Sir, I am to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 10th Inst accompanied by several receipts for remittances made you on account of your pay — As the Check sent you on Oct 1800 is still in circulation it cannot be ascertained at present whether it was for fifty five dollars; when paid at the bank if it proves to be so that sum your account will be debited with the difference ten dollars as you are only charged with forty five dollars remitted to you at that time.

The penalty of forty dollars you were charged with for the failure that occurred in Panj last was remitted previously to the receipt of yours of the 10th Inst enclosing M^r Balfoors Letter on the subject. It is a pleasing circumstance to have it in my power to remit the penalties the Contractors are charged with reasonable excuses for failures & delays are not only readily but cheerfully admitted when they are transmitted by any of the agents of the Department. To exact fines altho' a necessary part of my duty is truly disagreeable to me — I am glad to find from M^r Balfoors Letter that your Riders are performing in such a manner as will longer subject you to the imputation of an inattentive agent of the Public. — From the enclosed statement of your account it would appear that there is a small balance due from you of thirty dollars nineteen cents if there should be any errors in it you will please to point them out.

I am J.H.

M^r Robert White Jr.
M^r H. Holmes & others
Winchester Va.

June 14 1801

Sir, I have received your favor requesting an alteration in the arrangement for carrying the Mail between Winchester & Alexandria & have duly considered the reasons offered.