

John Hankinson  
P.M. Hatchey N.C. Sir.

General Post Office  
December 3. 1816

I have this day received a letter from Reuben Harris under date of the 4th ulto. in which he states that he did not bid for postroute No 300. now a bid is before me signed "Reuben Harris" (and at Hatchey) Aug. 4 which offers to carry the mail on "No. 297. & No. 300" the former at \$800 per annum supposed weekly (and on the latter route he declines but \$300. now somebody has committed forgery or he is mistaken - but if he shall decline to execute the papers without he needs \$250 for the letter route per annum - you will in that case so alter the quarterly payment stipulated to be paid to him as to make it read one hundred eighty seven dollars  $\frac{50}{100}$ .

R. J. Meigs

Ala. Maddell Sir.

December 3. 1816

Yours of the 30th. ulto. is before me to remove the cause which you say will increase your expense. I authorize you to arrive at Sparta on Tuesdays by noon and to depart from there the same day by 2 P.M. when your contract begins.

R. J. Meigs

Hon Henry Mr. Lee Sir.

Dec. 3. 1816

Mr. Representatives. I have the honour to enclose for your consideration, the enclosed from Mr. Townes.

R. J. Meigs

Gen. Grant Sir.

December 3. 1816

P.M. Verona N.C. The schedule proposed in your letter of the 25 ulto. is satisfactory - you can perform your route as follows: Visit Leas Ferry Tuesday at 10 P.M. arrive at Sacketsharbour the next Friday by 10 A.M. Leave there same day by 10 P.M. and return to Leas the next Tuesday by 10 A.M.

R. J. Meigs

R. Powers acting  
P.M. Madisonville La. Sir.

General Post Office  
December 3. 1816

Provided that either Mr. Warburg or Mr. Powers or both should decline to execute the papers sent to them for execution relative to the transport of the mails assigned to them. I wish you in that case to continue the transport of those mails until you can get advice from this office, at a rate not exceeding twelve dollars for the St. Helena mail a trip and for the Hatchey mail not exceeding twenty five dollars a trip. Trust that you will give me early intelligence of the proceedings had in these cases.

R. J. Meigs

John G. Wright Sir.

December 3. 1816

Staunton Va. I have received yours of the 28th. ulto. we had an offer to transport the mail in stages for the route assigned to you at \$2500 but from the testimonials you produced as to energy and ability, I thought the public interest would be served by giving you a preference at that price. now I cannot consistently give - whether you depart at 10 or 8 A.M. is immaterial so that you arrive at Charlottesville by noon.

R. J. Meigs

Gen. J. Rufess Sir.

December 3. 1816

Campbell Mills S.C. Yours of the 20th. inst. is before me - your proposal did not mention which route you intended to carry the mail on - I am sorry that it was not more particularly expressed - the schedule which you have proposed does not appear to be useful to the public - at least as useful as the schedule that is now attached to your contract.

R. J. Meigs

Thomas Jones Sir.

December 3. 1816

Madisonville La. Yours of the 6 ulto. is received, both of your bids were among the highest that were received

R. J. Meigs

146  
Benjamin Franklin  
Jesse Camp No. 3 Sir.

General Post Office

December 5, 1816

I have received yours of the 25th. ulto. we have not found any proposal from you for postroute No. 157 between to Wythe & c. h. Bethany will have sufficient accommodations from our mail.

R. I. Meigs

John Riddle Sir,

December 4, 1816

Henry C. L. & Co. I have this day established a Post-office at Bonus Stone where I wish you to instruct your rider to call with the mail - for your increased ride you shall be fairly paid. he will return by 2 1/2 hours will be

R. I. Meigs

Augustine Jenkins Sir,

December 4, 1816

P. M. Newport & Co. I have yours of the 19th. ulto. the post rider must wait for the mail twenty minutes at your office when you find that period to be necessary for you to do the business in; that will be more than sufficient time generally - for it is presumed that you will have your mails ready for the carrier on his arrival at your office and that you will not have occasion to detain him longer than to make the exchange of mails.

R. I. Meigs

Messrs Haller & Leatherwood Sir,

December 5, 1816

Fredericktown Va. I have yours of the 10th. inst. is received in accepting your proposal. I intended to have more fully expressed the sum to be given you - the sum that you now receive annually per mile for the transport of the mail between Fredericktown and Winchester three times a week is \$30.77 - paying you at that rate per mile for the mail transport between Fredericktown and Battletown will make your annual pay amount to twelve hundred & thirty one dollars, and that sum I propose to give you

R. I. Meigs

✓ James Finley  
West Union Ohio Sir.

General Post Office

December 5, 1816

147

Yours of the 18th. ulto. is received, the Post office at Ripley is to be supplied by the mail of Zacheriah Graves.

R. I. Meigs

✓ J. Ludlow Esq. Sir,

December 4, 1816

Ludlowville Ky. Will you be good enough to fill up the blanks in Mr. Chesley's schedule with the days & hours that suit his stage arrangement.

R. I. Meigs

✓ Wm. Miller Sir,

December 4, 1816

P. M. Racine Ky. I have received yours of the 19th. ulto. as it is convenient to the stage proprietor to visit your office in its present location - I propose that you purchase two small leather bags - of a sufficient size to enclose mails to and from your office, you will have one and the driver one (and you will meet and exchange the mails at the crossroads or at Doctr. Hewitts you will apprise the Postmasters at Auburn and at Ludlowville of this arrangement, and charge the expense of the bags to this office in your account current as a contingent expense

R. I. Meigs

✓ Wm. Tupper Sir,

December 4, 1816

P. M. Sanders Va. I am favoured by yours of the 26th. ulto. and enclosed you have a bond and contract to be executed by Joshua Hamilton Esq. when the papers are executed and returned to this office a duplicate of the contract executed at this office on my part will be forwarded to that gentleman, you will fill up the period that he began or that he shall begin in which is now blank

R. I. Meigs

✓ Thomas Shore Esq. Sir,

December 3, 1816

P. M. Petersburg Va. I am favoured with yours of the 30th. I shall give Mr. Bailey the agent of this office positive instructions to take such measures relative to the transport of the mails in your neighbourhood as will effect the mails regularly.

R. I. Meigs

148 ✓ Chester Bailey  
Washington City, Va. Sir.

General Post Office  
December 5, 1816

Several failures have taken place in the trans-  
-mission of the mail between the oaks and Richmond and between Rich-  
-mond and Petersburg since I last wrote you on this subject - I wish  
you to remain at Richmond until you can be clearly satisfied that  
these mails will be duly carried - this remedy will be found in  
more energetic carriers - I am satisfied if well chosen - if Messrs  
Woolfolk & Allen were to cover the road from Bow Green to Rich-  
-mond - I trust that no further complaint on that line would be made.

R. I. Meigs

✓ Elijah B. Pooleman, Sir.

December 5, 1816

Cincinnati, Ohio. I wish you to pass through this town of Newport both  
in going and in returning from Cincinnati - if this measure subjects you  
to additional expense - that expense when ascertained shall be repaid to  
you - you will begin this arrangement immediately.

R. I. Meigs

✓ Wm. A. Burwell, Sir.

December 6, 1816

W. A. Representative. I have the honour to observe that I have established a Post-  
-office at Cow Store agreeably to your request - and I have instructed the car-  
-rier to go by Cow Store on his way to Tennant's N.C. and on his return to  
visit Hughesville or will you have the goodness to say whether that arrange-  
-ment meets your views, as well as the views of the petitioners.

R. I. Meigs

✓ Wm. Woody, Sir.

December 6, 1816

P.M. Leesburg Va. I wish you to purchase suitable postcarriers for the  
mails that arrive at ~~you~~ and depart from office whenever necessa-  
-ry.

R. I. Meigs

✓ James Swanson Esq  
P.M. Augusta Ga. Sir.

General Post Office 149  
December 6, 1816

I have received yours of the 19th. ulto. and one of the same  
date from Doct. Starnes, as that gentleman refuses to execute the bond and contract  
for the Greensboro route for less than \$900 per annum we must allow him that  
sum - and you can make his quarterly pay read \$225. -

R. I. Meigs

✓ J. W. Perkins Esq Sir.

December 7, 1816

P.M. Bridgewater, Mass. You will be good enough to employ a person to transport the  
mail three times a week between South. Bridgewater. Your office at Boston for  
this purpose I enclose you a bond and contract - you can stipulate to give a sum  
not exceeding one hundred dollars a quarter - I will thank you to complete the schedule  
before signing, when done and the papers are executed and returned to this office a coun-  
terpart executed on my part will be forwarded to the contractor.

R. I. Meigs

✓ Peter Gilman, Sir.

December 9, 1816

Northwood, Me. I have received yours of the 20. ulto. and I have attested the counterpart  
of your contract agreeably to your wish.

R. I. Meigs

✓ M. Greany, Deputy Sheriff, Sir.

December 9, 1816

Dear Chester C. H. S. I am favoured by your letter of the 28th. ulto. Mr.  
Gastons bid was received and he was recommended, another bid at the  
same time & rate was accepted - from a gentleman equally as competent as  
Mr. Gaston.

R. I. Meigs

✓ Colonel Owen, Sir.

December 9, 1816

Barwell C. H. S. The postnotes referred to in your letter of the 26th. ulto.  
has been provided for sometime.

R. I. Meigs

157  
Southampton P.M.  
Randolph Mrs & Sir,

General Post office,  
December 9, 1816

On the first of January next your office will be furnished with the mails at the expense of this office. From that period the quarterly balances falling due from your office will be paid to this office.

R. S. Meigs

Aaron Hill Esq. Sir,

December 9, 1816

P.M. Boston Ma. I observed in reply to your letter of the 28th. ult. the conduct of the rider in the case alluded to was highly reprehensible and brought to have been discharged for the offence. By contract the eastern contractor has a right now to depart from your office at 2 A.M. but you have my authority to suspend the delivery of that mail until 3 AM in such cases as a detention is indispensable to the furtherance of the eastern mail - I wish you to acquaint Mr. Paine's agent with this order. - This extension of time is not to operate in favour of the western carriers. Their penalties for failures will be rigidly exacted in all cases. - Your arrangement for the printers is a good one and should be continued. When a failure of the western mail eventually takes place in its due arrival at your office say till 3 AM an express should be dispatched as far as Portsmouth as soon as the delayed mail shall arrive at your office, the expense of the express mail will constitute a proper charge in your account as a contingent expense. Your official conduct justly deserves my full approbation.

R. S. Meigs

Shannon Graves Esq. Sir,  
P.M. New York & Va. Sir.

December 9, 1816

I will thank you to instruct Maj. Peckas riders to supply the Post-office at Courthouse with the mail on his return from Lancaster & will you favour us with a reply to this letter.

R. S. Meigs

Hon. Mr. Bouverie  
U.S. Representative. Sir,

General Post office  
9 December, 1816 157

In answer to your enquiry of this day I observe that the post-roads Farmington and Norisgewock went into operation on the 15th. ult. Post-offices established at industry and Starke. Post-roads Augusta by Browns Bouverie to Palenus was to begin the 1st. ult. no office established at Browns Bouverie Post-roads Savaan and Hampden was to begin Nov. 1st. no Post office established at intermediate points on that route. I will thank you to name persons for postmasters at such places as you may select on those routes.

R. S. Meigs

December 10th. 1816

Hon. Mr. Craze Esq. Sir,

Poughkeepsie N.Y. Your letter of the 25th. ult. is received. on the first of the next month the mail is to be transported weekly between Charlotte & house and Campbell's house.

R. S. Meigs

December 10, 1816

Hon. Cyrus King Esq. Sir,

U.S. Representative I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday and the petition therein enclosed, to effect the object that the petitioners have in view it will be necessary to establish a Post-office at Keenebunk Port if you will be good enough to name a suitable person for a Postmaster at that place - I will make the appointment immediately. - Mr. Paine is bound by contract to deliver three mails at Keenebunk Port within one hour after the mail shall have arrived at Keenebunk from Portsmouth every week.

R. S. Meigs

John S. Skinner Esq. Sir,

December 10. 1816

P.M. Baltimore Md. I have this day established a post-office at Fairpowder and I have appointed Ben. Buck Esq. P.M. at that place, will you instruct the carriers to call at that office with the mail.

R. S. Meigs

152.v

William New  
Halifax N.S. & Sir.

General Post Office  
December 10. 1816

I have received yours of the 1st. and have every reason to say that both of your proposals appear to be inadmissible, if another should not be prepared to carry the mail at the conclusion of your contract - I wish you to continue until a successor shall arrive, and you shall be paid at the rate of \$25 a trip or week for the transport of a mail between Pouchatow c.h. & d. & d. and Halifax c.h. for such period as your services shall be necessary.

R. J. Meigs

December 10. 1816

John Hoody Sir.

Dunkirk N.S. When you were here a proposal was received from your son John Hoody J. to transport the mail weekly between Richmond and Halifax c.h. for, at \$900 per annum. - Mr. New had proposed to transport said mail by stage - but now declines unless we give him an unreasonable sum. You or your son can have that contract at \$1000 per annum - we have added \$100 on account of the late period of your receiving the contract. - I wish you to have the papers promptly executed and returned to this office, or to return them immediately if you decline to execute them.

R. J. Meigs

December 10. 1816

Wm. J. L. Garwood Sir.

Millersville N.S. We accidentally omitted to insert the Post-office at Birnville in your contract - you are notwithstanding bound to deliver the mail at that office - the same as if it had been inserted in your contract.

R. J. Meigs

December 10. 1816

Saml. Bird Sir.

P.O. Birnville N.S. Notwithstanding your office was omitted in the contract lately made the contractors are obliged to deliver the mail at your office, and all established offices on the route, they have been this day so informed.

R. J. Meigs

James Black Esq.  
P.M. Somerset Co. & Sir.

General Post Office,  
December 10. 1816

153

The citizens about Councilville state that from some cause great delay are experienced in the receipt of the mail - I invite your special attention to the careful selection of mails for post-roads that branch from yours.

R. J. Meigs

December 10. 1816

Messrs Francis, Barton & John Gutterman,

Councilville Penn. I have taken such measures as will I hope correct the error complained of by you.

R. J. Meigs

December 10. 1816

Hon Mr Price Sir.

N. H. Representatives I have the honour to enclose a statement of Mr. Peter Gilman's account with this office - the eight dollars which he supposed to be exchanged - has as you will perceive by the account - been recharged or credited to his account.

R. J. Meigs

December 10. 1816

Josiah Price Sir.

Portland Me. The citizens of Kennebec Port are desirous to have your mail stage go alternately by the Post-office now established at that place and by Kennebec Port office - their proposition appears to be reasonable and I wish you to give instructions to your carriers to comply with their request, should you object to this arrangement, I wish you to state your objections - I will thank you for an early reply to this letter.

R. J. Meigs

December 10. 1816

Whisly Daine Sir.

Marion c.h. N.S. I have altered the schedule on the counterpart of your contract agreeably to your request - you can have the same alterations made in the schedule by Mr. McLean on your suggestion - The contractors Messrs. Swanwick, Newsum and Rowland have stipulated to transport the main mail by Marion c.h. on and after the first of next month.

R. J. Meigs

154 Thos B. Johnson  
P. M. New Orleans City, Sir.

General Post Office  
December 10. 1816

I observe in reply to yours of the 5<sup>th</sup>. ulto. that draft on you and now in the hands of Mrs. Collins the representation of W. M. Collins can be paid by you. I wish you to see that the several mails commencing at your office are faithfully carried ditto effect and that they be all continued although the contracts may not have arrived for due execution on their part.

P. J. Meigs

Jonathan Foster, Sir,

December 10. 1816

Winchester (Pa.) I am favoured with your letter of the 27<sup>th</sup>. ulto. We shall endeavour to improve our cross mail arrangements in the vicinity of your place if we can do so without incurring too much expense.

P. J. Meigs

John Schell Esq. Sir,

December 10. 1816

P. M. Bedford Pa. I observe in reply to yours of the 5<sup>th</sup>. that although you may think your case to hard one - yet I have no right to add to the compensation pointed by law - if you generally do official business between 9 o'clock and 5 AM. You can charge 50 per cent on the first ten and dollars collected quarterly - if the Postmasters at Chambersburg or at Hagstown fail to mail correctly for your office - if you apprise them of their errors they will & trust correct them.

P. J. Meigs

Gen. James Taylor, Sir,

11 December 1816

Washn City. Enclosed you have a blank bond & contract for the purpose of establishing a postroute between Grants Lick and Augusta K. when these papers are executed and returned to this office, a counterpart of the contract duly executed on my part will be forwarded to the contractor

P. J. Meigs

Davia Davis Esq.  
Elysian Fields N. Y. Sir,

General Post Office  
December 10. 1816

I find that it will be useful to extend the postroute lately confined to you from Woodville to Fort Adams and wish you to begin the transport of the mail by extending your ride to Fort Adams from the first of next month to make it your interest to do so I propose to allow you two thousand & forty dollars per annum over and above your present pay, which will make your whole annual pay one thousand dollars - your early answer is solicited

P. J. Meigs

Hon Wells & Cooper, Sir,

December 11. 1816

M. H. Representative Since you left this office I have concluded to allow Col. Waples the additional sum of \$150 per annum for the transport of the mail between Georgetown Del and Northampton e. h. Va. for three years from the first of next month. the several alterations which you suggested have been made in the schedule attached to his contract.

P. J. Meigs

William Thornton Esq. Sir,

December 11. 1816

Washn City. The numerous public Departments including the Library of the U. S. being all within the Walls of the Genl. P. Office render highly necessary every precaution against injury or destruction by Fire. The use of very additional fire places increases hazard. - The establishment of a private painting office in your part of the building and the use of the rooms for a work shop. I consider as increasing such hazard & have deemed it my duty to call your attention to the subject of the safety of the building. My Messengers repeatedly complained of the negligence of your messenger in regard to the fires in your rooms

P. J. Meigs

1565 J. W. Packard Esq.

P.M. Charleston S.C. Sir,

General Post Office

December 12, 1816

If practicable I wish you to continue the line of stages between your office and Augusta and establish a direct connection between your office and Edgefield c.h. with that view - I have enclosed to you a bond and contracts - if you care for the considerations expressed in the contract 1/2 cent per quarter yearly - establish those routes - I shall be much pleased to have you do so and on the return of the papers duly executed by a contractor, I will forward the contract executed on my part to him.

R. J. Meigs

William Hoque Esq. Sir,

December 12, 1816

P.M. Kenhawa c.h. Sir { Enclosed you have a second set of papers to be executed by Mr. J. Ashbury when done and returned a counterpart of the contract executed on my part will be forwarded to him.

R. J. Meigs

December 12, 1816

William Peck Esq. Sir,

P.M. Raleigh N.C. { Will you be good enough to employ a suitable person to transport the mail on the mentioned portroute in the enclosed bond and contracts - and have the papers executed and returned to this office.

R. J. Meigs

Abraham Westfall Esq. Sir,

December 12, 1816

M. G. Pinesburg S. { I wish you on your return from Saline to Pinesburg to call at the Post offices at Edward's c.h. and White c.h. your travel will be presumed diminished. may we have your answer

R. J. Meigs

Hon. Mrs. Rudy Sir,

December 13, 1816

M. H. Ripps { I have the honour to shew in reply to the petition in your letter of yesterday that I have appointed Mr. Ebenezer Nye a Postmaster at North Shore in Falmouth, Me.

R. J. Meigs

Charles Worsley Esq. Sir,  
Lewistown Pa.

General Post Office

December 12, 1816

157

On the first of next month wish you to extend your ride from Selins Grove to Sunbury and to return from Sunbury by New Berlin and the other offices now supplied with a mail by you to Lewistown excepting Selins Grove - You can be then governed by this schedule Post. Leave Lewistown every Wednesday at 6 am arrive at Sunbury the next day by 10 am. Leave there at noon and return the next day to Lewistown by 6 P.M. for this alteration I propose to allow you \$10 in addition to your present quarterly pay, may I have your reply.

R. J. Meigs

December 13, 1816

Hon. Cyrus King Esq. Sir,

M. H. P. York { I have the honour to shew in reply to your letter of the 10th. and the letter of Mr. Clark therein enclosed that as soon as a Postmaster is appointed at Humsbunk Port - that he shall be authorised to pay fifty dollars per annum for the purpose of sending three additional between Humsbunk Port and Humsbunk - so as to give six weekly mails to the former office - the P.M. will be authorised to make the most useful arrangement to effect the objects in view that he can.

R. J. Meigs

December 13, 1816

Mr. L. Leonard Esq. Sir,

M. G. Plymouth Me. { I wish you to visit a post office established at North Shore in the town of Falmouth with the mail. Ebenezer Nye Esq. is P.M. from your increased travel you shall have a fair allowance - when your extra travel shall actually be stated.

R. J. Meigs

December 12, 1816

Mr. Humboldt Esq. Sir,

P.M. Greenashby Pa. { The Postmaster General has directed me to say to you that he wishes the letters forwarded by express whenever the mail from the south may arrive at your office so late as to lose its connection the expense you will charge to this office, which will be taken out of the pay of the contractors who may cause the failure.

Charles Bailey  
agent for G. P. Office

158  
see over leaf  
J. J. Woolfolk Esq.  
Bowling Green Va. Sir.

General Post office  
December 14. 1816

There having been several failures in the ac-  
-tivity of the northern mail at Richmond, since the 1st inst. I am directed  
by the P.M. & to request of you an explanation of the causes, & the most rea-  
-sonable (in your opinion to correct the evil and secure in future, regularity -  
-if in your opinion a change of carriers on any part of the road would  
be advantageous you will please make such change immediately.  
I have requested the P.M. at Fredericksburg to send an express whenever there  
may be a failure at his office which may cause a loss of a mail, and  
to charge the expense to the contractor who causes the failure.

Chester Bailey

Mr. J. R. Betty Sir. Dec 14. 1816 Agent for the G. P. Office

I have the honour to observe in reply to your letter of yes-  
-terday, that I have just received a letter from A. Belknap Esq. P.M. of Stan-  
-burg Va. stating that he had employed a Mr. French to transport two mails  
a week between Monroe Whs. and his office. until the steam boats pass on  
the Hudson in the spring that arrangement accord with your views on the  
subject I presume - if not will you have the goodness to say what improvement  
you wish.

R. J. Meigs

Alaron Belknap Esq. Sir. 14th December 1816  
I have received yours of the 9th inst. and I have con-  
-firmed the agreement that you have made with Mr. French for the trans-  
-port of the mail between your office and Newpaty and Monroe Whs. - the  
agreement to continue until March 31 next.

R. J. Meigs

John Martin Esq.  
P.M. Cayfield c.h. & b. Sir.

General Post office  
December 14. 1816  
159

I have received your letter of the 2nd inst. if the  
letter to which you refer - has reached this office it must have been  
mislaid or it would have been promptly answered, as relates to compen-  
-sation to Postmasters - the Post-office law points it out - the Postmaster  
General has no power to increase Postmasters compensation. inas-  
-much as that is specially defined by law - I hope that you will find  
it to be your interest - to continue in office.

R. J. Meigs

Samuel Abner Sir. December 14. 1816  
P. M. Machias Meigs I will thank you to furnish Mr. Davice Huntley with  
with a pair of mail bags - the expense you will charge to this office.  
He wishes to go from East-Michias - we have no Post-office of that  
name.

R. J. Meigs

Reuben Harris Esq. Sir. December 14. 1816  
Chester Agency Va. I have yours of the 17th. inst. in the proportion that your  
-ride is increased by visiting Pike c.h. so shall your pay be increased - for  
each extra mile that you travel - you shall be paid at the rates that  
you are to receive per mile for the main route a certificate from  
the Postmaster at Chester Agency, as to the increase of distance will  
be necessary - for us to make the extra allowance you can sign the  
papers and enclose the certificate with them. the correction will then  
be made at this office. I wish you to visit Pike c.h. from Jan. 1

R. J. Meigs

Benjamin Figg Sir. December 14. 1816  
Aspetts Va. I yours of the 7th. inst. is received. your bid for the Bowling  
Green mail did not entitle you to the contract for that route

R. J. Meigs

154 J. M. Bump <sup>Esq.</sup>  
P.M. W. Malboro' <sup>nd</sup> <sup>7</sup> Sir

General P. Office  
10 December. 1816

When the draft in the hands of Mr. Garrison on your for \$132. by it paid - you will then owe to this office on the 1 of October last more than \$280 - I trust you will promptly pay it.

R. I. Meigs

David H. Clark <sup>Esq.</sup> <sup>2</sup> Sir,

December 16. 1816

P.M. Pittsbur' <sup>nd</sup> <sup>7</sup> I have received yours of the 15th. inst. you can alter Mr. Paul's schedule, and make it conform to the present arrange ment or to my late letter to him.

R. I. Meigs

J. W. Brewster <sup>Esq.</sup> <sup>2</sup> Sir,

December 16. 1816

Northampton, <sup>Ms.</sup> <sup>7</sup> Yours letters of November 30th. and December 10th have both been received - I have <sup>not</sup> discovered any disposition to establish a mail stage on the east side of Connecticut River in opposition to your stages

R. I. Meigs

Sam. Gordon <sup>Esq.</sup> <sup>2</sup> Sir,

December 16. 1816

Camptow <sup>o. h.</sup> <sup>7</sup> <sup>2</sup> Yours of the 15th. is received. the transport of the mail from Camptow <sup>o. h.</sup> Charlotte has been assigned to D. B. Patterson of Concord at \$200 per annum (for once a week.)

R. I. Meigs

Edw. B. Noell <sup>Esq.</sup> <sup>2</sup> Sir,

December 17. 1816

P.M. Hampton <sup>7</sup> <sup>2</sup> Whenever the contractors or carriers of the Richmond mail shall fail to forward the mail to Norfolk immediately after its arrival at your office - or in time to deliver that mail at Norfolk by the stipulated hour - wish you send the mail yourself without delay, and the expense so incurred you will charge to this office - and as the expense is so incurred - you will acquaint this office that the amount thereof may be charged over to the contractor - may we hear from you on this subject

R. I. Meigs

William Anson <sup>Esq.</sup>  
P.M. Norfolk <sup>7</sup> <sup>2</sup> Sir,

General Post Office  
December 17. 1816

157

I have authorized the Postmaster of Hampton to forward the northern mail to your office - at the expense of his office, whenever the contractors shall suffer the mail to be delayed at Hampton - the expense thus accruing will be charged over to the contractor.

R. I. Meigs

John Dutton <sup>Esq.</sup> <sup>2</sup> Sir,

December 17. 1816

P.M. Haver de Grace <sup>7</sup> <sup>2</sup> I am to invite your particular attention to the subject of carrying the mail across the ferry at Haver de Grace, during the ensuing winter - to facilitate the object and to avoid or prevent all detentions of the mail either way on its passage across the ferry - I wish you to inform the ferrymen, that you are authorized to give them a sum not exceeding two dollars a trip on the average of a week - our object is to prevent delays and to incur the least expense possible - will you inform me how far you can aid this office in relation to this business.

R. I. Meigs

Wm. S. Skinner <sup>Esq.</sup> <sup>2</sup> Sir,

December 17. 1816

P.M. Baltimore <sup>7</sup> <sup>2</sup> I wish you to be prepared to send an express with the letter mail in every instance, that the mail shall have been delayed by the ferry and other causes in its passage from Philadelphia to your office. As I have instructed the Postmaster at Haver de Grace to give all possible aid at the ferry to the speedy passage of the mail - I trust that there will be but very few cases of failure at that place.

R. I. Meigs

Wm. Lonsker <sup>Esq.</sup> <sup>2</sup> Sir,

December 17. 1816

P.M. Richmond <sup>7</sup> <sup>2</sup> I am favoured with yours of the 15th. inst. I wish you to be prepared to send an express mail between your office and Petersburg provided that Mr. Gregory shall from any cause fail to duly transport the mail on that line. I will thank you for information relative to that line, whenever a failure occurs on it.

R. I. Meigs

160  
Asa Dutton  
New London Ct. Sir.

General Post Office  
December 17, 1816

I have appointed S. H. Williams, Esq. Postmaster at Salem near Rochester Ct. where I will thank you to deliver the mail.

R. I. Meigs

J. B. Reynolds Sir,

December 17, 1816

In reply to your letter of the 14th. and to the letter of Mr. Woolfolk therein enclosed, I have the honour to observe that the road between Hunts and Brookville is not established as a Postroad - until it is established it will be incorrect for me to send a mail thereon at the public expense

Your Honour

R. I. Meigs

Wm. Phelps Esquire Sir,

December 17, 1816

I have received yours of the 14th. and I have instructed the Postmaster of W. Councilsburg to open the great mail and to forward all packages addressed to the States of Virginia & Maryland to your office for distribution via Meigsburg - if you discover errors in any of the Postmasters who correspond with your office - it is advisable for you promptly to point them out to the Postmaster or Postmistress.

R. I. Meigs

Wm. Duffield Sir,

December 17, 1816

I wish you to open the great or main mail on its passage eastward and to select therefrom all packages addressed Maryland or Virginia State and to forward them to Augustown for Distribution via Meigsburg.

R. I. Meigs

James Trager Esq.  
A. M. Augusta Ga. Sir.

General Post Office  
December 17, 1816  
161

I am favoured with yours of the 7th. under an expectation that the mail stage will be continued between your office and Charleston S. C. the Postmaster at the latter place is to provide for the transport of the mail between his office and yours as well as between Whitepond & Edgefield C. H.

R. I. Meigs

William Miller Sir,

December 18, 1816

You can until further advice omit going from Lily Point to New Kent C. H. - mails for New Kent C. H. can be forwarded from Bowling Green by Passover C. H. and from Duckhatch by Passover town - for this reduction of service - we shall reduce your pay twenty dollars per annum.

R. I. Meigs

John Trager Sir,

December 18, 1816

Your letter of the 9th is received. - Your pay for transporting three mails a week between Augusta & Savannah will be twenty five hundred dollars per annum (\$2500) from the first of next month.

R. I. Meigs

John M. Garland Jr. Sir,

December 18, 1816

By the enclosed statement of your account with this office it appears - that there is a balance due from you to this office of \$57.75 which sum you can pay over to Duncan McRae Esq.

R. I. Meigs

Agnes Beebe Sir,

December 19, 1816

The Hon. Mr. Meigs wishes that you may go from Northampton to Adams on Wednesday & return on Thursday - you can transport the mail in that way until further advised.

R. I. Meigs