

## General Post Office

William A. Wardlow Esq. &amp; Sir.

12th. Feb. 1818.

P. M. Hicks's post ~~sea~~. I am obliged by your letter of the 7th. the arrangement that I proposed for Murfreesboro enabled two mails to proceed without much delay to offices in North Carolina, from Petersburg and if that mail should leave Murfreesboro before the Calenton mail arrived on Sunday, it would be of no use to the public, had Mr. Robinson's expence been increased it would have been paid to him by this office, if he does not adopt that plan immediately, I wish you to send said mail for account of this office at the lowest possible rate, at the same time advising this office thereof and the weekly expence incurred. I much fear that I shall be compelled to supersede Mr. Robinson on all his routes.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

David Laramore Esq. &amp; Sir.

12th. Feb. 1818.

P. M. Steubenville Oho. On what terms can you have the mail carried between your office and Brook C. & and thence to St. Clairsville the carrier to call at all established offices on the road, the carrier to return the same route, your early reply is requested, in which you will be obliging by inserting the several towns through which the rider will travelle.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

W. Joseph Edington Esq. &amp; Sir.

12 Feb. 1818.

Frankfort Ky. So late as the 20th. ult. no Post rider had been seen at Columbia or Bunkerville, no work no pay, but the penalty, must be enforced.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

Feb. 12. 1818

James Warren Jr. Esq. &amp; Sir.

P. M. Plymouth N. H. Through what towns do Leonard & Stone pass on the route via Hingham, Hanover &c. Your early answer is requested.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

12 Feb. 1818.

Joseph P. Letcher Esq. &amp; Sir.

P. M. Lancaster N. Y. Yours of the 21st. ult. is recd. if the mail arrives usually at your office between the hours of nine at night and six in the morning, you can charge fifty percent on the first \$100.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

## General Post Office

12th. Feb. 1818.

Thos B. Glotter Esq. &amp; Sir.

P. M. Harrington N. B. Although Postors Halifax mail shall not have duly arrived, it will be at all times expedient to let him depart at his regular day & hour in that way he may save a trip.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

Feb. 11. 1818.

Daniel Long Esq. &amp; Sir.

P. M. Bath N. Y. It appears that a mistake has been made in offering the contract for carrying the mail from Bath to Geneva to Capt. Smead, that Mr. Barnard whose proposal had been accepted, has refused the acceptance to Gilman Lovering, who has executed the contract forwarded to Mr. Barnard. Mr. Barnard is represented, by a communication signed by a number of the respectable inhabitants of Bath, as being provided with a Stage & horses, and as a proper person for the under-taking & as being now and for sometime past the actual carrier. In these circumstances I wish you to advise Capt. Smead to suspend preparations for the undertaking until it can be decided who shall have the contract & also to request Mr. Lovering to continue the conveyance of the mail until he is further advised on the subject.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

12th. Feb. 1818.

Milton King Esq. &amp; Sir.

P. M. Bunkerille Ky. Has any person appeared to take charge of the Columbia and Bunkerille mail, if not, I wish you to put it in operation and continue it until you can write to this office on the subject.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

12th. Feb. 1818.

Thornton Jett Esq. & Sir.  
Harrison's Store Va. I have received yours of the tenth. I beg leave to refer you to the Post master of Percival's Va. who I have authorized to contract for the two mails lately confided to Robert Wallace, and to whom I have enclosed a blank Bond and contract to be executed by a contractor.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

Honl. Thos H. Hall Esq. &amp; Sir.

12th. Feb. 1818.

M. H. Representatives, In reply to your letter of the 11<sup>th</sup>. inst. I have the honor to observe, that finding Will. Wallace unable to discharge the duty of mail contractor, we on the 28th. ult. authorised Mr. Parker to contract for transporting of the weekly mails between Tarboro & Newbern N. C. Parker will no doubt under the authority of that letter enter into a contract with Mr. Hart the gentleman whom you have recommended.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

## General Post office

J. Parcival Esq. &amp; Sir.

13. Feb. 1818.

P.M. Parcival, ~~Esq.~~ Mr. Thornton agent of Harrison's Store etc. offers to transport the two mails ~~safely~~, in charge of Robert Wallace, at the rate that Wallace was to receive which was for both routes as per contract enclosed \$988 per annum. if no better offer is made and he is a competent contractor you will instruct his name, fill up all the blanks, let execute the papers, and when done return them when a counterpart of the contract duly executed at this office, will be forwarded to the contractor.

R. I. Meigs Jr.

H. Channing Esq. &amp; Sir.

12. Feb. 1818.

New London Ct. I am favoured with yours of the 7th. if Fish represents the facts correctly, the error of connection was with Mr. Dutton who had mistaken the days of departure from New Haven.

R. I. Meigs Jr.

12. Feb. 1818.

W. Theo. F. Bradford &amp; Sir.

Shelbyville Tenn. On receipt of this letter you will instruct your rider to visit the Post office at Moreley's store with the mail, if your ride be thereby increased you shall be paid therefor.

R. I. Meigs Jr.

Feb. 13. 1818.

Samuel Gray Esq. &amp; Sir.

P.M. Russellville Ky. I am much obliged to your attention to the delinquent mail carriers, they shall either do their duty or give way to those who will, for these delinquencies they are heavily fined.

Jabez Hatch Esq. &amp; Sir.

Feb. 13th. 1818.

P.M. Marshfield Ms. I have yours of the 2<sup>d</sup>. inst. will you have the goodness to state how the mail is carried, and through what Towns by Leonard & Stone via Scituate, Hingham &c.

R. I. Meigs Jr.

Feb. 13. 1818.

Messrs James Dow &amp; others &amp; Sirs.

Atkinson N. H. Yours of the 5th. instant is received, the mail I trust before this reaches you become regular, I much regret that you have experienced any evil from its irregularity.

R. I. Meigs Jr.

Feb. 13. 1818.

Thos. Grant Esq. &amp; Sir.

P.M. Grantville Ky. I will thank you to inform me who is the usual carrier of the mail which supplies your office, how many failures have occurred.

R. I. Meigs Jr.

## General Post office

Feb. 13th. 1818.

James Johnson Esq. &amp; Sir.

P.M. Halifax N. S. I am much obliged by your letter of the 1<sup>st</sup>. inst. had it not been mislaid, it would have promptly acknowledged.

R. I. Meigs Jr.

C. M. Morrell &amp; Sir.

13th. Feb. 1818.

near Danville Va. I wish you to look to your contract, there you will discover that you have stipulated to carry the mail through Hardwick both ways.

R. I. Meigs Jr.

13th. Feb. 1818.

Tho. Ruggles Esq. P.M. &amp; Sir.

Mount Vernon, Columbia Co. Me. I am much obliged by your attention to the transport of the mail which was left on account of a faithless agent for such time as you shall have carried the mail, you shall be paid at the rate of \$900 per annum. Jonah Paine has probably provided for that mail's transport, if not we shall accept of your late offer.

R. I. Meigs Jr.

13th. Feb. 1818.

John Hankinson Esq. &amp; Sir.



P.M. Natchez Miss. I am again obliged by your letter of the 21<sup>st</sup>. ult. I have adopted such measures as would ensure future regularity, if the contractors have sufficient energy to carry their contracts into effect. I have it in contemplation to send an agent of experience and ability on that line clothed with power, to effectually remedy the evil, my only doubt is whether I can obtain his immediate services. But the evil shall be remedied at all events & promptly. Ed. W. Oedington to whom we above referred has consented to go on immediately. His residence is Knobler Tenn. but is now in this city —

R. I. Meigs Jr.

Jeffrey Price Esq. &amp; Sir.

Feb. 13th. 1818.

P.M. Zanesville O. I am favoured by yours of the 24th ult. I beg you to send on the Newark mail by express when the contractor fails to do so., bad roads are no apology, whatever, the mail must be carried per contract or the contractor shall be superseded, advise me of every failure.

R. I. Meigs Jr.

Messrs Suggitt &amp; Thompson &amp; Sir.

13th. Feb. 1818.

Frankfort Ky. Up to the 26th. ult. your riders had not in one instance delivered the mail at Russellville in time to save the trip for Nashville without extraordinary exertion & fleet horses. Your fees are already almost equaled a quarters pay, your mails have no security from Beartkins or oil cloth.

R. I. Meigs Jr.

## General Post Office

13th. Feb. 1818.

Hon. Mr. Borden & Sir,  
M. H. Represent. I have the honour to observe, that on the representation of the mail contractor, that he could not accomplish his route in the prescribed time, if he was during bad weather and bad roads, if he was compelled to pass by Mechanicsburg, we therefore permitted him temporarily to travel the other road.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

Mr. James Eddington &amp; Sir.

Feb. 13. 1818.

now at Washington. I wish you to proceed immediately to Nashville and thence by the usual route to Natchez, the failures on that road have been numerous within these few months, and proceed from negligence in most instances without doubt. Polk & Walker have the contract from Nashville to Chickasaw, from thence to Natchez is in charge of Col. Joslin, you are specially to employ other contractors, if you are satisfied that the failures are as we have no doubt you will) owing to the improvidence of the contractors in providing horses of good ability riders of irreproachable and energetic character, as our object is to cure the evil, you will when prepared with proper substitutes, advise the contractor or contractors, of this office having superseded him or them, the mail as now arranged to be continued at the rate not exceeding the yearly sum of \$1000<sup>A</sup> thousand dollars for either route, the contract to last until Decemb. 31<sup>st</sup>. now next, to compensate you we propose to allow you six dollars a day for your self horse & expences from the day that you leave Knoxville untill your return, we wish you to write to this office by every post, what errors you have discovered or what information you have obtained, on your way you will of course critically examine your own line and provide against any accident by your absence.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

Feb. 13. 1818.

Jacob Young Esq. &amp; Sir.

Pitt. Achor Ohio. I will thank you to instruct the mail carriers to call at your office with the mail, this letter is your authority for so doing.—

R. S. Meigs Jr.

## General Post office

13th. Feb. 1818.

I Chas. Way Esq. &amp; Sir.

P.M. New London &c. I am favoured with yours of the 7th. The Schedule attached to Mr. Dutton's contract had been mistaken as to his departure from New Haven, and consequently his arrival at Chelsea, at least such is our belief. Fish carried probably in the right days, the one traveling on the right and the other on the wrong would produce a delay, we attach no blame whatever to Mr. Dutton, believing the error wholly unintentional. I am gratified to learn that your vigilance has prevented a delay growing out of Mr. Dutton's absence, M. Raymond shall be paid at the rate of \$1400 a year, provided that it becomes proper to restore the contract to Mr. Fish, if otherwise \$1200. being the contractor, for the remaining period of the contract.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

I Chas. Shore Esq. &amp; Sir.

13th. Feb. 1818.

P.M. Petersburg &c. I am favoured with yours of the 10th inst. Your mails for New Orleans should be sent via Richmond & Lynchburg &c. the mails travels on that road with more speed, and frequency than on the other route. I hope that it may ultimately appear that the missing mail to which you have referred, may contain the valuable enclosure noted in the publick papers. In your letter of the 26th. ult. Capt. Butts has satisfied you that \$1000. is too little, give \$1100. if you are sure that he will do ample justice to the route.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

Hon. W. G. Blount &amp; Sir.

13th. Feb. 1818.

M. H. Represent. I have the honour to observe in reply to Mr. Houston's letter of the 16th. to your address, that we would readily comply with the prayer of the petition, had we not recently named the Postroad by establishing a Post office at Merita.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

Hon. C. H. Miller &amp; Sir.

13th. Feb. 1818.

M. H. Represent. I have the honour to observe in reply to your letter of yesterday, inclosing a petition from the proprietors of the Springfield, Stockbridge and Albany line of stages, that I should be happy to have a conversation on the subject of the petition, when it shall be convenient, for you to call at this office.

R. S. Meigs Jr.



## General Post Office

13th. Feb. 1818.

I Muyt. William Gholson Esq. Sir  
P.M. Gholsonville Va. I have been favoured with your letters  
relative to the death of Robert Wallace and the Post routes  
contracted for by him. I had authorized the Post master of  
Percevals, to provide for the two Western routes (from this office).

R. J. Meigs Jr.

John P. Williams Esq. Sir 13th. Feb. 1818.  
P.M. Eldridge near Buckingham Va. I have yours of the 9th inst. this letter  
is your authority for requiring the mail contractor to call at  
your office with the mail. if he does not comply he shall be  
fined ten dollars a week.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

Feb. 13. 1818.

Mrs Sand. Mordecai & others Sir,  
Richmond Ata. I am favoured with yours of the 11th.  
The mail from Richmond here travels regularly, and it is a  
near circumstance, to find a failure, from this place to Kentucky,  
if we can trace any cause, for delay the evil shall be remedied or  
removed.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

William Barke Esq. Sir. Feb. 14. 1818.  
P.M. Cincinnati Ohio I have yours of the 29th & 30th ult. the strange  
conduct of Judge Dunlavy makes it necessary to place the mail  
confided to him in other hands. which I wish you to do at once,  
if his agents do not carry the mail according to the schedule  
mentioned in my letter of the 29th ult. or in conformity to the  
bond & contract herein closed, you will be governed as to price by  
my former letter say \$1800. if at that sum a contractor can't  
had, enter it so that you donot exceed \$2000. a year. enter the  
contractors name and fill up the blanks. and when done return  
them, to this office, the we may forward a counterpart to the  
contractor. Peter Williams as a contractor is acceptable. we  
have no objections against his employment. — The Cynthiana  
mail shoud arrive on Wednesday noon & depart on Thursday noon,  
Capt. Fowler has had instructions to compleat a schedule for the  
Stage road, via Georgetown, all the routes according to your letter  
of the 2d. inst are regular but the Stage route, and the ~~stage~~  
route post route unfortunately confided to Mr. Dunlavy —  
I see no impropriety in your accepting the appointment and  
acting in the capacity of a judge — R. J. Meigs Jr.

## General Post Office

13th. Feb. 1818.

W. C. Miller M. C. Sir.

Simperville Ata. I wish you to adopt the alteration proposed in  
your letter of the 6th instant viz. arrive at Columbia on Friday at 6 A.M.  
and depart the next morning by 6 A.M. Arrive at China Grove on Tuesday  
at P.M. leave there on Wednesday at 6 A.M.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

W. Sampson M. Glenn M. C. Sir.

13th. Feb. 1818.

near Person C.H. N.C. You have paid no attention to my two former letters  
on the subject of the Post office at Daniels Store. You are now informed  
that if you call at that office both ways each week, you shall be  
paid at the rate of forty dollars a year extra, and if you do not.  
the Post master at Daniels store has authority to take charge of the  
post route confided to you.



R. J. Meigs Jr.

13th. Feb. 1818.

Woodson Daniel Esq. Sir.

P.M. Daniels Store N.C. I have for the third and last time instruc-  
ted Sampson M. Glenn, to visit your office with the mail. if he  
does not this letter is your authority for taking charge of his whole  
route, conveying a mail to all offices there on. in the time assigned  
to him, and we will pay you therefor at the rate of \$840 a year  
this measure will not I am confident be resorted to.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

William R. Lawson Esq. Sir.

15th. Feb. 1818.

P.M. Waterbury Ct. I have received yours of the 9th inst. I wish then  
our mail arrangement was more usefull to the citizens of Waterbury, but I  
do not see that we can at present amend it.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

Sam'l. Stebbins Esq. Sir.

15th. Feb. 1818.

P.M. Newbattle Ky. Yours of the 30th ult. is received, the Post rider  
between Frankfort and Neway can omit Bedford.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

W. John Bever Sir.

15th. Feb. 1818.

Beartown Pa. I have this day instructed the mail Contractor to  
travel the road leading between Newber and Beartown via.  
Tulks town & Little Beaver.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

## General Post Office

15th. Feb. 1818.

Mr. John Davis Esq. & Sir.  
Dearfield Ohio. I wish you to pass from Beavertown by Little Beaver, Foulkstown & to New Lisbon, you will return the same route. Your route will but be inconceivably increased by this alteration, but I shall allow you the additional sum of twenty six dollars a year for the service, you will change the route on the receipt of this letter.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

Mr. J. R. Davis Esq. &amp; Sir.

Feb. 15. 1818.

Selins Grove Pa. To do justice between you and the public, I wish you to state, the actual annual expense, that you incur by passing through Sunbury, instead of going direct to Northumberland as early as is practicable.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

Feb. 15. 1818.

Richard Hunt Esq. &amp; Sir.

P. M. Chester N. Y. I have yours of the 9th instant, apprehending that the mail for your office is erroneously closed at Morristown I have written to the post master at that place on the subject.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

15th. Feb. 1818.

Jacob Barlow Esq. &amp; Sir.

P. M. Milledgeville Ga. Yours of the 20th ult. is received, the package of newspapers referred to having a written memorandum, or a letter therein closed ought to be charged with letter postage. the many impositions in that way materially affects the Post office revenue and ought to be prevented.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

Feb. 15. 1818.

Henry King Esq. &amp; Sir.

P. M. Morristown N. J. Is your mail at Chester closed on the proper day, is it not closed too soon.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

15 Feb. 1818.

Mr. Simon Harris &amp; Sir.

Bridgewater N. H. I have yours of the 19th. ult. I have altered the Schedule on the Franconia route as you requested, and I have used Burlington, your contract for that route will as advertised begin at Milton, when your bond & contract are returned, corresponding alterations will be made on the contract

R. J. Meigs Jr.

## General Post office

15th. Feb. 1818.

Thomas Watson Esq. &amp; Sir.

P. M. Newbern N. C. Yours of the 6th. instant is received, apprised of Mr. Wallace's delinquency, I some time since requested the Postmaster of Tarboro, to contract with a more responsible and efficient person, whenever a mail be unnecessarily delayed, you have full power to dispatch an express on the route with the mail to prevent the trip being broken, whenever an express shall be dispatched, you should apprise this office immediately thereof, that the delinquent contractor may be charged with the penalty incurred.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

Feb. 15. 1818.

Joseph Grant Esq. &amp; Sir.

P. M. Verona N. Y. Yours of the 19th. ult. is received, it is probable that your route will be continued for the year P.S. The other part of the petition that you sometime since induced from Constantine &c. R. J. Meigs Jr.

J. Meffrs C. &amp; P. Mallet &amp; Sir.

Feb. 15. 1818.

Fayetteville N. C. Yours of the 10th. instant is received, we can contribute very little toward the support of a stage on the Newbern road, if it be an object to have a line of stages on that road, you can submit a proposition to that effect, when our advertisement is issued, which will be in about four months.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

15th Feb. 1818.

M. Braxton Robinson &amp; Sir.

Hicks's Ford &c. I have yours of the 11th. your mail has not been carried with that punctuality, that it ought to have been, nor have I learned that you in compliance with my instruction changed the Murfreesboro's mail, it as was first carried was useless, if your pay be actually increased by any alteration that we make, we reimburse it

R. J. Meigs Jr.

15. Feb. 1818.

J. G. Lyon Esq. P. M. &amp; Sir.

St. Stephens Alla. S. C. I have yours of the 10th. ult. I will thank you to send the Mobile mail on Thursday instead of Wednesday, to avoid an unnecessary delay.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

15th. Feb. 1818.

M. J. H. Ware &amp; Sir.

Milledgeville Ga. I have yours of the 28th. ult. as I understand the case, a packet of newspapers was forwarded to your address, in which a written memorandum or letter was enclosed, that memorandum subjected the whole package to the charge of letter postage, and which the post master ought to demand.

R. J. Meigs.

Richard Frost Esq. <sup>2</sup> Sir.

P. M. Wolfborough N. H. Does Simon Harris of Bridgewater N. H. supply your office with a mail he stipulated to do so, from the 1<sup>st</sup> of January last.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

Feb. 16. 1818.

Tho. Edgerly <sup>2</sup> Esq. <sup>2</sup> Sir.

P. M. Perry N. Y. I have yours of the 5th inst. the contractor for the route Moscow and Angelica, can, and has been instructed to visit your office with the mail, until he does, you will be entitled to the next proceeds of your office for carrying the mail.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

15. Feb. 1818.

Nicholas Aprants Esq. <sup>2</sup> Sir.

Moscow or Leicester N. Y. I will thank you to instruct the mail carrier, Levi Street to visit the Post office at Perry both on going to and returning from Angelica, he to be paid Seven dollars for each extra mile occasioned by his calling at that office, with the mail, per annum. the distance to be counted one way, may I have your early reply.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

16th. Feb. 1818.

W. Hezah. Ripley <sup>2</sup> Sir.

Moscow or Leicester N. Y. I have yours of the 29th. W. Chipman has not yet advised me whether he has or has not succeeded in contracting for the Post route referred to by you, if not, it may be advisable, to either contract with you or Mr. Horner Sherwood whose bid is the same as yours.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

16th. Feb. 1818.

Duncan McRae Esq. <sup>2</sup> Sir.

P. M. Fayetteville N. C. Who had the immediate charge of the mail stage property on the route Wilmington & Fayetteville.

Thomas Davis Contractor, when the W. Mallett assumed the transport of that mail, was it not under the W. Mallett control. Your early answer is solicited.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

16th. Feb. 1818.

W. Thomas Davis Jr. <sup>2</sup> Sir.

Fayetteville N. C. I have yours of the 5th. inst. The agreement entered into with the W. Mallett, did not go to supersede your contract, it was conditioned in such a manner as to avoid an error of that sort.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

General Post Office

Feb. 15th. 1818

P. M. Lexington Ga. Does Simon Harris of Bridgewater N. H.

supply your office with a mail he stipulated to do so, from the 1<sup>st</sup>

of January last.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

Feb. 16. 1818.

General Post office

16th. Feb. 1818.

John Moore Esq. <sup>2</sup> Sir.

P. M. Lexington Ga. Will you advise with the mail carriers on the subject of their meeting at your office with the mail on the Camerelle & Athens route, how far do they travel on the day of their arrival at your office, how many miles before they arrive at your office and how many after they depart, with this information, we can decide upon the propriety of requiring them to meet at your office.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

17. Feb. 1818.

Tho. B. Robertson <sup>2</sup> Sir.

M. H. Representatives I have the honor to observe in reply to your letter of the 15th. inst. that aware of the failures in the due transmission of mails between this city & New Orleans, I despatched an agent to enquire into & to correct the abuses or errors that had interrupted the mails transport, between this city, Fort Stoddert & New Orleans, and he was to return from New Orleans via Natchez, Nashville &c. &c. and make the same inquiries, and adopt such measures as would prevent their recurrence.

My agent on his arrival at Fort Stoddert found the water courses impassable on the usually travelled postroute from thence via Pearl River & Madison to New Orleans, he left his horse & took shipping for New Orleans where he learned, that the excessive rains had interrupted the progress of the mail through the Indian country, between Huntsville & Natchez, and a number of mails had been nearly destroyed by swimming creeks and travelling in rainy weather. Apprehending

from the continuance of the continued irregularity of the mail that the Contractors on that route may have availed themselves of high water as an apology for failures, when they were not of sufficient height to interrupt the mails, where due & ample exertion was manifested, I dispatched a special agent of intelligence, and experience, the last week, clothed with power to displace any contractor on Contractors who had failed in the due transport of the mail from causes other than those that were actually uncontrollable, the fair character of the contractors, and their ample means of carrying their contracts into effect, almost place them beyond suspicion, I pray you to be assured that I exceedingly regret that your constituents should have suffered so much from the mails irregularity.

R. S. Meigs Jr.



General Post Office  
17th. Feb. 1818.

Mr. Sam'l. Astor Esq<sup>r</sup> Sir,

near Randolph N.C. 3 Morn of is received, we have in no instance advanced in additional pay more than 33 $\frac{1}{3}$  percent on base rate, for carrying the mail in stages, if we get to the extent of that rate, in the route Salisbury N.C. & Camden N.C. we cannot afford \$700 a year as the mail compensation for that route.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

Feb 17. 1818.

Genl. T. M. Forman<sup>r</sup> Sir

Savinton add. 3 Will you do me the favor to inform Mr. Whiting that we hold him bound to transport the mail, in the manner in which, he jointly with yourself, and others, requested us to agree to a few weeks ago, and that by failing to do so, he will incur the usual penalties.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

17. Feb. 1818

Jacob Weaver Esq<sup>r</sup> Sir.

Pitt. Freeport Pa. If we cannot better and more directly accommodate your office, than by the course pointed out in your letter of the 1st. we shall adopt it, we shall soon learn.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

17 Feb. 1818.

Simon Dunn Esq<sup>r</sup> Sir,

P. M. Greenburg Pa. The petition which you transmitted to the Honl. Mr. Marchand relative to Mr. Doby's proposal for supplying sundry offices between your office & Indiana, which are not included in the present contract, is mislaid, will you inform us what offices were included in that petition, and at the same time you can request Mr. Doby to proceed thence with the mail, if he will do so, for \$104 a year, your immediate reply is requested.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

Feb. 17. 1818

Henry Wells Esq<sup>r</sup> Sir.

Pt. Edenton N.C. I have received yours of the 13th. I exceedingly regret that failures have occurred on the Halifax or Warrenton route, the contractor avers, that all exertion is made to effect the object that can be done. I don't know, is there an efficient person to be found in your place who will take charge of that mail, if so, on what terms.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

General Post Office  
17th. Feb. 1818.

Mr. Coates Young<sup>r</sup> Sir,

Bennington Vt. I have yours of the 10th Inst. by contract you are bound to deliver the mail at the Post office in Castleton, to save you an unnecessary trouble by stage or delay. I propose that the Postmaster at Albany buy two small mail bags, for the purpose of enclosing letters and papers for Castleton, let the Postmaster north south of that place, put therein all mails for Castleton, your carrier will receive that mail, and deliver it at the Post office in Castleton, on your return from Middlebury, the same course will be observed with the other Postmanteam, by the Postmaster at Middlebury, you will then deliver the mail to your carrier and receive the empty Postmanteam. If you meet the Greenfield mail stage at Williamstown with the Hosick mail by stage, you cannot be superseded, confident that you would do so, we so informed the Gentleman who made the proposition.

R. S. Meigs Jr.



Honl. R. M. Johnson<sup>r</sup> Dear Sir.

18th. Feb. 1818.

A. H. Representatives I have the honor to observe in reply to that part of Mr. Kendalls letter to your address of the 25th. ult. which relates to the irregular transmission of newspapers, to the State of Kentucky, that I have taken measures to ascertain the cause of their delay and to prevent their recurrence, so far as the cause relates to the agents of this office, it is not improbable, that Gentlemen's correspondent or agents may in some instances accidentally omit to forward them by the pending mail, and in consequence of such omission newspapers of very different dates, will go from this city by the same mail.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

18th. Feb. 1818.

Honl. R. M. Johnson<sup>r</sup> Sir.

M. H. Representatives I have the honor to observe, in reply to Genl. Taylors letter to your address under date of the 25th. ult. so far as relates to the mail, that we purposed employing Mr. Swan to transport a direct mail from Augusta to Newport Ky. the current year, unless we can have that service performed at a less rate than we paid Mr. Swan the last year, by some other person.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

J. M. Thos. Herndon Esq. 3 Sir.

General Post office

Feb. 18, 1818.

St. Stephens ~~at~~ <sup>Ala. by</sup> I am desirous to learn the manner in which the mail has been carried between St. Stephens Fort Standard and Madisonville by land, and between Madisonville and New Orleans on Lake Ponchartrain by water, say during the months of December, Jan<sup>y</sup>, and the present month, if your leisure permits, I wish you to take a horse and pursue that route immediately to Madisonville & thence to New Orleans, you will travel leisurely and minutely enquire how often the mail has failed, at what times, and to what causes the failures are attributed, whether the causes assigned are sound, or whether a want of zeal & energy, in the gents of this office is not wanting to effect the object, I wish you likewise to report the state of the road, the occasional obstructions from watercourses, and swamps, and the best way to remedy them by bridges &c. Mr. Ford the Postmaster at Fords on Roanoke, can no doubt aid your inquiries, as well as Mr. Johnson the Postmaster of the City of New Orleans, it may be proper to enquire whether the contractors pay for the supplies and services performed, you will ascertain how many days it will ordinarily take to transport a mail between St. Stephens & New Orleans, & what route is considered to be the most eligible for the purpose, I wish you to make inquiry from intelligent travellers as to the manner in which the mail is transported between Georgia & St. Stephens, whether the requisite energy is manifested, or not, we may probably want an agent in your Territory occasionally, and from the standing maintained when here, we have a disposition to employ you, for your services we propose to give three dollars a day, pay you for horse hire and all expenses incurred when on the business of this office, Your early reply is requested.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

William Brighton Esq. 3 Sir.

18th. Feb. 1818.

P. M. Chillicothe Ohio. I have yours of the 5th instant, I pray you to be prepared to start an express on any route that is delinquent the expence is not to be put in competition with the object, but your prudence will regulate that part, we have Williams's bond & contract duly executed for the Lebanon route.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

General Post office

19th. Feb. 1818.

Hon. G. Robertson 3 Sir,

M. H. Representat<sup>r</sup>. I have the honor to observe in reply to your letter of the 16th. which enclosed the letter of Messrs. Westerfield & Nourse, under date of the 25th. ult. that I have made a reply to those Gentlemen this day, and granted them some relief.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

Messrs. Westerfield & Nourse 3 Sir.

19th. Feb. 1818.

Danielle Ry. I have yours of the 25th. ult. enclosed by you to the Hon. Mr. Robertson, in consideration of the recent alteration of your Schedule on the Richmond route, I have concluded to make you an additional allowance of one hundred dollars a year from the 15th. instant.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

Hon. W. G. Blount 3 Sir.

19th. Feb. 1818.

M. H. Representat<sup>r</sup>. I have the honour to observe in reply to your letter of the 17th. Inst. that I have this day given to the Post master of Dandridge Tenn. Special instruction, to send the mail immediately by express on the route between that office and Maryville, via French Broad, Little, River &c. provided the route shall not be in operation. William Stinson's proposal for that route was accepted, he carried the mail a short time, and withdrew without giving any notice of this intention so to do, about the first of January, we requested the Post master of Maryville to contract for the route, from him we have not heard, I shall establish Post offices at Little, River, and French Broad, agreeably to your request.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

Hugh Martin Esq. 3 Sir.

19th. Feb. 1818.

P. M. Dandridge Tenn. If the mail shall not be duly transported between your office and Maryville via Sevierville &c. &c. I wish you to send a mail theron by express for account of this office, until you can find a suitable person to contract, agreeably to the bond and contract enclosed, if so disposed you can fill up the blanks and contract yourself, Your immediate attention, and reply, is requested.

R. J. Meigs Jr.

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William Murphy Esq. 3 Sir.

General Post Office  
19th. Feb. 1818.  
P.M. Washington Esq. 3 Sir, James Knight proposed to transport the mail between your office and Lexington via Morristown, Winchester &c. at \$495. per annum, before we transmitted the bond and contract to him for execution, we decided to send that mail twice a week. & we made the necessary alterations in his contract for that purpose and as a compensation we allowed him double that sum. That he was originally to have, making for that route \$990. a year, we hold his bond & contract executed by him in which he stipulates to carry the mail on that route twice a week. viz. Leave Washington every Tuesday and Friday at 9 A.M. arrive at Mount Sterling on Thursday by 10 A.M. arrive at Lexington on Thursday and Sunday by 6 P.M. Leave Lexington every Friday and Monday at 6 A.M. arrive at your office the next Sunday & Wednesday by 6 P.M. is the mail on that route carried, agreeably to the above schedule, or has Mr. Knight mistaking his engagements. If he has I wish you to inform him on receipt of this letter that he must immediately carry the mail as above, may I have your immediate reply. on what terms will you transport a weekly mail to Newport Ky. and back through what Towns or by what offices, ought said mail to travel. and what is the actual distance, or length of said route.

R. J. Meiggs

Mr. William S. Sackett 3 Sir.

19th. Feb. 1818.

Salem Kentucky 3 Sir, I have yours of the 31<sup>st</sup>. ult. as just and equitable I propose to give you six hundred dollars a year for carrying a weekly mail between Johnson C.H. & Harkaskia. this contract to supersede the one that you executed.

R. J. Meiggs

Honl. W. Sampson 3 Sir.

20th. Feb. 1818.

M. H. Represent. 3 I am strongly urged by Gentlemen of respectable standing in Bridgewater Ms. to permit Mr. Packard to depart from Boston on Monday, Wednesday & Friday or rather to continue the arrangement of the mail on that route which we proposed to change at your instance. They represent that this arrangement is particularly usefull to the public, by giving greater advantages by mail to New Bedford, and to offices between that place and Boston. Will you have the goodness to inform me, whether any injury in your opinion to the public, can result by continuing that arrangement.

R. J. Meiggs

General Post Office

20th. Feb. 1818.

William Lypholton Esq. 3 Sir,

P.M. Lypholtonville N.Y. 3 I have yours of the 17<sup>th</sup>. Inst. and I am obliged by your attention to the crop mails, Mr. A. Powell can continue the transport of the Belfield and Suffolk mail, at the rate paid to the late Mr. Wallace of \$474 a year to take date the 12<sup>th</sup>. of this month, if Mr. Gott has not agreed to transport the other two mails. if so disposed you can have the contracts for said route, if you will send to Mr. Brinley for the bond and contract forwarded to him embracing those routes, for all services rendered you shall be fully paid.

R. J. Meiggs

20th. Feb. 1818.

Mr. Levi Street 3 Sir.

Moscow or Liverpool N.Y. 3 I have yours of the 9<sup>th</sup>. instant. if the Canandaigua mail averages in weight on its arrival at Moscow 75lb. I will allow an additional compensation of \$200. making for the whole route \$800. a year. if the weight is not equal to 75lb. it may with convenience be carried on horse back.

R. J. Meiggs Jr.

20th. Feb. 1818.

Mr. David Brinley 3 Sir.

Wilmington Del. 3 I will thank you to instruct your driver to call at the Post Office where it is now situated with the mail.

R. J. Meiggs

20th. Feb. 1818.

Geo. Buffield Esq. 3 Sir.

P.M. Newport Del. 3 I have your letter of the 1<sup>st</sup>. inst. Mr. Brinley is instructed to deliver the mail at your office where it is now situated.

R. J. Meiggs

20th. Feb. 1818.

William P. Morgan 3 Sir.

P.M. Murfreesboro N.C. 3 I have yours of the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Inst. I will thank you to return the bond & contract entered into by Mr. Wells, we shall then send him a duplicate of the Contract.

On what terms can you procure the mail to be conveyed between Warrenton & Edenton, on the route, and by all the offices now supplied with the mail by Ira Portis, the carrier to go from Warrenton to Edenton, and return in a week.

R. J. Meiggs

20th. Feb. 1818.

William H. Monroe Esq. & others 3 Sir.

Murfreesboro N.C. 3 I have yours of the 4<sup>th</sup>. Inst. Ira Portis or his agents have been extremely remiss in their duty and I shall be compelled to supersede him.

R. J. Meiggs

## General Post Office

Feb. 20. 1818.

Mr. Uriah H. Gridley Esq; Sir.

Watertown Lt. Yours of the 22<sup>d</sup> instant is received, until further advised, you can leave Litchfield on Wednesdays, in one hour after the Hartford mail shall have arrived.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

20th. Feb. 1818.

Joseph C. Sprague Esq; Sir.

P. M. Salem Ms. If the drivers of any line of stages carry letters on any Postroad connected with your office for persons other than their immediate employer, and as relates to their immediate duty, you will cause them to be prosecuted.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

Feb. 20th. 1818.

Aaron Hill Esq; Sir.

P. M. Boston Ms. It is intimated that the Stage drivers both of the mail and accommodation lines are in the habit of carrying letters to individuals in the several Towns, for that offence, I wish you to prosecute the guilty, it may be advisable to hint the subject to the drivers, that they may desist without prosecution but if they shall repeat the offence, you cause them to be immediately prosecuted.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

20th. Feb. 1818.

W. Jonas Wells Esq; Sir.

Newport Del. I have yours of the seventeenth, Mr. Brinton is instructed to visit the Post office at Newport where it is now situated.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

Feb. 20. 1818.

W. Jefse Sheffer Esq; Sir.

Castor Md. I have yours of the 9th inst. and W. Pickering's letter of the 8th inst. in your behalf, I will thank you to state the Postroute that you propose to travel, the manner in which you propose to carry the mail thence, and the terms on which you will carry the mail, with this information I can decide upon the propriety of your being employed by this office.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

20th Feb. 1818.

Isaac Smith Esq; Sir.

P. M. Camden Lt. Yours of the 13th. instant. is recd. If you cannot contract for less than \$2800. or \$3000 dollars a year, you can go those sums, the contract to last until the 31<sup>st</sup>. of next December. A man who has good credit or who has cash, can travel cheaper than is expressed in the bill that you inclosed.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

## General Post Office

19th. Feb. 1818.

Philip L. Grasty Esq; Sir.

P. M. Grasty's Store At " Yours of the 28th. inst. is received. You allege that the accounts with the money for their balances have been regularly sent from your office from July 1. 1813. to Decemr. 31. 1815. Not one of those accounts, nor one cent of the money alleged to have been sent, has ever been received at this office. There is something in this very inexplicable, that ten accounts in succession, with the money enclosed for their balances, should be lost, or stolen, and no other mails robbed, or money lost during the same period, from any of the neighbouring offices. The conviction is inevitable, that the mischief must have been done, either at, or near your own office; and as you are well acquainted with the situation of the office, and the mail carriers during that period, as well as with every circumstance which might aid in fixing a suspicion, I must earnestly request of you to use every effort, and with all secrecy and discretion to ascertain if possible, where, and by whom the mischief has been done. The fifty dollar note, enclosed by you in decemr, was duly received, as also your accounts from Jan'y 1. 1816. to Decemr. 31. 1817.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

20th. Feb. 1818.

Aaron Hill Esq; Sir.

P. M. Boston Ms. I have yours of the 14th. will you have the goodness to state the Towns through which Leonard & Stone carry the mail via Hingham &c. to Plymouth, it was our understanding that their line was to supply Marshfield, Scituate &c.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

Feb. 21. 1818.

Richard Backe Esq; Sir.

P. M. Philadelphia Pa. Are mails duly closed at your office on the evenings of Wednesday for Elmira N. Y. Painted Post. & Bath N. Y. The Honl. Mr. Long resides at the latter place and is anxious to have this mail duly attended to.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

23<sup>d</sup> Feb. 1818.

Isaac Smith Esq; Sir.

P. M. Camden Lt. I have yours of the 14th. instant. without publicly advertising the Post route between Camden & Charleston, we cannot make a contract for a greater period, than the 31<sup>st</sup>. of next December for that route.

R. S. Meigs Jr.

