

## General Post Office

July 25<sup>th</sup> 1833

✓ John Falconer Esq. For

In Montgomery Co. the Bahala mail is to leave your Office by the 20<sup>th</sup> next month on Thursday & Sunday at 2 P.M. or as one hour after the eastern mail shall have arrived at your Office the preceding evening.

The mail from Bahala is to arrive at your Office on Tuesdays and Saturdays by 9 A.M.

McLean

✓ Thomas Bradford For

July 25<sup>th</sup>

In Milledgeville Ga. the Augusta mail is to be delivered at your Office by 10 A.M. instead of 1 P.M. on or before the 20<sup>th</sup> next month. At the same periods the Cometa mail is to leave your Office every Tuesday & Saturday noon, and it is to arrive at your Office on Thursdays & Sundays by 6 P.M.

McLean

✓ James Beololo For

July 25<sup>th</sup>

Montgomery Co. I wish you to visit the Post Office at Tuscaro Co. and on or before the 20<sup>th</sup> next month to be governed by the annexed schedule, instead of those attached to your contract, if your expenses are actually increased. in consequence of altering your schedule for the postroute Clifton and Blakely, and your ride is increased by visiting Tuscaro P.O. you shall receive an additional credit equal to your actual increased expense travel.

nos 314 &amp; 319

McLean

Leave Cometa or Fort Mitchell every Tuesday & Friday at noon  
Arrive at Montgomery on Wednesday & Saturday by 1 P.M.  
Arrive at Butler Ch the next Thursday & Sunday by 11 A.M.  
Leave Butler Ch every Tuesday & Saturday by 1 P.M.  
Arrive at Montgomery the next day by 8 A.M.  
Arrive at Fort Mitchell the next Thursday & Monday by 1 P.M.

no 331

Leave Clifton every Tuesday & Saturday at 4 A.M.  
Arrive at Blakely the next day by 6 A.M.  
Leave Blakely every Wednesday & Saturday at 6 A.M.  
Arrive at Clifton on Thursday & Sunday by 8 A.M.

✓ James W. Johnson For

July 25<sup>th</sup>

Milledgeville Ga. You will on or before the 20<sup>th</sup> next month deliver the mail at Milledgeville on Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday by 10 A.M. instead of 1 P.M. the hour now fixed by contract. if necessary you can depart from Augusta at 2 instead of 4 P.M.

McLean

## General Post Office

July 25<sup>th</sup> 1833

✓ Isaac Davis For

Sugerville Co. You will be governed by the annexed Schedule instead of the one attached to your contract on or before the 20<sup>th</sup> next month

McLean

Leave Burnt Corn every Monday & Friday at 1 P.M.

Arrive at Clifton same day by 8 P.M.

Leave as same day

Arrive at St. Stephens the next Tuesday & Saturday by 8 P.M.

Leave St. Stephens every Sunday & Thursday at 6 A.M.

Arrive at Clifton same day by 8 P.M.

Arrive at Burnt Corn on Monday & Friday by 11 A.M.

✓ J. G. Lyon For

July 25<sup>th</sup>

St. Stephens Co. You will be governed by the annexed Schedule instead of the one attached to your contract on or before the 20<sup>th</sup> next month,

McLean

Leave Butter Ch every Sunday & Thursday at 1 P.M.

Arrive at Burnt Corn the next day by 11 A.M.

Leave Burnt Corn every Monday & Friday at 1 P.M.

Arrive at Butter Ch the next day by 11 A.M.

✓ Hugh Knott For

July 25<sup>th</sup>

Creek Agency Ga. You will be governed by the following Schedule instead of the one attached to your contract over before the 20<sup>th</sup> next month.

McLean

Leave Milledgeville every Tuesday & Saturday at noon

Arrive at Fort Mitchell the next Thursday & Monday by 1 P.M.

Leave Fort Mitchell every Tuesday & Friday at 6 A.M.

Arrive at Milledgeville the next Thursday & Monday by 1 P.M.

✓ Patrick McStay Esq. For

July 25<sup>th</sup>

In Burnt Corn Co. The mail from Butter Ch is to arrive at your Office on Monday & Friday by 11 A.M. and the mail for Butter Ch is to depart the same days by 1 P.M.

The mail for Clifton Ga. is to arrive and depart from your Office on the same days, and at the same hours, on and after the 20<sup>th</sup> of the ensuing month.

McLean

✓ Nathan Cook For

July 25<sup>th</sup>

In Dahlonega & Etowah Co. By the 20<sup>th</sup> ensuing month the Cometa mail is to arrive at your Office on Sunday & Thursday by 10 A.M., and that mail is to depart from your Office every Sunday & Thursday there is to Burnt Corn to have your Office open on Monday & Friday

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## General Post Office

July 25<sup>th</sup> 1823

John McLean Esq  
Mr Clairborne A.C. The mail from Beaufort &c is to arrive at your Office on Monday & Friday by 8 AM and the mail from Dr. Stephens is to arrive on Tuesday & Thursday by 8 PM, by or before the 20<sup>th</sup> of the ensuing month, the mail for Blakeley is to leave your Office every Tuesday & Saturday at 4 AM, and the mail from Blakeley is to arrive at your Office on Thursday & Sunday by 6 PM.

McLean

Samuel Staines Esq

July 25<sup>th</sup>

Mr Blakeley A.C. By or before the 20<sup>th</sup> of the ensuing month the Clairborne mail is to arrive at your Office on Wednesday & Sunday by 6 AM and the mail for that route is to depart from your Office on Wednesday & Saturday by 6 AM, the Mobile mail is to depart from your Office on Monday & Thursday at 10 AM and the mail from Mobile is to arrive at your Office on Tuesday & Friday by 6 PM.

McLean

Addie Lewis Esq

July 25<sup>th</sup>

Mr Mobile A.C. The mail from Clairborne &c is to arrive at your Office every Monday & Thursday by 10 AM and the mail for that route must leave your Office every Tuesday & Friday by 2 PM. I trust you will find the mail arrangement between your Office and the State of Georgia greatly improved since you travelled the road the alteration is to take effect by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the ensuing month.

McLean.

John H. Cook Esq

July 25<sup>th</sup>

Mr Shippard town D.C. I have your letter of the 22<sup>nd</sup> I wish you to provide a portmanteau for the postman you refer to on p. of this Dept. as a contingent expense, when an extra sheet accompanies a newspaper it should be rated with newspaper postage.

McLean

James Edington Esq

July 25<sup>th</sup>

Dear Sirs A.C. It is represented that your carrier does not arrive at Huntsville with the mail on the 1<sup>st</sup> in time for the mail departure cut-off for the failure you are deducted on the books of the Dept / 2<sup>nd</sup>

McLean

W. D. Williamson Esq

July 26<sup>th</sup>

Mr Williamson D.C. Is the mail regularly carried between your Office & Lancaster. The man at Chatham complains of irregularity, you reply,

McLean

## General Post Office

July 26<sup>th</sup> 1823

Mr Amelia Rogers Esq

Savannah Post Office Mr Rittenhouse has drawn me your letter of the 10<sup>th</sup> as a publick Office it will become my duty to accept the lowest and best offer that is made for transporting the mail between Harrisburg & Northumberland, but the fidelity with which you have caused the mail to be transported since the decease of your husband will give you a claim to a preference, to another to be made on equal terms.

McLean

John H. Bailey Esq

July 26<sup>th</sup>

Mr Pugh Esq A.C. Mr Shore has returned my draft of April 1823 on you for £30, on that day there was a balance of £42.15 due from you to this Office, the draft is therefore again returned to Mr Shore and if not paid I must find a Postmaster that will be more punctual & you hand copy will be sent to the Saty for collection.

McLean

Samuel H. Wilson Esq

July 26<sup>th</sup>

Dear Milton Post Office In reply to your letter of the 15<sup>th</sup> addressed to Mr Rittenhouse, I remark that the postroute to which you have referred is now a desertion, and I shall be glad to hear your proposal, by the 20<sup>th</sup> Sept next, it is desirable to have the mail transported in stages and a proposal respecting that object, will have a preference. To the more usual plan of carrying mail on horseback, while the resources of the Dept are not equal to its expenditures, no extra consideration for carrying the mail on the postroute referred can be given.

McLean

Preston Saunders Esq

July 26<sup>th</sup>

Mr Seabury D.C. I am furnished with yours of the 20<sup>th</sup> I wish you to report the first mail carrier who suffers the mail to be injured by rain and he shall be fined £20 for the offence.

It is desirable to ascertain if practicable, where loss of the mail portmanteau were sustained and by whom, you may probably get the information from some of the masters on Woody's route, if so I wish you to communicate it to this Dept.

McLean

Human Madlams Esq

July 25<sup>th</sup>

Mr Madlams resides N.Y. I have your letter of the 11<sup>th</sup> if the mail comes ride is incurred by visiting your Office with the mail this letter authorizes him to call with the mail his name is John Smith,

McLean

## General Post Office

Sir

July 26<sup>th</sup> 1793

Mr Jonathan Pa<sup>r</sup> I have your letter of the 23<sup>d</sup> the contractor  
is bound to deliver the mail on regular days at your Office and  
must do so, an advertisement is now publishing, which includes  
the route referred to. I shall be glad to see your proposals.

McLean.

John Baldwin Esq<sup>r</sup> SirJuly 27<sup>th</sup>

Mr Robinson Mr<sup>r</sup> Your letter with one accompanying it from the  
P.O. at St Johns is before me. many of the packets from abroad are  
composed of newspapers or pamphlets and often a greater portion of the letters  
are price current, which are not taken out by the merchants to whom  
they are addressed, hence if the British postage is paid by this Office  
it is not probable that near the amount can be collected.

On that account no arrangement has been made for a  
communication of this kind and I wish you to notify the Master  
at St Johns or St John's that this office cannot afford the British  
postage in future.

In the present case it may be proper to receive them & the  
amount can be charged to this office by the British P.O. of 134.5  
do not know how the amount can be remitted from hence.

The British postage should be reduced to cents & the Ad postage  
added to it before the letters are forwarded from your Office.

McLean

Jael Butts Esq<sup>r</sup> SirJuly 28<sup>th</sup>

Mr Columbus O<sup>r</sup> Yours with the enclosed of receipt is duly rec'd  
I have since received information from the Master at Northington  
that the increased distance in going by his Office is not more than  
two miles, consequently the amount paid by you cannot be allowed  
and we can only allow in proportion that you may increase, which  
must be ascertained by certificates from the Masters at Northington & Dublin

McLean

P.S. A greater allowance will be made provided the road was  
worse or makes more difficult to cross by the change evidence of this  
however must be adduced.

McLean

Samuel Danforth Esq<sup>r</sup>July 26<sup>th</sup>

Nashville O<sup>r</sup> I do not perceive any objection to your continuing the  
mail arrangement mentioned in your letter of the 9<sup>th</sup> and which you  
say met the approbation of Mr Bailey the Master at Nashville

McLean

Lewis Delahanty Esq<sup>r</sup> Sir

General Post Office

Mr Cambridge Mr<sup>r</sup> I am forward with<sup>r</sup> July 27<sup>th</sup> 1793

I am forward with your letter of the 2nd  
year ap will be credited for the expenses you have incurred in  
transporting the mail between your office & the Spring Line  
the beginning of the year. you will continue the arrangement at the  
rate of one dollar a week until further provision is made to supply  
your Office with the mails.

McLean

Joseph Franklin Esq<sup>r</sup> SirJuly 28<sup>th</sup>

Mr Lexington Mr<sup>r</sup> The reasons assigned by you in your letter of the  
4<sup>th</sup> in justification of Benjamin Bruce's failure on the 22<sup>d</sup> of May last  
are such in my opinion, as to justify a remission of the penalty.

McLean

Mr John Geddes Esq<sup>r</sup>July 28<sup>th</sup>

Charleston Mr<sup>r</sup> Printers or Editors of newspaper are not authorised  
to send their papers free to editors or printers without the ~~re~~ States  
or on the contrary if papers from abroad are fully enveloped and  
charged with letter postage the postage will be reduced to letter  
newspaper postage on opening the packet in presence of the Master, the rate  
of postage is one and a half cents if the distance carried exceeds 100  
miles and one cent if otherwise.

McLean

German Jordan Esq<sup>r</sup>July 26<sup>th</sup>

Campbell ch Mr<sup>r</sup> Your letter of the 18<sup>th</sup> rec'd it appears that my predecessor  
was of opinion that the continuance of the post route between Halifax  
and Danville was unnecessary, we therefore made no provision  
for the mails to transport on the direct route intending that the mails  
which pass between Halifax and Danville should go by Pittsfield which  
under these circumstances I do not know how I can properly pay you for a  
service performed and without the authority of the Deptt. before I make  
a final decision upon the subject you will have an opportunity to explain

McLean

John Matthews Esq<sup>r</sup> SirJuly 26<sup>th</sup>

Mr Louisiana Mr<sup>r</sup> Your letter of the 21<sup>st</sup> ulto rec'd you can  
inform whether the mails erroneously charged rec'd at your Office  
come from St Charles or any other Office. I shall immediately take  
measures to correct the error.

McLean

## General Post Office

Stone John Findley Sir

July 28<sup>th</sup> 1833

Chamberlain Pa 3 I have rec'd your favor of the 24<sup>th</sup> and have  
to remark that Mr Lightner does not appear to understand his case.

He was Postmaster, it appears by the books of this Office from July 1<sup>st</sup>  
1812 to Nov 15<sup>th</sup> 1816 he rendered his accounts and paid his balances to  
within ten dollars up to April 1<sup>st</sup> 1814.

He neglected to render his accounts subsequent to that period, and  
to pay anything although repeatedly called upon & twice by drafts in  
favor of the mail carrier.

The amount actually due from him by estimate is \$95.13

of the judgment is but \$170.40

The penalty to be recovered will be \$5.27

There is properly no authority to relinquish a penalty but in some hard  
cases where debtors have to pay, proof for the penalty has been suspen-  
ded on part of the proper debt & costs.

Nothing appears peculiar in this case, there may be circumstances  
not communicated, but at present see no cause for interference.

McLean

P.S.

In such cases application had better be made to Congress for  
relief, this case seems to be a hard one but if I should undertake to  
omit penalties, I must be governed by general rules, and a remission in  
this case would be setting a precedent which would release from  
penalties in almost every case.

Such a remission could not be well made in favor of the  
poor and denied to the rich, though if such a rule were established,  
all against whom penalties shall be recovered would very soon become  
poor.

McLean

Alyx E. Outlaw Sir

July 30<sup>th</sup>

Cahaba Co 3 I am favoured with your letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> The Postmaster  
at Cahaba has been authorised to contract for the mail trans-  
port between, for the postroute Cahaba & Claiborne via Canton  
and I should be gratified if he finds it to be the interest of the public  
to employ you as the contractor, the fidelity and punctuality with  
which you have carried the mail between Cahaba & St. Stephens affords  
the clearest evidence of your fitness for such an undertaking. the  
suggestions you have made will receive due consideration

McLean

## General Post Office

July 26<sup>th</sup> 1833

Edgar Spruce

Sir

On Prince Bridge Rd 3 This letter authorises you to require the  
contractor to deliver the mail regularly at your Office.

McLean

J. A. Wilson

Sir

July 25<sup>th</sup>

On McMinnville 3 Your favor of the 11<sup>th</sup> rec'd forward of correct  
information, an error took place on the postroute between your Office  
and Washington. The error has been corrected and the proper carrier alone is  
authorised to carry the mail.

McLean

David Brackett

Sir

July 28<sup>th</sup>

Jackson Md 3 Your recommendation in connection with others  
of Mr Warren for Postmaster in Jackson has been received.

As Mr Johnson the present incumbent has not intimated any  
intention of resigning, and as no change has been made a gain't him  
I am at a loss to know the ground of your application.

No man shall be removed from the Office as Postmaster with-  
out substantial cause for removal.

McLean

Eliza Babcock

Sir

July 28<sup>th</sup>

On Allegheny Mtn 3 You seem to have misapprehended the object  
of my circular. It was sent to all but was intended to apply  
only in cases where Postmasters and Contractors had been negligent  
in their duty.

McLean

Stone John Findley

Sir

July 28<sup>th</sup>

Chamberlain Pa 3 Complaint has been made against Mr Brotherton  
Master at London, he is represented as having been long absent, and  
negligent of the duties of his Office.

An application for his removal has been made by petition  
which contains a number of respectable names. Mr John Easton is  
recommended as his successor, will you advise me on this subject  
both as to the removal and the appointment.

McLean

Thomas McElroy

Sir

July 29<sup>th</sup>

Wingwood Va 3 Yours of the 18<sup>th</sup> is rec'd, a draft on any contractor  
made by him will be taken in part of the debt due by you  
to this Office, a note of hand cannot be used.

General Post Office

July 29-1839

John Matthews Esq Sir

Mr Louisiana No 3 On my coming into this Dept I found your resignation and a recommendation in favor of Mr Rouse also a letter from Mr Rouse. you will be good enough to say to Mr Rouse that I have carefully examined the paper to which he refers, but cannot find the certificate to which he alludes. it may never have been rec'd by the Dept or by some means it may have been mislaid without this paper under the existing circumstances, it would perhaps be better that you should name some other person for your predecessor in case Mr Rouse should not be appointed.

I wish you to act as Postmaster until your successor be app'd and you will find the testimonials in your behalf which I have made ready are very honorable.

McLean

Paul Willard Esq Sir

July 29<sup>th</sup>P.M. Charlestown Mass I have rec'd yours of the 11<sup>th</sup> inst enclosing a certificate of deposit in the Branch Bank of Boston of \$143.

I am pleased with your punctuality and very much regret that you are under the necessity of taking in post for postage any mail at a higher rate of value than is allowed you by the Bank.

You will readily perceive of an allowance should be made to you on this account. that every Postmaster in the Union would feel himself authorized to receive in post any amount of general circulation and ask of this Dept a remission of his loss when required to deposit.

In the western country this would take a large sum from the receipts of this Dept.

You will have to apply the remedy by refusing to take any money in post at a higher rate than the standard value.

McLean

Wm Bancroft Sir

July 29<sup>th</sup>

Wm Chester Va. Complaint has been made by one of the Postmasters on your route that great carelessness is shown in the conveyance of the mail between Wm Chester & Newmarket. It is represented that the mail bags are often exposed to much to the passengers in the stage that it is extremely disagreeable to handle them, by reason of the dirt and filth thrown upon them and that they have been trod on by passengers and treated so roughly as to be delivered without seals and in holes that they are often thrown under the drivers feet and exposed to the rain has to be come very wet.

Now Sir in Justice it is expected there will be no ground

for such complaint, a most strict compliance with your contract in every particular will be required.

Any relaxation will not escape the notice of this Dept.

McLean

John Matthews Esq Sir

July 29<sup>th</sup>

Mr Louisiana No 3 I have your letter of the 30<sup>th</sup> the mail contractor has already been fined for the failures in the safe delivery of the mail at your Office and as they will now be debited for the expences they have incurred in the transhipping of the mail in the several instances specified in your letter.

McLean

Oren Shinn Esq Sir

July 29<sup>th</sup>

Mr Shelburne Vt 3 E Young has rec'd my draft of after 1833 on you for £25 unpaid.

On that day there was £33.08 due from you I have therefore returned the draft to you & shall expect it paid immediately.

McLean

James Baldwin Esq Sir

July 29<sup>th</sup>

Warrenton Va. Sir I wish you to extend your mail from Warrenton to Culpepper Ch. the day after you arrive at Warrenton, for the additional service you shall be paid at the rate of one mile that you receive for the postroute Warrenton & Gaines Ch. the extended mail to continue as long as the other one. may I have your reply.

McLean

Sam'l Brown

Sir

July 29<sup>th</sup>

Mr Gladbirgh N.Y. 3 I am favoured with your letter of the 27<sup>th</sup> if any evidence can be found to establish the fact that the mail stage drivers carry letters, they ought to be fined for the offence and dismissed from the service.

McLean

J. H. Brewster Esq Sir

July 29<sup>th</sup>

Mr Readley N.Y. 3 It is represented that some of your stage drivers carry letters and distribute them on your route. Such a practice is contrary to law and the driver or mail carrier who violates the law should be forthwith dismissed from the service of carrying mail. I trust you will make the enquiry & dismiss the offenders.

McLean

## General Post Office

July 29th 1833

J. J. Durston Esq<sup>r</sup> Sir  
Culpepper ch No 3 In reply to your letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> I observe  
that I understand my predecessor was induced to send a second  
weekly mail between Halifax ch & Manchester from the appearance  
that the additional postage, would equal the additional expense,  
the second mail was to be tried for the present year - and its  
continuance was to depend on its usefulness and comparative  
receipts with the expenditure. I see no reason why the second  
weekly mail should not be extended to Culpepper ch upon the  
same conditions, and to effect that object I have requested the auth  
to extend the mail to Culpepper, upon the same terms that he carries the  
other mail.

McLean

Richd C Stockton Esq<sup>r</sup>

July 29th

Baltimore Md 3 I have you of the 25<sup>th</sup> the change made  
in your route, makes the Sabbath the spare day instead of  
Saturday & passengers travelling to Staunton & will generally  
prefer a rest day at Manchester to one on this Sabbath, we  
consider the change as advantageous to your line of stages.

McLean

J McAllister Esq<sup>r</sup>

July 29th

Wm Salem Esq<sup>r</sup> 3 I am favoured with your letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> the  
mail contractor is fined 150. for a failure on the 2<sup>d</sup> m<sup>o</sup> stage Office  
McLean

E L Mead Esq<sup>r</sup>July 29<sup>th</sup>

Salem Esq<sup>r</sup> 3 You are debited on the Books of this Office 150. for failing  
to deliver the mail at the P.O. Salem by on the 2<sup>d</sup> of the month.

McLean

J. Boyce Brown Esq<sup>r</sup>July 29<sup>th</sup>

Chas A Groves Esq<sup>r</sup> 3 The contract alluded to in your letter of the 17<sup>th</sup>  
is designed for your use, it is a duplicate of the contract which you  
have executed and now is in possession of this Dept.

McLean

Stephen Todd Esq<sup>r</sup>July 29<sup>th</sup>

Mr Greenbury Esq<sup>r</sup> 3 Have your letter of the 19<sup>th</sup> if you cannot get an  
agent to mail up than 25 minutes, you must have that time  
but trust you can generally discharge the duty carried in 15 minutes.

McLean

## General Post Office

July 29th 1833

Thomas Munn Esq<sup>r</sup>

Winchester Va 3 In reply to your letter of the 24<sup>th</sup> observe that you can  
go from Winchester to Bath on Monday return on Tuesday  
McLean

John Green Esq<sup>r</sup>July 29<sup>th</sup>

Mr Duran Groves Esq<sup>r</sup> 3 I am favoured with your letter of the 9<sup>th</sup>  
under the authority of this letter, you can require the mail carrier to  
call at your Office regularly with the mail.

McLean

John Dorman Esq<sup>r</sup>July 29<sup>th</sup>

Mr Lewisburg Va 3 of letters come to your Office addressed to persons residing  
at or near the P.O. at Frankford they ought to be forwarded to that office  
for delivery, you in such case will credit your Office less for the amount  
debt in the column of letters overcharged or unpaid.

McLean

Richd C Roberts Esq<sup>r</sup>July 29<sup>th</sup>

Mr Frankford Va 3 I have this day instructed the Master of Lewisburg  
to forward all letters to your Office which he receives, that are addressed  
to persons near your Office.

McLean

George Dawson Esq<sup>r</sup>July 29<sup>th</sup>

Brownsville Pa 3 I have you letter of the 22<sup>nd</sup> it is the practice of  
the Dept to receive proposals to transport the mail on a part of any particular  
advertisers as well as on the whole route, you can bid for such part a part  
of the postroute, as will best suit your views.

McLean

Henderson & Fuller Esq<sup>r</sup>July 29<sup>th</sup>

Brookville Ind 3 For failing to deliver the mail at Indianaapolis on  
the 5<sup>th</sup> you are debited on the Books of this Office 10.

McLean

Harman Mattoff Esq<sup>r</sup>July 29<sup>th</sup>

Ashland O 3 your carrier failed to deliver the mail at Fort Meigs  
on the 7<sup>th</sup>, and instead of using the Ferry Boat, he rode through  
the River and manually informed the mail before he delivered it  
on the 8<sup>th</sup>, you are debited 150.

McLean

## General Post Office

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Samuel Henderson Esq Sir July 29<sup>th</sup> 1833  
(In Stillwater) Indianapolis Ind 3 I am favoured with your letter of the 9<sup>th</sup> the contractor on your route for the failure on the 5<sup>th</sup> inst in duly delivering the mail at your office.

McLean

1 Andrew Hunter Sir July 29<sup>th</sup>  
Stillwater N.Y. 3 The contract which includes the route referred to in your letter of the 25<sup>th</sup> does not terminate until 31<sup>st</sup> Decr 1834.  
McLean

1 G. R. Sullivan Sir July 29<sup>th</sup>  
Mr Vincennes Ind 3 No mail or mails for Post Offices in Illinois should be put into the main bag which contain the mails for St Louis &c if mails for Post Offices are put into the St Louis mail, a delay is the certain consequence.  
McLean

1 John Barnack Sir July 29<sup>th</sup>  
St. Paul & Minn 3 I am favoured with your letter of the 30<sup>th</sup> the postboy that you mention must be dismissed and another of a suitable and irreproachable character employed. Wish you to acquaint the contractor or his agent with this order.

The Postmaster at St Paulia is specially instructed to exclude all mails for your offices in your State from the St Louis Postmaster.

McLean

1 Abel Cooper Sir July 29<sup>th</sup>  
Worcester Mass 3 Have you letter of the 11<sup>th</sup> the reasons you assign for not agreeing to make the contemplated change of posts with Messrs Wesson & Howard appear to have a considerable weight. You propose to carry a second weekly mail on your route. as a remedy, the only objection we have to that is the expense, the present arrangement must be continued until new contracts are made unless Messrs Wesson & Howard will consent to carry one of their mails on your route, or you will carry a second mail on very reasonable terms. Wish you to state the lowest sum you can take for the transport of a second mail between Worcester & Providence, your reply.

McLean

1 John E. Hunt Sir July 29<sup>th</sup>  
Pittsfield Mass 3 I am favoured with your letter of the 15<sup>th</sup> the contrs have been fined \$30 for the failure on the 7<sup>th</sup> at your office.  
McLean

## General Post Office

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Abel Cooper Sir July 29<sup>th</sup> 1833  
Providence R.I. 3 I am favoured with your letter of the 21<sup>st</sup> Mr Cooper is decidedly opposed to make the contemplated change of posts more particularly on account of his family being located on his present route.

Can you without any increased expence run one of your stages on your present route, and one on Cooper's route, will you favour me with an early reply.

McLean

1 John Porter Sir July 29<sup>th</sup>  
An Alexandria Va 3 I am favoured with your letter of the 16<sup>th</sup> I wish you to instruct the carrier of the Huntingdon mail to arrive at your office on Thursday by 4 PM & to deliver you the mails from Blair Gap &c on Friday by 6 AM.

McLean

1 Mr. R. Stancee Sir July 29<sup>th</sup>  
Louisville Ky 3 Having an letter of the 14<sup>th</sup> you can leave Louisville at 7 AM and Millville at 2 PM instead of the hours noted in your schedule.  
McLean

1 James Wells Sir July 29<sup>th</sup>  
N. Monmouth N.J. 3 I am favoured with your letter of the 25<sup>th</sup> the contractor for the Douglaston route has a right to distribute newspapers for his private emolument. No stage contractors have no such privilege.  
McLean

1 Richard Stanard Esq Sir Augt 1<sup>st</sup> 1833  
Saty Richmonds &c 3 I have received a letter from the Postmaster at Montgomery &c on Sunday papers which show that a theft has been committed upon the mail between New Orleans & Philadelphia & that Bennett Weeks purloined the letters papers stolen from the mail, and that could not give a satisfactory account how they came into his hands. He to agitate upon examination do not think the circumstance sufficient to commit him for trial & discharged him.

That the papers are stolen there can be no doubt, and the finding them in his possession is a very strong circumstance against him. I hope you will take such steps as may appear expedient against him.

McLean

## General Post Office

Stone Alton &amp; Paris Sir

July 24th 1829

Portland Me On entering upon the duties of the Post Office among the first business presented for my consideration, was the case of Rob Shley Postmaster at Portland.

My predecessor in the latter part of May entered an order for the removal of Mr Shley and the appointment of Mr Harris, to take effect on the first day of the present month, a letter of appointment was forwarded to Mr Harris and he gave bond as directed, and took the oath which the law requires, these I found on the files of the Office.

The issuing of the commission was necessary to consummate the act of appointment. I also found a strong appeal from him to the Agent by Mr Shley, for a re-examination of the charge against him, accompanied by some depositions, which had not been examined by my predecessor, as they were received subsequent to the above decision, and a part of them after he had left the City.

In the above decision was not to take effect, until the first of July the day upon which I entered upon the discharge of the duties of the Office, and as some new evidence was presented by Mr Shley, which had a strong bearing on the case, and as the procedure violated in a very serious manner, his character and future prospects in life, it appeared to me that I could not refuse the examination solicited without violating the plainest dictates of justice. Under this impression, I investigated the charge. I have read with great attention, the voluminous papers which were collected by this Dept in support of the charges, and the evidence presented by Mr Shley.

The result of this investigation is a clear conviction, in my mind that nothing has been proved against Mr Shley which shew him unworthy of the trust confided to him by the government. As far as his official conduct was known to this Dept previous to the institution of the above charges he had exhibited a capacity and vigilance highly honourable to himself and beneficial to the country, among the complaints made against Mr Shley, there was one, that to promote the election of a certain gentleman who was a candidate for the first office in the State, he had given an extended circulation to a certain newspaper printed in Portland by founding the paper in the mails without post-bills, and that he held out a promise, as an inducement to obtain subscribers, that the paper should be forwarded free of postage.

No other charge had any evidence to support it. In support to this charge, it was proved that large packages of this paper were sent at different Post Offices without post-bills, as this paper was printed at Portland, these facts authorized a strong presumption that Mr Shley had neglected to send the paper post-bills, and that he did countenance the circulation of this paper without changing postage.

To admit this presumption, Mr Shley proves by his two clerks who constantly assisted in making up the mails, that the above paper was regularly charged as other papers, printed at the same place were charged. The affidavits of the publishers of the paper shew that no understanding existed between them, and Mr Shley, as to the circulation of the paper free of postage, but directly contrary, in a deposition to this, it does appear that Mr Shley was not a subscriber to the paper.

It is also proved, that several packages of this paper, were sent by the stage driver from Portland, out of the mail, and that some of them were put in the mail, without post-bills, at other offices.

Independent of this evidence, there is a rule of the Post Office Dept, which authorizes a Postmaster of an Office in which much business is done, to dispense with the post-bill for newspapers, and for many years past, more than one half of the large Offices, in the different States, under this rule have done, what Mr Shley was charged with doing, but of which, the evidence, as he has already been removed, does not connect him.

From the view of the case which I have taken, I feel bound to say that the removal of Mr Shley cannot be justified, as a necessary result of the investigation, there may however be other exceptions to Mr Shley of which the paper I have used do not inform me, and which may have been communicated to my predecessor.

The object therefore of this letter is not only to apply to you, the grounds on which I differ from the order made by my predecessor, but to know from you, whether you have any knowledge of the existence of any facts, which prove Mr Shley unworthy the Office as Postmaster, if you have such knowledge, as will communicate it to this Dept, the subject shall receive a strict scrutiny, and if Mr Shley shall be found unworthy of the public confidence, his removal shall be sanctioned as and the commission of Mr Harris issued. This latter act would result as a necessary consequence from a sanction of the removal.

Mr Harris having been appointed and given bonds, I could not feel myself at liberty to select from the candidates recommended, the one I might deem the most competent and meritorious as would be the case where no appointment had been made.

From the station Mr Harris has lately held, and the respectable recommendation on file, doubt of his competency cannot be entertained, the reason of the order for removal, does not arise from any objection to him, but from a sense of justice to Mr Shley.

Mr Cleans  
A copy of the above was sent to the following persons viz  
Ed Whiteman Frank Harris Joseph Davis  
W King Ebor Hernick W Williamson  
John Holmes John Cushman Rob Shley  
John Channing Mark Langdon Hild Ernest Lincoln

## General Post Office

July 30<sup>th</sup> 1823

John Hyder Esq. Sir  
Mr Uniontown Md<sup>d</sup> I am forwarded with yours of the 25<sup>th</sup> instant  
no<sup>t</sup> so much as it relates to your Office as it is at present.

McLean

Shadrack Hilder Sir

July 30<sup>th</sup>

Mr Union no<sup>t</sup> On the 1<sup>st</sup> of the ensuing month I wish you to  
transit the mail once a week between the Office at Unionton  
and Brigant Roads instead of once in two weeks - as required by  
your contract you will receive from the 1<sup>st</sup> August the sum of \$20.  
a year in lieu of the stipulated compensation.

McLean

Thomas C. Watson Sir

July 30<sup>th</sup>

Mr Union no<sup>t</sup> It appears to me that the postroute Brigant Roads  
and Unionton is of sufficient importance to justify a weekly instead  
of a fortnight mail, and the contractor is instructed to transport  
the mail once a week from the 1<sup>st</sup> of the ensuing month.

McLean

Joseph H. Burton Sir

July 30<sup>th</sup>

Halifax No<sup>t</sup> I am forwarded with your letter of the 25<sup>th</sup> and  
Mr Burton therein closed, it appears to me that the proceeds of the  
postroute Brigant Roads & Unionton are sufficient to justify the  
incurring the mail on it and I have instructed the contractor to carry  
the mail once a week from the 1<sup>st</sup> next month. it is not probable  
the contractor would relinquish his contract, and while the contract is in  
force we cannot adopt the plan suggested by Mr Burton.

John McLean

Thomas C. Watson Sir

July 30<sup>th</sup>

Mr Newbern No<sup>t</sup> I have yours of the 25<sup>th</sup> in which you propose  
to transport a weekly mail between Newbern & Snow Hill for \$300.  
If you instead of carrying the mail as now arranged between your  
Office and Smithfield once in two weeks for \$300, again, if we are  
correctly informed as to distance, the sum you ask for carrying  
the weekly mail on account of the route is much higher, than the  
average expence of carrying the mail in the vicinity of Newbern.  
I believe it best for the present to continue the present arrangement.

If as you suggest we send the mail from Washington to Hyder  
on Wednesday it destroys the connection which now exists between  
the Petersburg mail and the mail for Bath &c.

McLean

## General Post Office

July 29<sup>th</sup> 1823

Peek &amp; Babcock Sir

New Haven Ct<sup>d</sup> In permitting the Southern mail to get out on its passage  
eastward on the night of the 25<sup>th</sup> inst you are deluded on an Rockford

John McLean

Elias &amp; Tolles Sir

July 30<sup>th</sup>

Union no<sup>t</sup> Have you letter of the 2<sup>d</sup> as your postroute is now arranged  
a letter forwarded to Unionton to Elizabethton can have a reply as a be delivered at  
Unionton in less than a week, if your plan is adopted a reply is protracted nearly  
two weeks, it therefore appears advisable to continue the present arrangement. McLean

John McLean

David Schenck Esq. Sir

July 30<sup>th</sup>

Mr Hyderton No<sup>t</sup> Under the direction given in my late circular  
it will be proper for you to prepare way bags on all mail routes from your  
Office which extends to distributing Offices.

McLean

John Shaine Esq. Sir

July 30<sup>th</sup>

Bethel Burlington N.Y. No<sup>t</sup> Yours of the 2<sup>d</sup> inst has been recd I am informed  
that no instructions have been given as suggested in your letter.

The first instance defence relied on, as stated in your letter, cannot  
be sustained, the same bond was only taken, I am informed, as additional  
security, and not in discharge of the first bond. Such must have been  
the understanding of all parties at the time, If the second bond was  
intended to release the first security, it could only operate as a release  
from the time it was executed.

I view the case as perfectly clear, that the second bond cannot  
operate as the circumstance cannot operate as a release of responsibility  
after the first securities in the manner intimated in the defense.

The second ground of defense cannot avoid the defendants, there  
was no engagement that the Postmaster General would compel the pay  
of all moneys recd at the end of each quarter, and if the Postmaster failed  
to make payment when demand was made, the security cannot insist on  
their release because the demand should have been made a few months sooner.

Where many years of indulgence had been given, and a demand  
made, a notice to the securities, a question might be presented whether  
such an unreasonable indulgence, ought not to operate favorably  
to the securities, but to make such a defense avoidable, some facts  
must be shown, in addition to the lapse of time, if such a defense could  
be sustained, the ground must be very strong. I believe no case has occurred  
in which securities have been released on this ground.

If any instructions have been given such as you suggest and a  
sum of money has been remitted off them in the office, it will be

on the left, to fight them in support of their defense. Should you take issue on the fact.

You did not state in your letter in what manner the question would be presented as to the second ground.

John McLean

Dear Brother Eg. Sir

Baltimore July 3<sup>rd</sup> By the mail of this day, received your letter of the 25<sup>th</sup> inst. Your letter lost by Sergeant is heavy, and anything that can with propriety be done on my part, to repair it shall be done.

You are aware that we can only act here from what appears as matter of record or what the files furnish. There is no agreement on the contract of Walton; and if there had been, he would have been held as responsible by the Deptt for the performance of it. This Deptt does not recognize the right in any contractor, to assign his contract, so as to exonerate himself from responsibility -

Such assignments have generally been looked to, only for the purpose of justifying the Office, in making pay to the person who performed the service, and in such a case, the assignment must be special to authorize the pay.

Walton never having assigned his contract to Sergeant, and as a verbal transfer will not now be acknowledged, it is presumed as he has assigned it to me, it would involve this Deptt in difficulty and uncertainty to make the necessary investigation, and after it was made and the facts ascertained, the contract could not be taken from Walton upon the principle I have stated as his looked to for the faithful performance of it. On this contract there is nothing due.

There is due on the contract made with Sergeant, for the weekly conveyance of the mail, on the same route for this sum shall be retained subject to any legal disposition which made of it for your benefit.

As Sergeant has forfeited this contract, a new contract on the same terms will be made with you, if you please.

By the contract made with Shepard \$200. a year was agreed to be paid for the conveyance of the mail as specified. A contract has been made with Col Whiting to convey the mail on the ground that Shepard had forfeited his contract.

On Shepard's contract there is near \$100. due as this contract was not assigned to Sergeant, we cannot recognize his right to the money unless the fact shall be admitted by Shepard, under the circumstances you shall be paid the amt. on your producing the order of Shepard.

McLean

General Post Office

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July 24-1833

Marshall McLean, Esq

Carlisle Pa 3<sup>rd</sup> I regret to find by your letter of the 25<sup>th</sup> that the mail for Baltimore of the 25<sup>th</sup> is missing & probably stolen and that you have sustained a loss. When repeated thefts are made on a part of the route means may be taken for a discovery, but when only a single one, no course presents a probability of detection. If the master had been larger advertising them would be useful, but such small masters pay from hand to hand with so little communication, it affords very little chance and yet that method is the only one that suggests itself to me. The masters whom you mention ought to have replied and if they have communicated no information.

If you should come to the knowledge of any fact which authorizes a suspicion against any Master or Conductor, you will not fail to inform the Deptt, and immediate measures shall be taken, until such fact be discovered. I know of nothing that can be done, that will lead to a detection. I shall write to the Postmaster at Baltimore to adopt every method in his power, which will be likely to lead to a discovery.

McLean

Alexander Bapit Sir

July 29<sup>th</sup>

Shady Grove Pa 3<sup>rd</sup> Have your letter of the 15<sup>th</sup> on the 25<sup>th</sup> July instructed you to carry the mail as follows.

Leave Martinsville every Wednesday at 1 P.M.

Arrive at Liberty on Friday by 1 P.M.

Leave same every Friday at 2 P.M.

Arrive at Henningsburg Sunday by noon - that is substantially the same arrangement, that you desire, and by which you will be governed until further advised.

As regards an increase of compensation, it appears that you bid for Postage \$6 at \$224 was accepted, and that your pay was augmented \$16. for supplying Sicker's Store & with the mail, now if it is made to appear by any two masters on your route that your pay has not been increased - in proportion to your increased service, I shall be disposed to increase your allowance.

McLean

Royal Reserve Station, Pa

July 29<sup>th</sup>

Hagerstown Md 3<sup>rd</sup> A gentleman who was a passenger on his way to Pittsburgh states that a part of the Western mail had been left by the mail stage driver at a house on the road, it was taken up the succeeding day by the driver of the stage in which he was a passenger, and before left was greatly improved both at night where they slept, and the morning following under the drivers feet, this practice is so contrary to your contract and the public interest as to call for an immediate explanation.