

## Post Office Report

Jan'y 19th 1819

Wm Brewster Sirs

P.M. Edgefield &amp; H. S. B.

I have your two letters of the 1st & 14th instant relating to W'ton mail. I am glad that you have made a provisional agreement for said route at four dollars a day and wish the carrier to continue until the provision for said route can be made. The price is too great for the value of service performed. & I think that Mr. Addison has much overrated the expense of said route.

R. P. Meigs

John Bay Sir

Jan'y 15 1819

near Marion ch. S. C. I have yours of the 27th in the course of business your proposal was erroneously endorsed 189 instead of 146. Your proposal did not enable you to post route no<sup>o</sup> 146. Your and that

R. P. Meigs

Honble John Savage Sirs

Jan'y 18 1819

Mr. R. Representing I have the honour to observe in reply to your letter of yesterday that the postroute referred to can terminate at Sandy Hill instead of Fort Edward if you wish it.

R. P. Meigs

Wm Mc Cleney Esq Sir

Jan'y 13th 1819

P.M. Wellsburg or Brook C. L. Va I wish you to send a special mail to Steubenville so that that office can have two mails to correspond with the Washington Office mail at your Office each week. For this weekly mail you will have to give I suppose about \$10. a year. You will on receipt of this letter send the mail until further advice. Let me hear from you.

R. P. Meigs Jan'r

Sam'l Wilson Esq Sir

Jan'y 19th 1819

Editor Western Journal State of Ohio I have yours of the 4th inst & I have given the Post Master at Wellsburg instruction to send an additional weekly mail to Steubenville so arranged as to establish a connection with the Washington Post Master arrival at his Office.

R. P. Meigs

Wylfield &amp; Nourse Sir

Jan'y 13th 1819

Danville Va I have yours of the 5<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> ulto taking it for granted that you would carry a special mail to Liberty & back to Danville once a week as per my letter of the 21<sup>st</sup> ulto we gave no reply to your letter of the 5<sup>th</sup>. I am now to request that you on the receipt of this letter at once convey the mail agreeably to the tenor of my letter of Decr 21<sup>st</sup> by us you will be fairly compensated for the extra mail to Liberty

R. P. Meigs

## General Post Office Report

Jan'y 14<sup>th</sup> 1819

William Atkinson Esq Sirs

Aldie Va

Agreeably to your recommendation contained in your letter of the 9th inst. William Atkinson is appointed P. M. at Haymarket. His appointment was sent on yesterday. You will please to see that his bond is executed with sufficient security & returned to this office. The authority contained in his letter of appointment will be all that is necessary to obtain the property and letters belonging to the office.

R. P. Meigs

Bernard Smith Esq Sir

Jan'y 14 to 1819

P.M. New Bernwick & Co Will you be good enough to let the Eastern Pa mail carriers leave your office on Wednesdays & return to your office on Tuesdays as requested by Messrs Lortone & Mann



R. P. Meigs

R. B. Murray Esq Sir

Jan'y 19th 1819

P.M. Nashville Tenn. As your state of health is, we could not expect you to go to Chickasaw & the measures which you have taken appear to be such that as to guard against a failure of that important mail. Pending a agreement with you was clearly binding on him from this office under any circumstances, we shall after sending a duplicate of Shely's mail contract until we learn more fully of his and Dorkins movements and with a view to give Dorkin an interest with Shely, if both will be all such expenses which you may have incurred in the business will be reimbursed.

R. P. Meigs

W. A. Patterson Sir

Jan'y 15. 1819

M. b. Concord Va I wish you to state the schedule by which you intend to be governed - on the route Richmond & Lynchburg going thence a road. Your immediate reply is desired.

R. P. Meigs

H. F. Steele Esq Sir

P.M. Richmond Va If John Woody &c has not prepared for teams porting a mail on the three Notches road to Milton. I wish to provide a carrier for said route at a rate not exceeding six hundred & fifty dollars & William Marston of Columbia was a bidder. and half a dozen Woodys some of the bidders will be willing to contract. I presume.

I wish the mail starts without delay -

On what days does Patterson arrive at and Depart from your office with the mail at this time?

R. P. Meigs

Thos Shore Esq Sir

Jan'y 14. 1819

P.M. Pittsburgh Pa I have yours of the 11th Mr. Woody must leave Saturday or Friday mornings instead of Thursday evenings he will be paid extra for so doing the printing at Pittsburgh must be accommodated as well as those supplies who get paper by mail.

R. P. Meigs

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## Post Office Department

George King Esq<sup>r</sup> SirJan<sup>y</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> 1819

Pm. Sharon &c. I will thank you to transport the mail between your office & Loughborough at the price specified in the contract. Mr Stephen Thorn and Alexander Bailey are applicants for the route. The letter having been sent the contractor should have preference, when the papers are executed and returned a counterpart of the contract shall be sent to the contractor.

R. J. Meigs

Thos Shore Esq<sup>r</sup> SirJan<sup>y</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> 1819

Pm Petersburg Va I perceive that the mail from the North arrives at your office from 11 A.M. to midnight. You can therefore dispatch the mail both by 2 A.M. every moment is usefull to Mr. Johnson, but this is not to be done until the mail from the North shall have arrived. We have not fixed given hours on the main line as yet to correspond with my late advertisement we shall try expedition gradually.

R. J. Meigs

John McMillan Sir

Jan<sup>y</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> 1819

Mr. C. Staubenville Ohio I have yours of the 24<sup>th</sup> ulto "I am willing that you should leave Pittsburg with the mail at 1 A.M. And I shall be glad to have the mail transported in a stage if it can be done without extra expence at present circumstances will not permit us to increase our expences

R. J. Meigs

John H. Barney Esq<sup>r</sup> SirJan<sup>y</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> 1819

Baltimore Md. Do what cause are we to attribute the recent <sup>extraordinary</sup> delays in the Phila mail you will recollect that we liberally pay ~~you~~ for the mails transported & with a special view to certainty of expedition we cannot for a moment believe you personally negligent if your partners are negligent we confidently trust that you will either make them do their duty or take others who will at once

R. J. Meigs Jr

P. P. Parsons Sir

Jan<sup>y</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> 1819

M. H. Rep. In reply to Mr. Saunders letter enclosed in yours of the 14<sup>th</sup> instant I have the honour to observe that the proposal of John Woody Jr was accepted for transporting the mail on the three Notched road between Richmond & Miltown. Woody was well recommended if he has not complied with his proposal, I shall take measures to procure another carrier immediately as several mails pass each week between Miltown & Charlottesville. It was thought advisable to save the extra expence of sending the three Notched mail beyond Miltown.

R. J. Meigs

## Post Office Department

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John Mumell Esq<sup>r</sup> SirJan<sup>y</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> 1819

P. M. Lynchburg Va I have yours of the 10<sup>th</sup> instant on what days are our newspapers published & on what days does Patterson arrive at & depart from your office for Richmond Your early reply is requested it will enable me to adopt our arrangements so as to meet the general good

R. J. Meigs

J. G. Bradford Sir

Jan<sup>y</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> 1819

Nashville Tenn I have yours of the 24<sup>th</sup> ulto notice the funds of this office are more ample it will not be expedient to increase the current expence on the route alluded to

A. B. Lindley

Sir

Jan<sup>y</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> 1819

Agt P. L. D. Frankfort Ky. I have yours of the 2<sup>d</sup> inst On your return you will pursue the present mail route to Nashville Tenn. and thence to this city via the mail stage road carefully noticing all money discovered and pointing out the remedies to this office.

No mails should be changed or altered except from this office who will act on your report touching alterations or improvements

R. J. Mc Jr

James Moore Sir

Jan<sup>y</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> 1819

Louisburg Va I have yours of the 11<sup>th</sup> inst Your former letter is not received You can have more time to perform your contract in if you will state the alterations wanted they will no doubt be acceded to

R. J. Mc Jr

Lewis Vinton Esq<sup>r</sup> SirJan<sup>y</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> 1819

Millersburg Ky. I have yours of the 31<sup>st</sup> ulto off contrary to my ex pulation Benjamin Estington has failed to transport the mail between your office & Flemingsburg Mr. Ballard will carry said mail which will supersede the necessity of sending a coach mail post to Carlisle

R. J. Mc Jr

A. E. Ballard Esq<sup>r</sup> SirJan<sup>y</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> 1819

Flemingsburg Ky. I have yours of the 30<sup>th</sup> ulto if no contractor shall have appeared to transport the route alluded to when this letter reaches you you will then carry the mail on said route at once I require there for the rate of \$195 a year from the period you begin let me have an early reply

R. J. Mc Jr

Cerman Baker Esq<sup>r</sup> SirJan<sup>y</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> 1819

Bakersville Va The Post master can supply you with a carriage team as a contingent expense

R. J. Mc Jr

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## Post Office Department

John Pepper Esq. Sir

P.M. Montgomery 376.

I have yours of the 8th Mr Baker can only  
Newbern in the performance of his route

15 Jan'y 1819

To Stofey

Benjamin Smead Sir

Bath N.Y.

I have yours of the 30th Mr. Baker can only  
to extend to Canandaigua & not have the short line divided into two parts

Jan'y 15 1819

R. J. Meigs

James Fraser Esq. Sir

P.M. Augusta Ga

I have yours of the 5<sup>th</sup> instant Mgr. Head  
& Long are to transport the mail twice a week between our office & Athens  
to begin soon. & the sooner the better

Jan'y 15 1819

R. J. Meigs

W. Elias Wally Sir

Parkersburg Va. You are fined for three successive failures in the  
Delivery of the mail at Point Pleasant the last month sixty Dollars

Jan'y 16 1819

R. J. Meigs

Wm Daughtry Esq. Sir

P.M. Point Pleasant Ohio

I have yours of the 4<sup>th</sup> the delinquent-mail-  
contractor is fined sixty Dollars

Jan'y 16 1819

(R. J. Meigs)

John Purney Sir

M. S. City

You can until further advised perform your route  
between this City Middlebury Martinsburg & on writing & mail post to post between Martinsburg  
& Berkeley Springs once a week each year except from the 1st of June to the 1<sup>st</sup> Oct  
when the mail shall pass those times apart between those places. This arrangement  
to begin by the first of next month

Jan'y 16 1819

R. J. Meigs

John Worrell 303 Sir

P.M. Pittsburgh Va

I wish you to transport the mail between Pittsburgh  
& Halifax precisely in the same manner that was done the last year & by  
each Verry office on the route for this deviating from my advertisement I shall  
allow you one hundred dollars in addition to your current pay to cover extra expenses

Jan'y 16 1819

R. J. Meigs

Hon Edward Colton Sir

M. S. Representative

I have the honour to observe in reply to  
yours of the , that I have provisionally made this change in the mail to  
Berkeley Springs. by suspending the mail between Martinsburg and the  
Springs running three mails each week between Hancock Md & Berkeley Springs  
from June 1<sup>st</sup> to Oct 1<sup>st</sup> each year and the residue of the year once a week  
communicating between Martinsburg & the Springs and Hancock via Boardman  
& Hancock

Jan'y 16 1819

R. J. Meigs

## General Post Office

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Honble Mr. Stofey Sir

Chairman of P. O. &amp; P. R. Com.

Jan'y 16 1819

I have the honour to acknowledge the  
receipt of your letter of the 12<sup>th</sup> inst. & to remark that the  
act passed on the 27<sup>th</sup> of February 1813. would fully meet the object of the com-  
mittee of the last clause of it was stricken out "and that such contracts shall  
secure the regular transportation of the mail throughout the year." Steam boats  
are most of them prevented from moving in the winter by ice and to carry the  
mail throughout the year under the same contract, would require it to be carried  
a part of the year in steam boats. & from one to three months in stages or on  
horseback. The owners of steam boats & of stages not being mutually concerned  
no one has hitherto offered to contract for the year under that act.It is pursued that this subject is brought before the committtee & by  
with a view to the conveyance of the mail in steam boats between Louisville in  
Kentucky & New OrleansThe mail is now carried three times a week by  
land between those places & it costs the public more than it produces. If the  
steam boat is employed to carry the mail, the land mail may well be  
reduced to once a week & only the difference or a part of it be paid for carrying it  
in the steam boat, so that the whole expence may be no greater than if carried  
by land alone. The same remark will apply to most or all other places where steam  
boats are established & I have therefore proposed a section to restrain the experiment.  
This might indeed be done without but it would give rise to much importunity.If this act is passed it will be considered that the experiment is to be made  
of the steam boats between Louisville & New Orleans & if found not to answer the  
expectations of the public that the mail will be & the post route mail resumed  
Contracts will doubtless be made in the other part of the Country where steam  
boats are established & thus a fair comparison may be made between the expen-  
sity of land mail & steam boats. Very respectfully of PostJohn Finley Sir  
Wethersboro' 38.

R. J. Meigs

Jan'y 17<sup>th</sup> 1819I am to request that you will cause your mail car-  
rier to visit the Post Office at Campbell Ford with your whole expay  
will annually shall then be of 300<sup>0</sup> visiting Mount Pisgah this Office & your  
early reply is requested

Honble Mr. Stofey Sir

M. Senate

R. J. Meigs

January 18, 1819

I have the honour to observe that I have this day in-  
structed Mr John Finley to visit the Office at Campbell Ford with the mail

R. J. Meigs

R. J. Meigs

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## General Post Office

January 11, 1819.

Honorable Mr. Chairman Sir

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9<sup>th</sup> inst. wherein you observe that the act in addition to an act regulating the Post Office establishment passed in 1813, has never been acted upon. One of the conditions of that act requires that the contract for carrying the mail in steam boats shall secure the regular transportation of the mail throughout the year. It has been found that in the winter season steam boats could not be worked with certainty on account of ice. That the owners not being concerned in stages or in the practice of contracting for carrying the mail by land, were unwilling to contract for carrying it by land when the steam boats could not run. The stage owners were equally averse to contract for the steam boat part of the carriage.

On this account & on the belief that that the prices then fixed were adequate to the object the act of 1813 was passed. By this act the Post master general is authorized to pay 8 cents for each letter & half a cent for each newspaper & no more carried by a steam boat.

The object of the resolution before the house is to enable the post master general to contract for carrying the mail in steam boats between Louisville in Kentucky & New Orleans. The distance as the steam boats run is estimated at 1600 miles. It is proposed to convey the mail once a week each way & that it shall be carried down the river in six days & up the river in fifteen days.

The mail is now carried by land three times a week. The distance estimated 900 miles is performed in fourteen days each way. The expense of carrying the mail already materially exceeds the postage arising from it. And I do not feel authorized to increase that expense.

It has been proposed to discontinue carrying the mail two trips a week between Nashville in Tennessee & New Orleans & to pay the amount saved by that change to the steam boat for carrying it once a week. And in this way there would be two mails a week instead of three. But if this was considered good policy. The owners of the steam boats could not with safety to themselves contract to carry it regularly through the year in other words to carry it on horseback when the steam boats would be obstructed by the ice.

But if the law was altered in that particular, without a greater knowledge of the dependence that might be placed upon the regularity of a steam boat, passing upon that route, than I at present have I should not feel at liberty to make such a change, unless warranted by the opinion or direction of congress.

If it should be the opinion that a trial be made of the steam boats and two of the mails by land, astute to that effect would be sufficient.

"That the P.M. & be authorized to contract for carrying the mail from Louisville to New Orleans & to pay thereon as in other contracts provided that the whole sum of carrying the mail between Louisville & New Orleans be not thereby increased."

R. J. M'Graw

## Post Office Dept 364

Jan'y 18, 1819.

Honorable Mr. Palmer Sir

Mr. Smoot. I have the honour to observe in reply to your application for sending a second weekly mail between New Orleans & N.Y. and Danville. That if the post master of Danville or can obtain a contractor for that route at \$150. per annum with the privilege of distributing newspapers on the route for his private emolument. I will allow that sum and consent to such weekly schedule as may best conduce to the interest of the citizens of Danville.

Honorable Mr. Hendricks Sir

Jan'y 18 - 1819

Mr. H. Representatives

I have the honour to observe that the pay due to Mr. William Hobgat for transporting the mail shall be immediately sent him. I wish that gentleman to continue the mail transport until the 21<sup>st</sup> of next December. For this years service he shall be paid at the rate of seven dollars a mile counting the distance one way. per annum

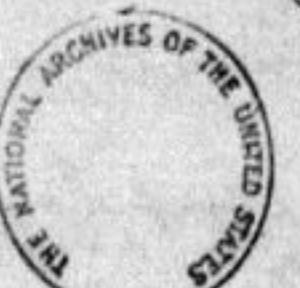
(R. J. M'Graw)

Honorable Mr. Hendricks Sir

Jan'y 18, 1819

Mr. H. Representatives

I have the honour to observe that the pay due to Mr. Booth & Patrick shall be immediately transmitted to those gentlemen whom I wish to continue the mail transport until the 21<sup>st</sup> December next unless some other carrier shall under the authority of this office appear to transport said mail.



Honorable Thomas S. Rogers Sir

Jan'y 19, 1819

Mr. H. Representatives

I have the honour to observe in reply to Mr. Broting his  
objection under date of the 2<sup>d</sup> Inst. that as I have appointed, that I have appointed the  
gentleman a post master at Stockport. & I have made provision for supplying  
his office with the mail. This proposal for the mail is believed to be unexceptionable

(R. J. M'Graw)

Honorable Thos. W. Cobb Sir

Jan'y 19, 1819

Mr. H. Representatives

In reply to that part of your letter Mr. Gray's  
last letter to your address which relates to the post road between Milliganville  
and Monticello. I have the honour to observe that I have made arrangements  
for the mail to go from Milliganville via Mount Pleasant, Allen Greenston  
& to Monticello & to return from thence via Clopton Mills & to Milliganville

(R. J. M'Graw)

3/15

Post Office, Saltport  
Jan 19 - 1819

William Barker Esq<sup>r</sup> Sir  
P.M. Monticello Ga  
I have your of the 21<sup>st</sup> ulto so much  
feeling is expressed to have the mail pass between your office & Milledgeville  
both by Clopton Mills &c & by Allen Green &c that I have decided to  
send the mail by mount Pleasant Allen Green &c to your office and return  
thence to Milledgeville via Clopton Mills. With this arrangement each will  
have mail advantages the carrier must necessarily reside at Milledgeville as his spare time will be there. I would prefer the person you have em-  
ployed if he can agree to this plan viz leave Milledgeville every Tuesday by  
8 A.M. arrive at your office same day by 7 P.M. Leave monticello very  
Wednesday at 6 A.M. arrive at Milledgeville same day by 7 P.M. to travel the  
roads as above pointed out. For carrying the mail in this manner I  
will give \$400 per annum. If your carrier will not accept these terms  
the Post Master at Milledgeville can employ a person I trust. But  
I wish you ride to continue until other provision be made at all events.

R. J. M. Jr

W. Jones Esq<sup>r</sup> Sir  
Milledgeville Ga  
I have decided to send the mail from your office  
via Mount Pleasant Allen Green &c to Monticello and that the mail  
shall return from thence thence thence via Clopton Mills &c to your office  
the Postmaster at Monticello had made some provision for the route  
but if the arrangement now adopted shall not suit his carrier you  
will in that event employ one the mail is to go from your office  
to Monticello on Tuesdays & return on Wednesdays to carry your  
newspaper direct — for this mail I have authorized \$400 to begin  
I rely (on this subject) that you will exercise your accustomed energy  
R. J. M. Jr

Honble James Parker Sir  
Jan 21<sup>st</sup> 1819

Mr. H. B. Representative  
I have the honor to observe in reply to your  
application for establishing a Post Office at Groton in the Town of Ledyard  
that I have this day taken measures to prevent. how much the mail carrier  
ride will be extended by visiting that place with the mail. and how  
much the mail expense will be increased —

R. J. M. Jr

W. Jones Esq<sup>r</sup> Sir  
P.M. Milledgeville Ga  
I am favoured with yours of the 6<sup>th</sup> ulto  
which asks to much. Among other bidders for the Hurricane that mail  
were John Sparks at \$949 — William Barker \$750. W. S. Morgan \$700. Dennis  
Moaden \$500. and accept Sterling Elmer \$57<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>. James Lyon \$620. Mr. Wilson  
\$500. Armisted Richardson \$800. at some of these rates I hope that you may get  
an efficient contractor. To your zeal and energy weare much indebted

R. J. M. Jr

General Post Office 3663

Jan 17, 1819

David S. Jackson Sir  
Staunton Va to nearly a

It appears that you carried the mail one  
a week from Staunton to Clarksburg last year for \$420. That you demand  
\$1200 this year for the same service if there being no other bid it was  
agreed to give you \$700 for carrying it once a fortnight. The contract does  
not appear to be executed & the arrangement gives great dissatisfaction

A member of Congress states that although the route is very rough & severe  
it is a cheap country & there are individuals enough who would be glad to do  
it for the price which you receive, but who did not wish to interfere with  
you. In these circumstances I presume you will agree either to relinquish  
the contract or to carry it once a week on the following days for  
nine hundred dollars a year.

Leave Staunton every Monday at 8 A.M.

Arrive at Clarksburg on Friday by 5 P.M.

Leave Clarksburg on Saturday by every Wednesday at 6 A.M.

Arrive at Staunton on Sunday by 6 P.M.

It is stated that you have actually left Staunton & arrived there  
on Saturday instead of the day required by your contract, which if subject  
it to be vacated

R. J. M. Jr

Jan 12<sup>th</sup> 1819

Act. P. R. Bedford Sir

Jefferson Va

I have received your letter of the 21<sup>st</sup> through the hands  
of Mr. Smith When letters are forwarded for the mail to Murfreesboro' which are  
addressed to Jefferson, it is the duty of the post master at Murfreesboro' to remail them  
to Jefferson, on the ground that the mistake has been merely a postmaster's  
but if a letter for a person whose the postmaster knows to reside at Murfreesboro'  
Jefferson is directed to Murfreesboro' the postmaster is not required to  
forward it. He may do so if he chooses, but if the letter is lost in consequence  
of sending it to Jefferson the postmaster is responsible for it. & so it  
would be the case if the postmaster at Jefferson was unacquainted in his  
business by the remailing of his letter

When a letter is addressed not to  
any particular Office but to a county & is sent to a post office at the county  
seat instead of the nearest post office it is not held a duty in the postmaster  
to remail it, for his not bound to correct the error done by other than  
Postmasters, but it is often done as an act of courtesy & the postmaster  
would not be responsible it is supposed, if any accident happened in  
consequence of remailing it —

R. J. M. Jr

3/17

Post Office Dept  
Mr. Wm. Stoddard, Jr. Sir Jan'y 20th 1819  
Mr. L. Stoddard, Jr. Sir I have yours of the 19th instant & can  
arrange your mail to arrive at and to depart from Sunday on Wednesdays  
instead of Tuesdays and for visiting the several Post Offices on your route  
not designated in my advertisement. I shall allow you one dollar more  
per week than stipulated to give you

R. J. May,

Jan'y 20th 1819

John Osborne Esq<sup>r</sup> Sir  
P.M. Thomas N.Y. How much will the mail carriers ride be  
increased by visiting Groton in the Town of Litchfield with the mail. Your  
early reply will oblige me

John Newell Esq<sup>r</sup> Sir Jan'y 20th 1819  
Winchester Va. -- I have yours of the 14th M<sup>r</sup> Burch shall  
forthwith discharge any rider he may employ who shall not carry way  
letters and Newspapers when required, and when they are paid for doing so.  
This day so advised

Jonathan Burch Sir R. J. May  
Romney Va. Jan'y 20th 1819  
Your riders must and shall carry & deliver  
way newspaper when so required or they must be forthwith discharged. Their  
conduct relating to the Winchester newspaper has caused this letter

Wm. Belknap Esq<sup>r</sup> Sir Jan'y 20th 1819  
P.M. Lancaster Ohio I am favoured with yours of the 8th by  
your vigilance in enquiring for the lost mails we are obliged. I hope  
to trust that the missing ones are found before this period.

Thomas Evans Esq<sup>r</sup> Sir R. J. May  
Marion Ark. State Jan'y 20th 1819  
You can leave Marion ch for Marlboro' Sunday  
at 3 P.M.

C. W. Ford Esq<sup>r</sup> Sir R. J. May  
P.M. Greenville Ark. State Jan'y 20th 1819  
I have yours of the 1st M<sup>r</sup> Bay well understood  
that he was to supply all offices on his route this year that he did the  
last year and he shall do so or quit the service

John Murphy Esq<sup>r</sup> Sir R. J. May  
P.M. Beverly Mass I have yours of the 15th M<sup>r</sup> the mail car-  
riers must of right be allowed into, and received by the driver of the mail stage  
in your office. a post master is not bound unless by contract to do  
official business in stages on out of his office. delays should be  
avoided as much as possible

R. J. May

Post Office Dept 3/17

G. Walton Esq<sup>r</sup> Sir Jan'y 20th 1819  
P.M. Rutherfordton N.C. I have yours of the 4 Ult<sup>r</sup> wish to submit  
to continue the Greenville route until further advised. the contract for  
the other route is now made out and forwarded to your office  
*(R. J. May)*

Wm. Wilkinson Esq<sup>r</sup> Sir Jan'y 20th 1819  
Percewall N.C. I have received yours of the 15<sup>th</sup> inst. the  
fine referred to shall be remitted if you faithfully hereafter  
perform your duty -

Dr. Horace Daniels Sir R. J. May  
Palmyra Ohio. I have yours of the 4 Ult<sup>r</sup> River & Henry  
more fine eighteen dollars for those failures in the due delivery of the mail  
at New Berlin in the month of March 1817

William Woods Esq<sup>r</sup> Sir R. J. May  
P.M. Hagerstown Md. You can properly enclose all mail for Ohio in  
a wrapper or bag and enclose that within the mail Postman - it  
saves material time at Washington Penn. If the way mail bag will not  
hold the mail for Union Town. in such case - mails for that office  
can be put in the main Postman - but a better remedy will be  
found in using a larger way mail bag

Rosa Shepherdson Esq<sup>r</sup> Sir Gentn R. J. May  
P.M. Utica Palmyra N.Y. Jan'y 20th 1819  
I have yours of the 1st instant. having  
no returns from sundry Post Offices on the postroute on which Palmyra is -  
we cannot yet determine whether it be proper to send an additional -  
weekly mail thence or not if thence prove sufficiently productive to justify  
us in sending an other weekly mail it shall be done

Solomon French Esq<sup>r</sup> Sir R. J. May  
P.M. Newmarket N.H. Jan'y 20th 1819  
I have yours of the 9th the Hampshire mail can  
arrive at your office at evening if you wish

Tilmon Porter Esq<sup>r</sup> Sir R. J. May  
P.M. Washington D.C. Jan'y 20th 1819  
you can at a rate not exceeding a dollar a -  
week have the mail transported between your office and any other office  
you select -

Berne Esq<sup>r</sup> Sir R. J. May  
P.M. St Charles Mo. Jan'y 21. 1819  
I have yours of the 11th ult<sup>r</sup> Capt. Simond can have the mail  
transport between St Louis & St Charles at \$20 per year he can begin March 1<sup>st</sup> and continue  
the 21<sup>st</sup> of December following. the mail to be carried twice a week in stages  
*(R. J. May)*

369 Aaron Crane Esq. Dear Sir Jan'y 21<sup>st</sup> 1819  
P.M. St Louis Misso I have authorized Capt Simard to  
transport two mails weekly between your office & St Charles in Mo. to  
begin on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March next - the mail carriers will then proceed no  
further than your office from Naukashie

Ebenezer Scroggs Esq. 3<sup>d</sup> Sir Jan'y 21<sup>st</sup> 1819  
New Bedford. D.C. I wish you to cause a mail to be sent from your  
Office to Youngstown once a week - for which you can stipulate to pay a sum  
not exceeding fifteen dollars a quarter yearly. You will send on such days  
as best suits the citizens of New Bedford - may I hear from you the time  
that the route begins that proper credit be given.

Wm. Burnett Esq. Sir Jan'y 21<sup>st</sup> 1819  
P.M. Cynthiana Ky I have yours of the 1<sup>st</sup> instant. Will pay Capt. for 5  
dollars in addition to the sum offered him to fulfill your engagement with  
him (the other subject is under consideration)

Wm. Robert Moore Esq. Sir Jan'y 21<sup>st</sup> 1819  
House of Representatives I have the honor to observe that I have  
this day requested the Postmaster of New Bedford  
D.C. to send a weekly mail between his Office and Youngstown Ohio

W. Charles Bell 3<sup>d</sup> Sir Jan'y 21<sup>st</sup> 1819  
Washington City I wish you to start immediately for Philadelphia  
to ascertain the causes of the mails delay - by whom the delays are suffered  
to occur - & to correct the hasty error - of some of our agents. We fear  
that the inattention of our friend Mr. C. Bailey may be in part the  
cause - if well we should rely on his zeal and determination to cor-  
rect the error & that he would successfully do so.

John H. Barney Dear Sir Jan'y 21<sup>st</sup> 1819  
Baltimore Md. The unprecedented failures of the Philadelphia  
& Baltimore mails - considering the state of the weather of the river and  
the roads cause great complaint. To aid in detecting the evil and in-  
certaining the causes of detention I have despatched W. Bell. if pro-  
able - I wish you to go on the line immediately. To restore regularity in  
any way you may deem advisable. The fault we know is not yours  
Mr Baileys inattention may be the cause

J. Duttry Esq. Sir Jan'y 26<sup>th</sup> 1819  
P.M. Have Disgrace and It is your inexcusable duty to sign my  
way bills each way and affix the hour of its arrival. Your promissation  
to this note is expected

Post Office Dept. 3<sup>d</sup> 1819  
Robert Moore other side  
Wm. Woody Esq. 3<sup>d</sup> Sir Jan'y 21<sup>st</sup> 1819  
P.M. Lexington Ky I wish you to carry the mail between Lexington  
& Winchester on the days suggested by Mr. Haskell via Sneekers Ferry -  
Sneekers Ferry &c R. J. M.

Hon W. Garnett 3<sup>d</sup> Sir Jan'y 21<sup>st</sup> 1819  
Mr. H. Rep. I have the honor to observe that I have this day  
instructed the mail contractor to visit the Post Office at Golansville and  
exceedingly regret that that Office has been so long neglected by the mail  
carrier

Enoch Bruden 3<sup>d</sup> Sir Jan'y 21<sup>st</sup> 1819  
Mr. L. Fredericksburg Va I am to request that your riders visit the Post Office  
at Golansville - it is about 8 miles from Oxford, whether your ride will  
be much increased is uncertain, but the office must be supplied with the  
mail

David Brinton Sir Jan'y 22<sup>nd</sup> 1819  
M. C. Wilmington Del The way bills show an evident negligence on  
the part of your mail carrier. I assure you that if strict punctuality  
is not observed by your agents that the pay for the whole of the  
current month shall be withheld. If Mr. Bailey shall by his agent or in person  
remove or supersede all delinquent carriers on the mail line

Mr. H. Scott & Richardson Esq. Jan'y 22<sup>nd</sup> 1819  
M. C. Clinton Md. I am to observe that the way bills show that  
your drivers are remiss and inattentive. & if a prompt corrective be not applied  
your current months pay will be entirely withheld to cover fines and Mr.  
Bailey in his agent shall supersede you on the line.

C. Bailey Esq. Dear Sir Jan'y 22<sup>nd</sup> 1819  
Philadelphia I have yours of the 21<sup>st</sup> inst. if your health will  
permit. I wish you would attend the steam boat meeting to learn what  
we expect to demand for carrying the mail while the steam boat runs  
the mail being delivered received from the Steam Boats at Phila & Balt.  
by the agents of this office early advice will be necessary - as this route must  
be immediately advertised. We have no regular mails from your place  
your mail comes to Balt. after the southern mail arrives. consequently at  
best gets here some hours after the mails south have gone.

Mr. Sargent is here and blames Harvey Scott & Brinton, he appears  
to understand the business but cannot correct the evil without authority  
I have informed Brinton, Scott & Richardson, that you must run them  
off the line at once without they discharge their duty promptly

and acceptably had we seen Mr. Sergeant yesterday Mr. Bache would not have gone on to the Ferry take care of yourself & avoid costs

W. J. Clark Esq<sup>r</sup> 3 Sir

January 22<sup>d</sup> 1819

Mr. Pittsfield & Co. I have your news of the 12<sup>th</sup> and agree to your offer to give you one hundred & twenty dollars a year for carrying a weekly mail between Pittsfield & L. V. Danville & wish you to inform me what schedule & the Pymouth mail that we may send you a contract.

R. J. M.

Honorable Mess<sup>r</sup> Congress & Dr. B. Sir

January 22<sup>d</sup> 1819

Mr. House of Representatives I have the honor to above in reply to your application for a second weekly mail to pass between one of Boston that I have decided to send a second weekly mail on that route provided that the expense shall not exceed four hundred dollars per annum.

R. J. M.

Mr. James Pease Sir

January 22<sup>d</sup> 1819

(Youngstown Ohio) I have yours of the 5<sup>th</sup> inst. your proposal for transporting the mail on the several routes you have mentioned were received in due time, but being much higher than we were accustomed to give were not accepted. we have an offer to carry a weekly mail between Warren & Latta at \$500. a year & an ask \$400. for a fortnight mail. I will give you \$120. for the route (Brookfield & Meriden) provide an immediate answer be given. The other routes are provided for.

R. J. M.

Mr. German Baker Sir

January 22<sup>d</sup> 1819

Bakersville Post Office I have yours of the 10<sup>th</sup> inst. you can perform the route to Giles & Co. & omit visiting the Office at Newbern your annual pay now is \$450.

R. J. M.

Samuel D. Ingall. Dear Sir,

January 23<sup>d</sup> 1819

As you with the late H. P. Dallas was security for Mr. Bache Post master at Philadelphia in the sum of \$20.000. I deem it my duty to give you the following uncharitable information.

Of the monies due the General Post Office on the first of July last he failed to deposit in the United States Bank (to the credit of the General Post office) about \$10.000.

Since that period he has neglected to deposit from time to time - till on the first of January last his balance had accumulated to \$30.000 which he now owes together with what postage has accrued (the present quarter). He has been repeatedly urged to make deposits to certain amounts but has neglected to do so and even to answer our letters.

Receiving no answer we wrote to our agent S. Lester Bailey to call

call on Mr. Bache requiring him to make the deposits to him Mr. Bache promised to deposit 16000 dolls in 3 or 4 days but he has failed to do so.

Why Mr. Bache has thus neglected his duties I know not. With regard to Mr. Bache I desire to conduct with a proper consideration but unless he makes soon some considerable Deposits I shall unhesitatingly proceed in my duties.

Hoping that no inconvenience will result from your securities

R. J. M.

Wm Russell Esq<sup>r</sup> 3 Sir

23 January 1819

P. O. M. Bennington Vt By whom & in what manner is the mail transported between Wobisch & Williamson & Williamson and your office your early reply is desired

R. J. M.

Elijah Davis Esq<sup>r</sup> Sir

23 January

P. O. M. Williamson, N.H. How and by whom is the mail transported between your office & Wobisch & Bennington aforesaid early reply is requested

R. J. M.

Jam. Knapp Esq<sup>r</sup> 3 Sir

23 January

P. O. Cumberland M. I wish you to procure a suitable postman for the Springfield & mail route, if necessary at the expence of your office

R. J. M.

The Hon. William Wilson, Sir

23 January

House of Representatives The situation of the post office at Loga & render an immediate change necessary. Will you have the goodness to recommend a suitable person to fill the office at that place? P. William Wilson for the present Post master is considerably in arrears to the department & he fails making payments. An early answer is respectfully requested

R. J. M.

Jam. Mc Cahan. Sir

23 January

P. O. Indiana P.O. I wish you to visit the post office at Lawrenceburg situated between Pittsburg & Butler with the mail. I am not advised whether your ride will be merely extended or not if your ride be actually lengthened your pay will be increased

R. J. M.

Mr. Benj. Edington Sir

January 23. 1819

I have just received your bond and contract in which you state that you stipulate to begin the routes there mentioned by the 1<sup>st</sup> of Nov. That you had not commenced any of the routes on the 1<sup>st</sup> inst. I believe cannot be denied. That you may obtain just credits it will be necessary for you to produce certificates from a Postmaster at the beginning of each route when you or your rider first appeared to be in charge of the mail enroute from your office

R. J. M.

973

✓ Richard Bachery  
P.M. Phila Pa

Sir

General Post Office

Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> 1819

The post office balance in your hands has become so large and is accumulating so fast, that an arrangement for the certain payment of the monies has become indispensable. For this purpose I propose that your chief clerk should have the entire control of the cash counters of our office & that he should deposit the amount of money received after paying clerk hire and offices expenses) to the credit of this office in the US Bank, & that he should give a written memorandum that you had directed him so to do, & engage that he would comply with it.

Mr. Bachery informed me that you had \$1000 on hand which you would deposit in that manner with a sum which you proposed to borrow on Wednesday last, presuming that the sum on hand and what has since been collected has been paid. I propose to give a short time for the balance to be paid in installments. It would give me great pain to be under the necessity of putting the office in other hands from my personal regard for you as well as other considerations or to have you leave it at all delinquent & I am disposed to do what ever is consistent with my duty to the public to prevent either. But the sum is so large and material as it respects this office that this course, which altho it may seem harsh, is unavoidable.

I trust you will lose no time & spare no exertion to pay off the balance without delay and that you will write me immediately, when I may calculate on further payments. As well as to send me the engagement of Mr. Deming. The commission would allow of one hundred dollars to be paid him for this extra trouble & I should like to have you incur it to him.

I have given (<sup>your</sup> notice, Mr. Ingham) notice of this failure, which you will perceive was important to him & is customary,

The want of this money has produced serious inconvenience here and I do not know how we can accomplish our payments this quarter for want of it

R. J. M.

✓ Honble H. S. Smith Sir

No 26aue of Rep I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22<sup>nd</sup> inst. and to enclose you herin my reply to the letter enclosed by your letter of the 22<sup>nd</sup>

R. J. M.

Jan 25. 1819

Post Office - Report 374

✓ Honble Messrs Williams Stokes & Smith 3 Sirs Jan 25<sup>th</sup> 1819  
House of Representatives of Congress. I have the honour to observe in reply to yours of the 24<sup>th</sup> which, inclosed Mr. Winderhalls note.) that I have in consequence of your remonstrating against the continuance of non-paros as mail contractors - on the mail stagecoach between Raleigh & Salem decided to place the whole mail on the line in the hands of Mr. Morris on and after the 1<sup>st</sup> of March next

R. J. M.

✓ Mr. Waddell Et al

P.M. Willington Et al

Sir I have received yours of the 8<sup>th</sup> day through the negligence of the P.M. at Edgefield a partial failure of the Willington mail occurred - Please be assured that he started the mail for your place the first of this month. I approve of the course that you adopted and I shall pay Mr Rogers for such service as you find it necessary for him to perform -

In consequence of the importance of the Representative from ~~Pendleton~~ district to continue your mail route is usual to Andersonville &c I have consented to the measure, in as much as the Post Office Law makes the measure necessary if insisted on

R. J. M.

✓ Hon. J. C. Calhoun Sir

Secretary at War Jan 25<sup>th</sup> 1819  
I have the honour to observe that owing to the negligence of the Postmaster at Willington Edgefield there was a partial failure of the Willington mail the Post master at Edgefield has assured this Department that the mail for the route started the first week in this month, in the care of an energetic man on whom reliance can be placed

R. J. M.

✓ Honble At Large Sir

House of Rep. Jan 26<sup>th</sup> 1819  
I have the honour to observe that the mail contractor is directed to visit the Post Office at Sandy Hill instead of Fort Edward -

R. J. M.

✓ Mr. Alex Mc Nish Sir

Mr. Salem Et al

Jan 26<sup>th</sup> 1819  
I wish you to go to the Post Office at Sandy Hill instead of Fort Edward as your travel will be increased above of those miles year to year, that expense you are to be paid four dollars quarterly, the credit and alteration to take place the 1<sup>st</sup> of next month,

R. J. M.

✓ Hon. James O' Donohoe Sir

No. 76 R.

Jan 26<sup>th</sup> 1819  
I have the honour to observe that I have directed appointed Abraham Platt postmaster at Pittsborough but it appears best to let the arrangements remain unchanged at present in the vicinity of Pittsborough

R. J. M.

275 ~~275~~ villages &c & Granville) Lin  
Middletown 26<sup>th</sup> Aug

26 Aug 1819  
I have yours of the 13<sup>th</sup> instant, before its receipt  
I had decided to send the mail from Middletown via Albany  
Gates Line to Montreal and to let the same mail return by  
Sloping Mills & to Middletown. R. J. M. Jr.

✓ David Brooks Esq P.M.  
Hartford Ct Lin

26 Aug 1819

I have yours of the 20<sup>th</sup> the content of which  
was incorrect - in having the means of sending it express to New York  
ought to have done so - if it had appeared to be safe & only  
it should have been paid for the same - should a similar occurrence  
take place - I wish you to forward the mail by express and pay  
the expense as a contingent charge R. J. M. Jr.

✓ Hon W. Benjamin Palmer Esq

Litchfield Ct Lin

26 Aug 1819

I have this day given instruction to have  
the Litchfield Mail delivered at New Haven in time to forward to  
New York City without delay R. J. M. Jr.

Norris Seymour P.M.

26 Aug 1819

✓ Litchfield Ct Lin  
I wish the mail stage to have you off in time  
to reach New Haven by 2 or 3 PM that the mail may without delay  
forward to New York, you will instruct the carrier accordingly R. J. M. Jr.

✓ James Fane Esq P.M.

26 Aug 1819

Augusta Ga Lin I have yours of the 17<sup>th</sup> instant and approve the scheme  
for the post route, Athens & Augusta. Mr Wallace's Bond & Contract  
shall be forwarded R. J. M. Jr.

✓ Hon G. Durall

26 Aug 1819

Dear Magnolia Farm Ct Lin  
I am furnished with yours of the 21<sup>st</sup> you shall  
have my cordial cooperation to effect the change contemplated in  
relation to the mail route to Magnolia Farm, in fact I have this  
day recommended its insertion in the post office Bill now before  
Congress R. J. M. Jr.

26 Aug 1819

✓ Hon William Smith

Mr Senate Lin

I have the honor to inform that the mail contract  
has positive orders to call at the Post Office at Bratt's villa with  
the mail R. J. M. Jr.

26 Aug 1819

Seth Wright

Contractor

near Columbia S.C. Lin

26 Aug 1819

I am to request that you on receipt of this  
letter cause the mail to be delivered at Bratt's villa at Columbia  
ville each and every week - a prompt compliance with this order is  
indispensable R. J. M. Jr.

26 Aug 1819

Samuel Phillips

Contractor 26<sup>th</sup> Lin I have yours of the 1st until the contract  
shall be annulled or expire on the first route referred to, we cannot make  
another contract for said route R. J. M. Jr.

26 Aug 1819

✓ German Jordan Contractor

Campbell Ct N.Y. Lin I have yours of the 20<sup>th</sup> instant Mr Clark has  
been authorized to send a weekly mail between Pittsfield Ct N.Y. and Danbury  
in consequence of your having omitted to provide for said route - your  
letter for the Campbell Ct N.Y. Charlotte route will give you claim to pay  
provided the mail on said route be duly transported by your agent  
Weekly - The post Master at New London will furnish the required  
postmasterian R. J. M. Jr.

26 Aug 1819

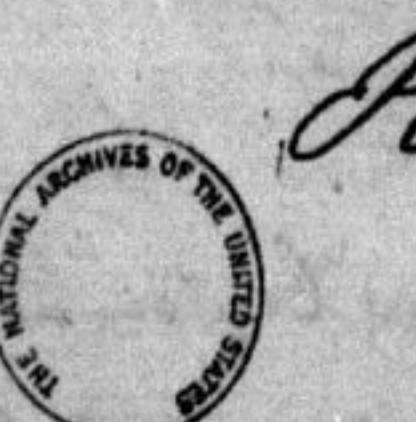
J. C. Butler Jr.

New York City Lin I have yours of the 22<sup>nd</sup> to the mail between the  
United States and the Territory of Alabama goes twice a week via  
Georgia - this arrangement began with the present year - the  
Contracts for that mail line are in different hands R. J. M. Jr.

26 Aug 1819

✓ Joseph Edington Contractor

Frankfort Ky Lin I have yours of the 11<sup>th</sup> to - you shall  
receive one third more than we stipulated to pay you for transpor-  
ting the mail between Frankfort and Bardstown and Louisville  
& Bardstown - for such sum as you shall satisfactorily prove  
that you have actually used, or shall use a less sum to aid the  
Carriage of straits R. J. M. Jr.



✓ Chester Bailey Esq

Philadelphia Pa Lin

Post Office Dept

26 Aug 1819

We have received your letter of the 25<sup>th</sup> inst with  
the mail can be carried with the contemplated ex. edition you can stipulate  
no compensation for the mails conveyance with the steam boat company  
on the terms suggested in your letter - but \$4,000 - ought to cover the  
expenses from Office to Office. We hope that your ship is ready R. J. M. Jr.