

230x Ebenezer Alden Esq
Pm Union M^c Giv

Genl Post Office
August 23rd 1815

I have received yours of the 3rd ult. you will continue to accommodate your office with the mail as usual, and on the same terms.

R. J. Meigs

* Nephew How Esq
Pm Methuen M^c Giv

August 25th 1815

I observe in reply to yours of the 19th instant that the next product of the post office at Methuen is all that can be given for transporting the mail between and over Methuen & Salem - the Postmaster at Methuen, and the contractor, will make such a division, as suits themselves, of the product of the office at Methuen.

R. J. Meigs

* James Abbott Esq
Pm Detroit M^c Giv

August 25th 1815

Agreeable to the request of yours of the 25 ulto which has but just come to my hands. Enclose you the two letters of J. S. Astor

A. B. Jr.

* Mr. William Gamble
Vincennes Ind Ter Giv

August 26 1815

I have received yours of the 10th instant so long as the schedule attached to your contract remains unaltered - it will be difficult to increase your pay - unless your ride is extended by accommodating post offices other than those on your route - we wish to send a mail to the Post office at Lindsay's mills - on what terms will you employ that office with a mail once a week say let your rider go to that office on his way to Vincennes only & may we have yours and our

R. J. M.

* Joseph Ticklin Esq
Pm Russellville Ky Giv

General Post Office 231
August 25th 1815

I have received yours of the 12th instant - the Schedule that you have proposed for Mr. Paper is satisfactory, and is endorsed on the counterpart of his contract.

R. J. Meigs
August 28 1815

* John Hyde Esq
Pm Norwich Ct Giv

From the information received and a view of the circumstances relating to locality of the Norwich Post-Office I am of opinion that the office should be kept on the Green for the present - The next Session of Congress I propose to enquire of Mess^t Lane & Mosley & Champion as to the proper place as they will know the general & particular situations of the different Sections of the Town & it must be immaterial to them where it may be kept - Certainly desire your personal accommodations - when I can be satisfied that it will accord with the publick convenience

R. J. Meigs
August 28 1815

* Francis Corbin Esq
White Chimneys Va Giv

I had the honor of receiving yours of the 25th the cause of delay in answering your former letters you have ascribed justly to the expectation of seeing you here. As the Post Master at the White Chimneys is (you inform me) about to remove - I hereby authorise and request you to appoint a post master in the room of the present one - and transmit his name to the G. P. O. for confirmation

R. J. Meigs

932 Jonathan Law Esq. General Post Office
P.M. Hartford Ct. &c. Aug 29th 1815

The Collector of direct taxes, complains that you require him to pay postage on all letters to his address, unless he calls & informs you or your clerk, that they are on officials business; which gives him much trouble. That is a sure way of obtaining postage, on such as he is not entitled to receive free, but must be attended with considerable trouble to him. It is, the practice at many other offices, to consider all letters and packets addressed to a collector as free, on his promising to notify ~~Spay~~ the postmaster for all such as he is not entitled to receive as free. As the great majority of a collectors letters must be of an official nature, the practice appears to be reasonable & I should like to see it adopted at your office.

R. J. M.

August 30 1815

W^t Philo Taylor
Cleveland Ohio &c. &c.

I have received yours of the 17th instant if the post office is actually so located in Wheatboro as to cause an extra weekly travel of three mails - it must be replaced on the road where it has been heretofore kept. I have this day written to the postmaster on the subject.

R. J. M.

August 30. 1815.

W^t William Dickey
Wheatboro Ohio &c. &c.

The last mail brought me your letter of the 16th Inst and a letter from the contractor Mr P. Taylor. Both letters relate to the post office at Wheatboro. Mr Taylor says that the office kept by you is one and a half miles out of the usual or direct post road, and that occasions him to travel three mails a week more than he should be compelled to do were the office placed on the travelled road to Fortville if it be a fact that the office in Wheatboro is so situated as necessarily to cause an extra travel to the mail carrier it will be advisable to place the office on the direct and best road that is travelled between Cleveland & Fortville in Wheatboro, as the carrier in bad roads will want every moment of time that can be given him to perform his tritiae.

R. J. M.

George Eisenhardt Esq.
P.M. New Berlin Pa. &c. Aug 30 1815

General Post Office 933

Enclosed you have a bond and contract for transmitting the weekly mail between your office and Gamburg Pa. I wish you to engage a carrier for the route who may be relied on and return them to this office when they are received at this office a counterpart of the contract will be forwarded to the contractor.

R. J. M.

W^t Susannah Wiley &c.
P.M. George Town Pa. &c. Madam

Aug 30th 1815

I find that the postages at your office have increased so much that your bond is not an adequate security. I have therefore to request that you will with sufficient surety or securities execute the enclosed additional one for two thousand dollars & have date filled up and returned to me.

R. J. M.

Stanley Griswold Esq.
Shawneetown Ill. &c. &c.

Aug 31st 1815

In reply to your letter of the 13th instant I observe that mails made up at offices west of your village, for offices east of the post office in Shawneetown, are usually enclosed in one package, which is addressed "Eastward" that package is conveyed eastward until it reaches a distributing office and the consequence is that mails for offices west of the office of Distribution are unnecessarily carried beyond their point of delivery to the great inconvenience of the persons interested, to guard against that evil an office of Distribution was established in your village as being better situated than any other office on that line. the business will be inconsiderably - as very little distribution will be necessary in the mail that passes westward of Shawneetown.

R. J. M.

234 Thomas Thorey

General Post Office

P.M. Petersburg Va. { Giv

September 4th 1815

In reply to your letter of the 1st it is to be observed that the 4th sect. of the act passed Feb 27 1815 requires post masters of a post office to deliver all letters brought thither excepting such as are for the principal owner or consignee into the post office within three hours after arrival of in the day time & within two hours after the next sunrise, & in the night under a penalty of thirty dollars. A publication of this regulation will doubtless be useful & a prosecution should be commenced for every breach.

R. J. M.

X before Seaton Prime & Plummer

Sept. 5. 1815

Boston Mass. { Giv

I am informed that the mail confined to your charge is frequently injured by wet weather - if you examine the 9th Sect. of your contract you will find that you incur a penalty of one dollar a mile for carrying the mail without the body of your stages.

R. J. Meigs

Sept. 5. 1815.

X Mr. Isaac Robbins

Plymouth N.H. { Giv

It is stated that your mail carrier Dudley Hill is in the habit of drinking to excess - and that failures proceed from his intemperance - any actual failure in the carrying of the mail from such cause will make it necessary for me to annul your contract and to exact the penalties that you have incurred.

X Mr. Danl. P. Robbins

Sept. 5. 1815.

Plymouth N.H. { Giv

I have received yours of the 6th ult. if the fails in consequence of the carriers intoxication - the contract ought to be annulled - I have so advised the contractors this day

R. J. Meigs

X David George

General Post Office

P.M. Concord N.H. { Giv

235

September 5. 1815

I am favoured with yours of the 35th ult. all persons who undertake to carry the mail in a stage incur a penalty of one dollar a mile for each mile that he carries the mail in any other way than in the body of a stage - the contractors are not probably aware of the penalty. I have written to the Boston mail carriers on the subject

R. J. Meigs

Sept. 5. 1815

X Honble. Thomas Wilson

Crie R. { Giv

Observe in reply to yours of the 25th ult. that

agreeably to Mr. Gills contract he is to arrive at erie on Fridays by 10 A.M. and he is to depart the same day by 2 P.M. the Post Master at erie can indulge him with an earlier departure, when he is satisfied that all letters to go by his mail have been received.

R. J. M.

Sept. 5. 1815

X Honble. W. Franklin

Gull Camp N.H. { Giv

I observe in reply to your letter of the 23rd ult. that the mail contractor had special instructions from this office on the 8th ult. to supply the Post office at Society hill with the mail

R. J. Meigs

Sept. 5. 1815

X W. D. Smith

P.M. Rutland Vt. { Giv

I have received your letter of the 24th ult. and enclosed you have a bond and contract to be executed by Messrs. Day & Davis &c - you will make the schedule to suit those Gentlemen - provided that they shall not require more than three days to perform the trip in - we shall soon acquaint you with the schedules by which the contractors in your vicinity are to be governed especially in their arrival at and departure from your office

2364 Wm Gresham Esq }
P. M. & others Gresham Esq } Gentlemen
U. S. Post Office
Sept 5. 1815.

I have received your letter of the 7th ult.
I deeply regret that the mail contractor has given you such strong
ground of complaint by failing to carry the mail agreeable to his con-
tract. I pray you to be assured that I sometime ago took measures to
give you regular mails in future.

R. J. M.

+ Joseph Gresham Esq }
Pendleton C. A. S. C. } Sir
September 5. 1815

I have received yours of the 22nd ulto
Mr. Norwood can agreeably to your request make his arrival at
Pendleton C. A. on Wednesdays by 10 A. M. and depart same
days by noon or 1 P.M.

R. J. Meigs
Sept 5. 1815

+ Joseph B. Watson Esq }
Mr. Cherry Valley N.Y. } Sir

In reply to your letter of the 1st I have to
observe that the several commissions stated in the account current
lately sent to you are at the highest rates the law authorises me
to allow.

R. J. M.

+ W. Henry Butler }
Nottingham N.H. } Sir

Sept 5. 1815

I have received yours of the 22nd ulto
I do not see how we can pay you for transporting the
mail between Portsmouth and Concord - without you
first obtain the assent of Mr. John Butler - we can how-
ever suspend payment to him.

R. J. M.

* Major Peck, Sikes, Draper & General Post Office 237.
Newhaven Connecticut } Sir September 5. 1815.

In your letter of May 17th you pro-
pose to leave Newhaven every Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday say at
1 A.M. Arrive at Springfield same days by 8 A.M. Arrive at Bos-
ton on Monday, Wednesday & Friday by 8 P.M. Leave Bos-
ton every Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday at 1 A.M. arrive at Sprin-
field the same days by 8 P.M. arrive at Newhaven on Monday,
(Wednesday & Friday) by 8 P.M. this arrangement we under-
stand (through Abb. Lombard) is agreeable to you - may we have your
answer whether it is or is not.

R. J. Meigs

+ Wm Rogers Esq }
Mr. Hinshaw C. A. &c. } Sir
Sept 6. 1815

On and after the first of next month the gally
ols mail carrier is to arrive at your office on Tuesdays by 2 P.M. you
will from that period suspend the departure of the mail for Bowyer so as
to form a connection with those mails at your office

R. J. Meigs

+ Matthew Carey Esq }
Philadelphia Pa. } Sir
Sept 6. 1815

In reply to yours of the 2nd I state as my
opinion, that the "Monthly Literary Advertiser" if stiched will when
transmitted by mail be liable to pamphlet postage.

R. J. Meigs

* Charles Burwell Esq }
P. M. Baltimore Md. } Sir
Sept 1. 1815

Newspapers for Marietta Ohio shan-
go to that Town by this City

R. J. Meigs

238 + Mr. Joseph Asbury } General Post Office
near Hennawa C. H. 10^o } Sir Sept. 6. 1815

You will from and after the first day of next month arrive at Hennawa C. H. on Tuesday by 9 A.M. instead of 6 P.M. to fully compensate you for your increased speed. I propose to add eight dollars 50 Cents quarterly to your current compensation.

R. J. M.

+ Mr. William Hodge } General Post Office
near Mercer Pa } Sir Sept. 6. 1815

Previous to the receipt of your favour of the 24th ulto we had received and accepted a proposal to transport the mail between New Castle & Mercer

R. J. Meigs
Sept. 6. 1815

+ S. Colodell Esq } General Post Office
P.M. Hennawa Saline Va } Sir

I have received yours of the 8 ulto and I have made provision for the Catlettsburg and Gallipolis Mails to meet at Hennawa C. H. on Tuesdays

R. J. Meigs
Sept. 6. 1815

+ Richard Bach Esq } General Post Office
P.M. Philadelphia Pa } Sir

Newspapers for Marietta Ohio should go to that office by way of this City

R. J. Meigs

+ Genl Theodore Bailey } General Post Office
P.M. New York City } Sir

Newspapers for Marietta Ohio should be sent to that place via this City - addressed "Marietta Ohio".

R. J. Meigs

+ John Brown Esq } General Post Office
P.M. Rutherford J. } Sir September 6. 1815

I have received your letter of July 4 and regret to find the compensation inadequate & that no person can be found to keep it for the legal commission - the event in such case will be that when you give it up the office will be discontinued & hope that for the accommodation of your neighbours you will be disposed to continue, but when you determine otherwise you can forward to me the key of the mail. I am your respectfully

R. J. Meigs

+ Mr. Isaac Hagen } General Post Office
near Litchfield Conn } Sir Sept. 6. 1815

I observe in reply to your letter of that I am not authorised by law to send a mail from Goshen to Cornwall Bridge in your state - the law provides for transporting the mail between Canton and Goshen only.)

R. J. Meigs

P.S. You can carry the Poughkeepsie mail as follows leave Litchfield on Friday at 4 A.M. arrive at Poughkeepsie same day by 8 P.M. Leave Poughkeepsie every Monday at 2 P.M. arrive at Litchfield same day by 8 P.M. I regret that your letters have remained so long unanswered in consequence of being mislaid.

R. J. M.
September 6. 1815

+ Mr. Josiah Hedges } General Post Office
St. Clairsville Ohio } Sir

Your letter of the 11th June was duly received and since you refused the offer made in my last to you, it is now withdrawn & I have ordered a suit upon your bond. It appears to me that the opinion of your attorney is incorrect, but as the question must be decided by the proper authority there can be no use in discussing it now.

R. J. Meigs

240 Robt B. Currey Esq
Pm. Nashville Tenn } fix General Post office
Sept 8 1815.

The portmanteaus used for transporting the mail between your office and Natchez are represented to be insecure and wholly unfit for use. I hope you will supply the respective mail routes - which branch from your office with suitable portmanteaus - strong and sound. the expense of Port manteaus you charge to this office in your account current as a contingent expense.

R. J. M.

Sidus Dinsmore Esq
Pm. Choctaw Agency N.C. } fix Sept 8. 1815

I am favored with yours of the 19th Ultimo and I have this day given instruction to the post master of Nashville to supply the Natchez Post route with strong and sound Portmanteaus.

R. J. M.

Daniel Lombard Esq
Pm. Springfield P.R. } fix Sept 8. 1815

Your letter of the 9th Ultimo is before me. If the paper you enclosed had been published by a prints who did not edit a newspaper it could not be considered as a newspaper within the meaning of the law in relative to postage. But in this case it seems nothing more than a continuation of the newspapers called the Boston Gazette. I have considered it to be a general practice to rate such continuations as newspapers that is the practice here at Philad & New York & do not see any reason why it should be altered.

R. J. M.

Aaron Hill Esq
Mr. Boston N.C. } fix General Post office 240
12 September 1815

The Postmaster at Providence wishes you to send the mail for his office by the morning stage. I trust that you will not object to his request.

R. J. M.

Mr. R. Snoddy
New London Vt } fix Sept 11. 1815

I have received yours of the 1st instant - the proposal of Mr. Asa Piper was accepted for transporting the mail between Bowling Green to Glens Falls at the rate of two hundred and ninety dollars per annum, which is sixty per annum less than your bid to have been

R. J. M.

Gabriel Allen Esq
Pm. Providence R.I. } fix Sept 12. 1815

I have apprised the Postmaster of Boston of your request - and I trust he will comply with it.

R. J. M.

Samuel Agnew
Harrisburg Pa } fix Sept 12. 1815

I observe in reply to your letter of the 29th Ultmo and to the petition therein closed - that we cannot alter the mail arrangement referred to without causing a material decay in the western mail and deranging our general plan - but I shall specially instruct the mail contractors - to cause his stage to avoid the church on Sabbath, or to drive by it in a slow quiet manner.

R. J. M.

George Loring Esq
Pm. Morrisville Pa } fix Sept 12. 1815

I have received your letter of the 6th. and I have informed Mr. Bailey of his drivers negligence

R. J. M.

431 W. Chester Bailey
Philadelphia Pa { fix

General Post Office
September 12. 1815

The Postmaster of Morrisville states that your drivers are negligent about the delivery of the mail at his office - I am confident that you will promptly correct the evil.

* Mr Peter R. Robinson
Halifax C. H. N.C { fix

R. J. M
September 12. 1815

We had received and accepted the proposal of R. Crute for carrying the mail on the route that your letter of the 1st instant, some weeks before the receipt of your letter.

* Mr John Tomlinson
Philadelphia Penn { fix

R. J. M
September 12. 1815

I am informed from a respectable source that your stages pass a church in Harrisburg on the sabbath day during divine service and with a speed and noise that interrupts the service - I am confident that you will take immediate measures to correct the evil by avoiding the street where the church is situated or by driving in a slow and quiet manner.

R. J. M

+ John Moore Esq
Campbell's Grove N.C { fix

September 12. 1815

I have received yours of the 2nd inst. your account is credited at the rate of eight hundred and forty dollars from the first July 1815 (per annum) we shall allow six dollars a mile premium for calling at Society Hill with the mail counting the distance one way

R. J. Meigs

+ Daniel Gallant Esq
Pm. Whitehall N.C { fix

General Post Office 244
September 12. 1815

I have received yours of the 2nd instant - we shall give you an additional credit of thirty dollars per annum for extending your route to Rocky Mount N.C to take August 24. 1815 - It is matter of surprise that you should have received no pay for carrying the mail on your present contract - for on the 23rd May last we forwarded to you two hundred eighty seven dollars in bank notes - as you will perceive by a copy of a letter to you of that date herinclosed - other letters of that date with money went off the address was correct - I trust that the letter has been erroneously sent to a wrong office - the notes enclosed were of the Union Bank of Georgetown & it will be well to inquire whether any notes of that description have been passed within your knowledge - we shall now forward to you three quarters pay - still hoping that the letter will either reach you or be returned to this office

R. J. Meigs

+ Sampson Duggar Esq
Pm. Poweltown Ga { fix

September 12. 1815

I have received yours of the 30th Ult: - before this period I trust that your mails will become regular as the Postmaster of Augusta Ga was sometime ago instructed to correct the mail irregularity on the Poweltown route

+ Mr John Reed
near Gallipolis O. { fix

R. J. Meigs
September 14. 1815

I have received yours of the 31st Ult: I see no objection to your arriving at Gallipolis at 7 P.M. with the understanding that you leave that place at 9 P.M. on Sunday and be soon discharged by the Postmaster at that place

R. J. M

245 Mr. Alexander Mr. Kirby's General Post Office
near Romney was ^{fix} September 14. 1815.

You will perceive after the receipt by government of the following "Schedule" leave Cumberland every Tuesday at 6 P.M. arrive at Romney same day by 7 P.M. leave Romney as soon as the W. City mail arrives and is aff'd. Arrive at Pendleton on Thursday by 4 P.M. leave there same day by 6 A.M. and arrive at Cumberland on Monday by 6 P.M.

R. J. M.

+ J. Muller Esq. {
P.M. Monfordsv. Sir

Sept 14. 1815

P.M. Monfordsv. Sir

I have received yours of the 3^d instant - we had noted the alterations proposed by you in Mr. Mr. Kirby's contract several months ago - but owing to accident it did not go into operation as was intended. Mr. Mc Kinley is again advised upon the subject.

R. J. M.

Mr. William Cummings Jr. {
September 15. 1815

Cyrthianas ^{W.H.} fix

I have received your letter of the 3^d ult. we cannot add to your pay for the increase weight of the mail, un till the mail shall on an average weigh 80 lbs.

R. J. M.

Mr. Jonathan Jennings {
Charleston S.C. Sir

General Post Office
September 16. 1815.

246

I observe in reply to yours of the 15th that with a view to economy we blended the Cuyahoga and Louisville & Cincinnati mail together - with a determination that all offices on those routes should be accommodated regularly with the mail and with a view to accommodating the office at Lindley's Mills with the mail - I have requested the carrier of the mail for the last mentioned route to call there if he does not. I shall make other provision for its accommodation - marginal failure in our arrangements for these routes were produced by the inadequacy of the proposed contractor who we were led to believe was competent to fulfill his engagements

R. J. M.

Mr. Crastus Young {
Bennington Vt. Sir

September 16. 1815

I have received yours of the 4th instant the distance between Socieck N.Y. and Pownall is represented to be nine miles & for transporting the mail on that route we cannot allow more than sixty dollars per annum if the mail is carried in a stage - a blank bond and contract for that route was sometime since forwarded to the postmaster of Pownall and to whom I intrust you for further information

R. J. M.

Rufus Kellogg Esq. {

Sept 17. 1815

P.M. Amherst Ms. Sir

I will thank you to erase the word East street in the bond or contract sent you to be executed by Olin Gould we unintentionally committed an error by inserting East street in those papers - if equally agreeably to Mr. Gould we shall prefer to have leave Northampton on Fridays instead of Tuesdays may we hear from you on these subjects.

R. J. M.

947 Mr. Davis Grinnell

General Post Office

Charleston S.C. { Sir

September 19. 1815

I observe in reply to your letter of the 8 instant
that the intercourse between Augusta and Charleston is too inconveni-
ientable to justify this office in paying an extra price for transporting
the mail in a stage - but I will renew a proposition that we have
before made to you that is we will give you one thousand dollars
per annum for transporting the mail once a week between these
places in a stage - provided that you shall accommodate all establish-
ed Post offices between Charleston S.C. & Edgefield C. A. and you will go
to Augusta instead of Edgefield C. A. in the event of your accepting
of this. Mr. Bassett will be authorized to deliver the mail to you upon
your giving him satisfactory security for the performance of your con-
tract.

R. J. M.

+ Mr. John Jackson
Lawrenceburg Ind. { Sir

September 19. 1815

It is stated to this office that several fail-
ures occurred between Cincinnati and Louisville last winter for want of engag-
ing the river Ohio more than is ordinarily necessary when the waters are
low that mails regularity is indispensably necessary and if you actually
incurred an extra expense by hiring in accomplishing that object - you will
be fully reimbursed therefor when you shall show a proper voucher to
support said charge - this letter is written that you may be prepared to
guard against failures the ensuing winter

R. J. M.

* William D. Smith Esq. {

P. M. Rutland Vermont { Sir

General Post Office

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September 18. 1815

I have received yours of the 10 instant you can
alter Mr. Wheelock's schedule so that he go from Rutland to Salem on Wed-
nesday and return to Rutland on Thursday. You observe that it is stat-
ed that Mr. Wheelock or his carriers - previous to the late election in your left
newspapers to answer political purposes - will you be good enough to state
how and where these offences were committed that we may take such
measures as the case requires. It may be proper to observe that Mr. Wheelock
has no separate contract with this office. He is now known to this office
as a contractor only as a partner with Messrs. Young and Hollister.

R. J. M.

Capt. John Shaw
Carthage Tenn { Sir

September 19. 1815

Your letter of the 8 ult. has been received covering
your account for riding express to New Orleans. You give no list of actual pay-
ments or information on what ground you make your estimate of expenses.
The charge of 63 Dollars, for discount on the whole sum received, I suppose
must be conjectural, & that it goes too far as every one, on such an extensive journey
may not have demanded discount. According to the practice here an esti-
mate has been made of services & expenses; & the amount falls short of the sum
which you have received from this office and without proof of the
particulars of expenditure a further sum cannot be paid you

R. J. M.

249 + Jonathan Eastman Esq. General Post Office
Amherst N.H. { Sir 19 September 1815

I observe in reply to yours of the 11 instant
that the word "Eaststreet" instead "Weststreet" was accidentally inserted in
the contract forwarded to Mr. Gould for execution in Amherst N.H.
we have corrected the error in the counterpart of the contract and we have
directed the Postmaster of Amherst to make the proper corrections in
the bond and contract which were sent to him - and we shall alter
Mr. Gould's schedule to Friday instead of Tuesday if he sees no objection
to the alteration

R. J. M.

September 20. 1815

+ Genl Thosensis Bailey,
P.M. New York { Sir

I have your letter of the 16 before me with
statements of letters conveyed by the steam boat and the amount due
for their carriage. The amounts are in a satisfactory form & return
the papers that you may pay the Captains or owners the sum due
to them. If you will forward their receipts with the amounts the
amount shall be placed to your credit here.

R. J. M.

Sept 20. 1815

+ Mr. James Johnson
Great Croydon N.Y. Sir

I have received your letter of the 10 inst
with its several enclosures - until the roads to and from Manchester
are improved and rendered safe for man & horse, you are ex-
empted from calling there with the mail - provided that you regularly
supply the office with one mail each week by a coach post - I have
apprised the Postmaster at Manchester of my instructions to
you on this subject

R. J. M.

+ Thomas W. Beach Esq. General Post Office 2450
P.M. Charleston S.C. { Sir Sept 19. 1815

I am again importuned by Mr. Grimball
to pay him for transporting a mail between your office and Augus-
ta - and I have ^{graciously} tendered him a contract for weekly mails, at the rate of one
thousand dollars per annum - which if he accepts you will fill the
blanks in the enclosed papers let him execute them, and when ex-
ecuted and returned to this office, a counterpart of the contract will
be executed on my part and forwarded to him. If Mr. Grimball re-
jects the papers, I wish you to inform Mr. Randolph who has charge
of the mail that passes between your office and Edgefield & that
his contract will cease in consequence of the establishment of a line of
stages on the principal part of his route the intercourse between your
office and Augusta is so inconsiderable, that I do not consider it
to be proper to expend more money for carrying the mail in a stage
on that route than we now expend for carrying the mail between
Charleston and Edgefield & H. on horseback

R. J. M.

+ Mr. Benjamin Burrington
Frankfort Ky. { Sir September 19. 1815

I have received your letter of the 8 instant
if the citizens of Louisville generally consent to your arriving at that
place later than you now do - I may then be induced to comply
with your request - but not otherwise for I find that the public are
better served by increasing the speed of the mail than by dimin-
ishing it

R. J. M.