

445
+ Honble Mr. Pleasants
M. H. Representative, Sir

General Post Office
29 Feb. 1816

I have the honour to observe in reply to yours that I have complied with Mr. Crews request agreeably to your advice.

R. J. Meigs

+ John Blair Esq. Sir

29 February 1816

P. M. Ridgville Ohio Your letter of the 16 inst. has been mislaid or it would have met earlier attention - it was slightly read and an impression made, that Robt had complied with the request - I wish you to see him and stipulate to pay the sum of \$50 per annum for accommodating your office with the mail as your office will not need that sum this office will pay to you the sum deficient.

R. J. Meigs

29 Feb. 1816

+ Jno. M. Breeden, Sir

Thomsburg Va. You can agreeably to your request, Leave Fredericksburg every Wednesday at 6 AM arrive at Goochland on Thursday by 6 P.M. Leave there by 7 P.M. and return to Fredericksburg on the next Tuesday by 6 P.M.

R. J. Meigs

29 Feb. 1816

+ William Woody, Sir

P. M. Leesburg Va. I wish your rider from Richmond to Harroburg to call at Crewsville with the mail for the increased travel you shall be paid.

R. J. Meigs

29 February 1816

+ J. W. Boyd Esq.

P. M. Newcastle Pa. I have received your letter of the 14 inst. - the sum you demand for accommodating Fort Jackson with the mail is much too high but as that office is established I must close with your offer and you will transport the mail to that office every week until you have further advice from this office.

R. J. Meigs

+ Messrs. Skinner & Barber
Manetta Ohio Sir

General Post Office
March 1816

On and after the 1 of May next I wish you to make your arrival at Armstrongs, on Monday ^{Wednesday} ^{Thursday} ^{Friday} by three and a half o'clock in the morning and you can depart from there at 4 AM on those mornings this arrangement will considerably increase your travel between Manetta and Armstrongs and diminish your speed on the return - as this alteration may render the use of another horse necessary - I propose to allow you for the alteration at the rate of one hundred and fifty dollars per annum from the 1 of May next

R. J. Meigs

March 1 1816

+ Messrs. Leno & Burch, Sir

Prospect Hill Va. Messrs. Maguire, Thare, Baricks & Crawford have agreed to transport the mail in stages between Washington City and Winchester on and after May 1 next - your contract will cease to have effect so far as relates to that part of your route from 80th of Spring but your full pay will be continued until the 1 of June agreeably to the 1st section of your contract. Your schedule between Winchester and Armstrongs - will from May 1 next thus Leave Winchester every Sunday & Friday at 1 AM and Tuesday at 9 AM Arrive at Armstrongs on Monday, Thursday & Saturday at 5 AM Returning Leave Armstrongs every Monday Thursday & Saturday at 10 AM and arrive at Winchester on Tuesday, Friday, & Sunday by 5 AM

R. J. Meigs

March 1816

+ Samuel S. Hauesock, Sir

P. M. Bradley Va. I have received yours of the 15th ultimo you can transport your mail in the manner that you have proposed

R. J. Meigs

447 H. H. Bland
Hatchitochy La. Sir

General Post Office
1 March 1816

I have received your letter of the 5th ult. I pray you to be assured and to assure the memorialists - that I had previous to your letter enquiring into - taken such measures about the direct transport of the mails to your place - as will in my opinion restore the mails regularly.

P. J. Meigs

W. Smith Bowen Sir
Bridgetown N.J.

1 March 1816

I have established a post office at Newport N.J. on the route to bedawille - I wish you to supply that office with the mail for your increased travel you shall be paid.

P. J. Meigs

W. Tho. M. Sedwick Sir
Bedford Penn

2 March 1816

I am to inform you that your post route between Bedford & Greensburg has been sometime since confided by agreement to sundry state proprietors and owing to accident - we have failed to advise of that circumstance you will on receipt of this letter cease to transport said mail - but agreeably to contract your pay will be continued say until 15 of next month.

P. J. Meigs

William Bawcitt Sir
Winchester Va.

2 March 1816

I have received your letter of the 25th ult. we cannot so arrange the mail between Staunton & Winchester as to establish a direct connection between the Western mail at Staunton, and the eastern at Winchester, - it will not therefore be necessary to send three mails a week on your route.

P. J. Meigs

Robert Stewart Sir
Greensburg Pa.

2 March 1816

The postmasters of Greensburg and Bedford are instructed to send the mail between their offices in your new line of stages

P. J. Meigs

+ John Schell by
Pitt Bedfords Pa. Sir

General Post Office
2 March 1816

I wish you to send the exp mails for the Greensburg route by the new line of stages from the receipt of this letter.

P. J. Meigs

Wm M. Miller Sir
Wheeling Va.

2 March 1816

In reply to your letter of the 22nd ult. I observe that the W. Westbays must carry their mails agreeably to contract or abide the consequence - we know of no division of the post route between Pittsburg & Wheeling.

P. J. Meigs

+ Wm H. Jones by
P. M. A. Haven Ct. Sir

2 March 1816

In reply to your letter of the 27th ult. I observe - that you will detain either mail a period not exceeding one hour when in your opinion - on the depending or corresponding mail will probably arrive and thereby save a trip; in all cases of detention you will give the contractor, a certificate of the period of detention - to justify him from any charges for delay, provided that such delays shall not exceed the period that you had detained him.

P. J. Meigs

+ John C. Rochester by
Rochester N.Y. Sir

2 March 1816

Your letter of the 22nd inst. has been mislaid or it would have met with earlier attention - you can have a contract - and receive the netts emoluments of post offices to be established (on a private post route) between Rochester and Lewistown N.Y. the contract to be limited to three years - if you are disposed to contract on those terms - I wish you to say so and to name the several Towns in which you propose to have post offices established - and the several postmasters which you may designate for postmaster.

P. J. Meigs

449 ^{Stable} H. St. George Tucker
U. S. Representative

General Post Office
3 March 1816

Sir

I have the honor to observe in reply to your letter of the 1st inst which enclose Mr. Bawcutt's letter to you under date of the 25th Ult^o. that you have very justly stated the character of Mr. Bawcutt that gentleman for twenty four years ranked amongst the most able the most faithful and preserving mail contractors that have been employed by this - and I am extremely sorry to say that the arrangement proposed by him to transport the great south western mail cannot be agreed to, while his present contract continues - in making this recent arrangement with Messrs. Maguire & Co. for the transport of this mail in stages between this city and Winchester. we were obliged to adopt such a plan as would contain a direct connection between that route and the great western mail which passes between Winchester to Chillicothe to Frankfort Ky. &c. &c. and after a minute examination - we find that the route now confided to Mr. Bawcutt cannot connect with the south western mail at Staunton and the Washington mails when transported in stages at Winchester in our next advertisement which will be soon issued it is probable that we may arrange that route agreeably to your wishes, and of Mr. Bawcutt. I have no doubt but that the post route to be established and to which you have adverted in your letter - will be of more public utility than many post routes now in operation.

P. J. Meigs

+ Edward Maguire & Co
Winchester Va

3rd March 1816

Enclosed you have a bond and contract to execute for the transport of the mails in stages between Washington City & Winchester when these papers are executed by you and Messrs. Barick & Ware you can forward them to Mr. Crawford for his signature - and when they are returned to this office duly executed a counterpart of the contract executed on my part will be forwarded to the contractors.

P. J. Meigs

+ John Hankinson & Co
Post Office

General Post Office
4 March 1816

Sir

The following is the schedule for the transport of three mails a week between Natchez & New Orleans. They leave Natchez every Sunday, Tuesday & Friday at 2 P.M. Arrive at New Orleans on the next Wednesday Friday & Saturday by 3 P.M. Leave New Orleans every Sunday Tuesday & Thursday at noon Arrive at Natchez on Wednesday, Friday & Sunday by 10 A.M. One of the three mails is to go by Madisonville. The Nashville mail is to arrive at your office on Sunday, Tuesday & Friday by 10 A.M. and it is to depart at 2 P.M. on Sunday Wednesday & Friday. May I have your answer.

P. J. Meigs

+ Mr. Haywood Parish
Fredericksburg Va

4 March 1816

On and after the 1st of next month - I wish you to carry this mail as follows. They leave Charlottesville every Monday, Wednesday & Friday at noon Arrive at Fredericksburg on Tuesday Thursday and Saturday by 3 P.M. Leave Fredericksburg every Monday, Wednesday & Saturday at 7 A.M. Arrive at Charlottesville on the next days by 9 A.M.

P. J. Meigs

+ Mr. James West
Staunton Va

4 March 1816

On and after 1st of April next you will be governed by the following schedule. They leave Staunton every Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 4 A.M. Arrive at Fincastle on Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday by 11 A.M. Leave Fincastle every Monday, Wednesday & Saturday at 10 A.M. Arrive at Staunton on Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday by 3 P.M.

P. J. Meigs

+ George Oury Esq
P. M. Wythe Co. Va

4 March 1816

The following is the schedule by which you are to be governed from April 1st next. Leave Wythe Co. every Monday, Thursday & Saturday at 10 P.M. Arrive at Knoxville the next Friday, Monday and Wednesday at 10 A.M. Leave Knoxville every Sunday, Tuesday & Thursday at 2 P.M. Arrive at Wythe Co. on Thursday Saturday and Monday at 11 A.M.

P. J. Meigs

437
Williams S. Gainer
Charlottesville Va. Sir

General Post Office
4 March 1816

On and after the second of April next I wish you to transport the mail between Charlottesville & Staunton agreeably to the schedule annexed. ^{at 10 A.M.} Leave Charlottesville every Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday at 10 A.M. Arrive at Staunton on same days by 9 P.M. Leave Staunton every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 1 A.M. Arrive at Charlottesville on same days by 11 A.M.

R. J. Meigs

4 March 1816

Lindsay C. Brown Esq. Sir

Montgomery C. H. V. The following schedule by which you are to be governed on and after the second of April next. Leave Fincastle every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 1 P.M. Arrive at Wythe C. H. Thursday, Saturday & Monday by 11 A.M. Leave Wythe C. H. every Monday, Thursday & Saturday at 1 P.M. Arrive at Fincastle on Wednesday, Saturday & Monday by 11 A.M.

R. J. Meigs

4 March 1816

James Eddington Esq. Sir

Knoxville Tenn. The following is the schedule by which you are to be governed. Leave Knoxville every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 10 A.M. Arrive at Nashville the next Friday, Sunday & Tuesday by 8 A.M. (about four days) Leave Nashville every Sunday, Wednesday and Friday at 2 P.M. Arrive at Knoxville on the next Thursday, Sunday & Tuesday by 10 A.M.

R. J. Meigs

4 March 1816

Thomas B. Johnson Esq. Sir

New Orleans. On and after the 1 of next month the mail is to arrive at your office every Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 2 P.M. Leave New Orleans every Sunday, Tuesday & Thursday 12 noon.

R. J. Meigs

+ Robt. B. Hume Esq. Sir
P. M. Nashville Tenn.

General Post Office
4 March 1816

On and after the 1 of April next the eastern mail is to arrive at and depart from your office as follows. Arrive every Sunday, Tuesday and Friday at 9 A.M. Depart every Sunday, Wednesday and Friday by 2 P.M. The southern mail is to arrive at your office every Sunday, Wednesday & Friday at 9 A.M. and it is to depart every Sunday, Tuesday and Friday by 5 P.M. I wish you to state this schedule to Col. Foster, who we presume has contracted for the new mail. Leave Nashville every Sunday, Tuesday & Friday at 3 P.M. Arrive at St. Louis the next Sunday, Tuesday & Friday at 10 A.M. Leave St. Louis every Sunday, Wednesday & Friday at 2 P.M. Arrive at Nashville every Sunday, Wednesday and Friday by 9 A.M. allowing a week to go and a week to return with each mail.

R. J. Meigs

March 2. 1816

+ Jason Chamberlain Esq. Sir

Burlington Vermont. Yours of the 22 January was duly received. agreeably to your request I enclose a statement of your accounts as it stands on the books of this office exhibiting a balance to be due from you from you on the 1st January 1816 of \$53.64 which you will please to pay over to your receiver (as proposed by you) and furnish this office with his receipt for the payment.

R. J. Meigs

4 March 1816

+ Messrs. Suggitt & Thomson, Sir

Great Crossing Ky. In consequence of a late alteration of the mail at Nashville - I wish your departure from that place on Wednesday & Friday at 5 P.M. from Nashville instead of Tuesday & Friday - the only alteration necessary is for you to depart on Wednesday from Nashville in three and a half days instead of four and a half to Frankfort - and the increased speed will probably subject you to the expense of keeping another horse - that expense will be repaid to you by this office.

R. J. Meigs

453
W. Joseph Branch
X Cambridge N.Y. Sir

General Post Office
4 March 1816

It is represented that if you were to send one of your three lines which pass between Pouttery & Middleburg through Fairhaven - that such arrangement would be very useful to many citizens - are you willing to send your Thursday stage in that way - if not what are your reasons will you favor me with an early reply (it is understood that your travel will not be increased by this alteration).

R. J. Meigs

X William D. Smith Sir

4 March 1816

P. M. Rutland Vt. I observe in reply to your letter of the 22nd ult. that I have enclosed you a bond and contract for the post route lately confided to Elisha Clark - as Mr. Belknap has carried that mail it is believed that he has a claim to a preference for the contract, and we trust that you will deem it to be proper to offer him the contract on its present terms before it is tendered to another as you

X Charles Squire Sir

4 March 1816

Denmark N.Y. It is represented that the post route used on the Ogdenburg route is insufficient if so I wish you to supply a new one.

R. J. Meigs

X Honble Aaron Lyle Sir

5 March 1816

M. H. Representatives I have the honor to observe in reply to Mr. McSpiffers letter to your under date of the 17th ult. that the contract for the transport of the mail between Pittsburg & W. Whiting Vt. was made with Henry & James Westray at \$2,400 per annum - that sum has not been increased; that route was assigned to John M. Aubrey who withdrew his bid in favor of Henry and James Westray.

+ Honble Saml. J. Benson
M. H. Representatives Sir

General Post Office
5 March 1816

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday, if at the conclusion of the current year Mr. Gilman shows that the sum of \$50 proposed to be given him for the transport of one second weekly mail between Augusta and Anson is insufficient - he shall in that case be paid the additional sum of \$50 for that service by this Department - We do not find that any charge has been made in the post office at New Sharon nor in the route that leads to that office.

R. J. Meigs

+ Duncan M. Rao Sir

5 March 1816

P. M. Fayetteville N.C. I have received your favour of the 1st and enclosed you have a letter for John M. Farland.

R. J. Meigs

+ John M. Farland Sir

5 March 1816

Fayetteville N.C. Your mail carriers must arrive at Fayetteville at the contract hour and regularly so, or you must calculate to see the mail run in your charge confided to another person.

R. J. Meigs

+ Joseph Bringham Sir

5 March 1816

P. M. Wilmington Del. I will thank you to place all mails for the post office at Sarinton N.C. in the way mail post route - that such mails may be taken out at Elkton N.C.

R. J. Meigs

+ Charles Burnall Esq Sir

5 March 1816

P. M. Battimore Md. Please to send mails for Sarinton in the way mail that the mails for that office may be taken out at Elkton N.C.

R. J. Meigs

475
+ Aaron Belknap
P. M. Newburg Ky. } Sir

General Post Office
5 March 1816

In reply to yours of the 28th ulto. I observe that you can release Mr. Rogers from the transport of the mail to Monroe - as soon as that measure can be done without injury to the public and you may pay him at the increased rate of ten dollars a quarter to cover extra toll expenses.

R. J. Meigs

+ William Burke Esq. } Sir

5 March 1816

P. M. Cincinnati O. } I have received yours of the 24th ulto. Pittsburg is not a distributing office for the state of Pennsylvania & you will therefore send all mails for that State to Washington D.C. If Cummins will not do his duty turn him off and employ experimental carriers at once.

R. J. Meigs

+ William Murphy Esq. } Sir

5 March 1816

P. M. Washington D.C. } I have received yours of the 30th ulto. the Cincinnati mail should arrive at your office on Wednesday evening and depart from there on Thursday morning such is the schedule - and you are authorized to require the carrier to conform to that arrangement.

R. J. Meigs

+ Henry King Esq. } Sir

5 March 1816

P. M. Morristown N.C. } I have received yours of the 29th ulto. I do not see any objection to your transporting the mail lately in charge of E. W. Pison deceased unless his representatives shall transport it or in case it can be carried for a less sum than he was to receive.

You can however continue that mail until you have further advice from this office.

R. J. Meigs

+ William S. Sauer,
Charlottesville Va. } Sir

General Post Office
6 March 1816

I have received yours of the instant - I apprehend that you will find it to be your interest to run stages between Charlottesville and Staunton two mails appears to be sufficient to pass between Richmond & Charlottesville. your schedule for that route will be as follows from April 1st viz Leave Charlottesville every Monday & Friday noon arrive at Richmond the next Wednesday & Sunday by 10 A.M. Leave Richmond every Sunday at 1 P.M. and Thursdays at noon and arrive at Charlottesville on Tuesday and Saturday by 9 A.M.

R. J. Meigs

+ Gilman Porter, } Sir

6 March 1816

Washington Va. } I have received your letter of the 29th ulto. in our usual mail arrangement we shall probably send the mails by Washington both ways.

R. J. Meigs

+ Abner W. A. Burwell, } Sir

6 March 1816

N. H. Representatives } I have the honor to observe in reply to your letter of the 1st as well as to Mr. Cooks letter therewith that I have given positive instructions to the postmaster of Lynchburg to send the whole mail invariably - and not to permit any parts to be left behind - I should be pleased to see the mail stages extended to Liberty if such extension should meet the views of the contractor (Mr. Patterson) to whom I have this day written on the subject.

R. J. Meigs

+ Timothy Patterson Esq. } Sir

6 March 1816

P. M. Hincastle Penn. } It is wished by several citizens that a stage should be established to run between Lynchburg & Liberty (to carry the mail) if it will suit you to start a stage to pass between those places I will add as an inducement to your undertaking \$500 per cent. to the sum now paid you for carrying the mail between those places on horseback.

R. J. Meigs

457

Collin Barker
P.M. Lyuburg Va. } Sir

General Post Office
6 March 1816

No part or parcel belonging to any postroute that branches from your office must from any consideration whatever be left in your office - if it pertains to a mail or mails as all mails and parts of mails, must be sent by the pending mail at all events

R. J. Meigs

+ Honble Henry Clay } Sir

6 March 1816

Speaker of the House } I have the honour to enclose for the consideration of the House of Representatives a list of unproductive postroads for the last year.

R. J. Meigs

+ Honble Sen: Gaillard } Sir

6 March 1816

President of the Senate } I have the honour to enclose for the consideration of the Senate a list of unproductive postroads for the last year.

R. J. Meigs

+ Smith Bowen } Sir

7 March 1816

Bridgetown N.J. } I have received your letter of the 3rd inst - if any person carries on your route sealed or unsealed posted or sewed together he infringes the post office law and he is liable to a prosecution and he ought unquestionably to be prosecuted. - By our books it appears that the sum of \$225 were transmitted to your address on the 12th Inst which it would seem from the note attached to your letter has not yet to hand and yet we have not heard of any loss on the postroad between this place and yours - I fear the letter has miscarried.

R. J. Meigs

+ Abraham Britton } Sir

8 March 1816

P.M. Bottle Hill N.J. } In reply to your letter of the 1st inst I observe that that the postmaster of Morristown has a provisional direction of the postroute lately in charge of C. Piron dec^d to that gentleman Mr. Thompson had better apply.

R. J. Meigs

+ William Shaw } Sir

General Post Office
7 March 1816

Puttand Mount } It has been represented to this office that your credit was not sufficiently good to obtain a credit from the printers of newspapers to deliver on the postroute which was provisionally assigned to you - no charge was made against your character - We should certainly consider Mr. Cleaver Wheelock to be a most ample bondsman or security - and I presume that Mr. Smith would so consider him - The disposition of the postroute referred to by you - had been given to Mr. Smith before your letter reached this office and to that gentleman I must now refer you.

R. J. Meigs

+ James Parker } Sir

7 March 1816

P.M. Bedford N.H. } I have received yours of the 7th inst - Mr. Talbot was entitled to the nett receipts of your office up to Decem^r 31 1814 and I believe still is entitled to the receipts inasmuch as it does not appear that your office is incorporated in an established postroute. - You can pay Mr. Talbot the balance of postage remaining in your hands and take his receipt therefor which will be a proper voucher for you with this office.

R. J. Meigs

+ Robert H. Archer } Sir

8 March 1816

P.M. Chesapeake Md } I observe in reply to your letter of the 26th inst that the mail carriers must promptly deliver the mail at your office and without any delay - by showing this letter to them - I trust that they will thin their duty.

R. J. Meigs

+ S. J. Don } Sir

8 March 1816

Albany N.Y. } I have received your letter of the 26th inst - No complaint has been made to this office against your office in any respect - You have enclosed a schedule of all the arrivals at and of their departure from your office. - You can forward on all the postoffice such vouchers as shall be at this time out of your reach, even when you have obtained them by carried to your late partners credits - The sooner the $\frac{1}{2}$ and vouchers are forwarded to this office the better

R. J. Meigs

459 Mr. Morris Dillard

Raleigh N.C. Sir

General Post Office

March 1816

I have received your letter of 2nd instant the certificates of Messrs Harrison and Westray show that your distance is increased from 12 to 15 miles - and I have directed you to be credited at the rate of \$60 per annum for that extra service from 10 Sept. 1814 and you have another credit of \$12 a year for going by Cherry Plains - making your current pay to \$72 per annum.

R. I. Meigs

11 March 1816

+ Henry Allen Sir

Banbridge Me. Your bonds and contract returned to this office by Mr. Houghteling in his letter of Nov. 4th (which has just come to hand) are now returned - On the 28 Sept. last it appears by a letter received from you that you withdrew your bid and the route was consequently assigned to Rufell Peck who has long since executed a bond and contract for the due transport of a mail on that route.

R. I. Meigs

11 March 1816

+ Mr. Hight Sir

Willsboro N.Y. It has been intimated to me that some contractor or mail carrier has refused to carry your paper called the "Saratoga Democrat" will you have the goodness to say who was the offender and when the refusal was made - that I may know what proceedings to take in the business - allow me to assure you that the mail carriers shall carry every mail entrusted to them and all newspapers which are intended to be forwarded by them, if presented to them before the period fixed for their departure - contractors or carriers who shall refuse to do their duty in this respect shall be removed from the employ of this office.

R. I. Meigs

+ Richard Bucke Esq

Phila. Pa. Sir

General Post Office

11 March 1816

I have received yours of the 7th instant will you have the goodness to read and forward the inclosed letter to Mr. Meffert.

R. I. Meigs

11 March 1816

+ Jacob List Esq Sir

P.M. Wilkesbarre Pa. I will thank you to inform the several mail carriers who arrive at and depart from your office that they must carry all news papers which are presented to them before the hour fixed for their departure from your office - or I shall place the mail in other hands.

R. I. Meigs

+ Honble Lewis Condit Sir

M. H. Representatives I have the honor to observe in reply to your letter of the 8th that the representatives of Mr. Pierson have a right to transport the mail for which he had contracted - Mr. King proposed of this post route, & authorized him to do so, provided that Mr. Piersons representative did not - I have established a post office at Berkshire Valley.

R. I. Meigs

11 March 1816

+ Mr. William Ward Esq Sir

Deq. Newark N. Jersey. In reply to your letter of the 8th observe that the instructions I gave to postmasters relative to Bible societies - at the instance of the Honble Messrs Pickering & Reed - still remain in force - be good enough to mention this circumstance to the postmaster of Newark and he will be regulated accordingly.

R. I. Meigs

12 March 1816

+ Ephraim Brown Sir

P. M. Bloomfield Ohio. I have received yours of the first instant - be good enough to call on the Postmaster of Warren for a mail postmaster - who will furnish one in the authority of this letter have account of this office.

R. I. Meigs

12 March 1816

401 James Chaptain

P.M. Cambridge Mass

Dir

General Post Office

March 10. 1816

The object of the penalty is to prevent future infractions of the law rather than to punish for the past from that ground it appears to me that a prosecution for one of the letters would be sufficient. You might probably learn by enquiry who received some one of the letters, the testimony of such a person in addition to what the Capt has himself said would be sufficient.

I am not sure that your state courts would take cognizance of the case, if they will not you will have to state the point and the names of the witnesses to the District Atty. Elias Glean of Baltimore that he may carry on the prosecution before the federal court.

R. I. Meigs

10 March 1816

Genl. Theodorus Bailey Dir

P.M. New York City

Under the circumstances which you mention it would be proper to reduce the postage on the packet addressed to Mr. Desmiers to 50.

R. I. Meigs

12 March 1816

Hon. Ballard Smith Dir

M. H. Representatives

I have the honour to observe in reply to your letter of the 5th as well as to its enclosure that I have given instruction to have the mails which are sent from the western part of Pennsylvania to Kanawha e. h. and to its vicinity - to be sent by their former channel of conveyance. The want of a regular connection of the mails at Kanawha e. h. is owing to the pertinacious obstinacy of the contractor who has had a full compensation offered him to cover all expenses that might arise from the alteration - I have this day instructed the postmaster of Kanawha e. h. to employ another carrier, provided that the present contractor shall still refuse to conform to the alteration.

R. I. Meigs

Richard Bache Esq

Postmaster
Philadelphia

General Post Office
September 13. 1817

Dir

I wish you to put all mails for places west of Chambersburg into one postman's van & then for the intermediate offices into another. This is said to be done on the old mail days for the west, but not every day. I hope this will be attended too as overhauling the great mail causes delay & is very troublesome to the Postmasters who have but little compensation.

R. I. Meigs