

J. Bingham P.M.
Lempster N.H.

Post Office Dept
26th Aug. 1825.

I have rec'd. y^r of the 17th. The P.O. Law authorizes the mail to be sent on th. present road by Lempster & Unity. The route was advertised to pass the Lempster & Unity, but being objected to by the Comt. Newport & Gorham, were substituted for Lempster & Unity. The roads are considered to be much alike as to quality & distance. If the proceeds of the Office be a just criterion to determine which road should be preferred, the road now travelled would be selected, as the net balance of postage from the 4 D^r postage last entered upon the Books of the Dept. amt. to \$142⁷⁵, whereas the 4 last D^r postage of the P.O. at Lempster & Unity, amt. to no more than \$60.88, much less than half the sum collected from Gorham & Newport. On examining the late mail arranged for routes in y^r State, it appears that y^r Office has as great advantages as almost any office in the state of a similar product.

J. S. D. Leonard
Owego N.Y.

26th Aug.

M.L.

I have rec'd. y^r of the 23rd. I shall direct the P.M. of New Milford to deliver the mail to you as desired, as the mails must be deposited in his office to avoid detention. As I have rec'd. an application to convey the mail daily between Newburg & Owego, & as I am informed that Mr. Phelps is about to make a statement in regard to the importance of the route, it will be well for you to forward his letter to which you ref. in y^r & in y^r verbal explanation. I have written to Mr. Whitney upon this subject at some length.

J. W. Ward P.M.
New Milford P.

26th Aug.

M.L.

The mails from Newburg must be deposited in y^r Office as soon as they arrive, that they may be taken on to the Westward by Mr. Leonard, with the mails from N York City, N Jersey &c, without a moment unnecessary delay.

M.L.

A. Satterthwait P.M.
Canaan N.Y.

Post Office Dept.
26th Aug. 1825.

y^r of the 17th is rec'd. In referring to the cont. which includes y^r Office, I find that the cont. has not stipulated to call at y^r Office on his return from Mt. Holly, & as y^r Office pays but about \$17 a year, I should be hardly justified by increasing the expense of the mail for its accommodation, at present.

M.L.

N. Whitney P.M.
Chenango Point N.Y.

26th Aug.

I have rec'd. y^r of the 17th Mr. Leonard had been previously here, & stated the difficulties that had taken place in the transportation of the mail on the Newburg route. He & Mr. Phelps contracted to transport the mail between Newb^g & Geneva under certain stipulations & if I am correctly informed, Mr. Phelps has little or no interest in the line & has paid little or no attention to the transport of the mail; I have therefore considered Mr. Leonard to be the efficient person & the mail has been carried, as I understand, substantially under his direction, so far as I am informed, this mail has not only been well carried, but more frequently (a part of the way) & expeditiously, than the Comt. required. Not anticipating a proposition to convey a Daily mail between Newburg & Ithaca N.Y., I had before I rec'd. of letter, directed the P.M. at N York City, to send mails to y^r & other P.O. in y^r State, Westward of y^r Office via New Milford P. & the Comt. on that line having for many months conveyed 3 mails gratuitously, more than their Comt. required! It does not appear to be necessary to send a daily mail between Newb^g & New Milford, the point where the mails from N York & Newb^g meet, if the expense is anything, as 3 mails a week appear to give sufficient accommodation to the intermediate offices, & the six mails on the other line, will give to the offices Westward of you, all necessary mail facilities, if however Mr. Leonard & Mr. Phelps will carry the mail daily between Newb^g & New Milford without add^e pay, I wish them to do so. Both lines I believe travel expeditiously, & are supplied with good teams.

M.L.

Post Office Dept.

J. L. Meltart P.M. (not sent)
Fred. Town N.Y.

27th Aug. 1825.

I find that you despatched a mail to Harper's Ferry, on which one of the large locks was fixed, & the P.M. of that place not having a key for that species of locks, was compelled to return the mail. I fear that neither y^r predecessor nor his Apts. have given you much or any information in regard to the details of the P.O., or the errors would not take place. A little experience & due vigilance will however make all right. The great locks are applied only to the main or great mail road between y^r Office & Washington, Balt^t & Hagerstown. The way mail or small Postmen are and in case of those routes, are secured by the small locks, as well as the several other mails which connect with y^r Office. The P.O.s of the City, Balt^t & Hagerstown have keys for the large locks. No P.M.s at the intermediate P.O. on either of the three routes are furnished with keys for the large locks, nor any of the Offices on the other routes which connect directly with yours.

M.L.

J. J. Gallagher P.M.
Washington N.C.

27th Aug.

The mail which come from Log House Landing &c to y^r Office on th. eve of the Sabbath, for Chapel Hill & offices in that direction, should be forwarded to Newbern by Spec's mail, on Monday, & they will reach Chapel Hill on the succeeding Friday.

M.L.

J. D. Charlton P.M.
Troy N.Y.

27th Aug.

Y^r of the 18th is rec'd. Before I send the mail often on the route which supplies y^r Office, I must ascertain distinctly the amt. of postage collected on the route. If the sum so collected is sufficient to justify add^e mail privileges, they shall be granted.

M.L.

Post Office Dept.

J. S. Johnston
Boalsburg Pa.

27th Aug. 1825.

I have y^r of the 15th hs. I do not perceive that y^r bargain to pay \$55 a year to Mr. Smith, has any bearing upon the proposition submitted to you, nor had the Dept. any knowledge that such a contract had been made. I informed you that for \$600, the mail could be carried in 2 hour stages between Northumberland & Alle^t, but that I should give you a preference, upon these terms if you wish it. If you do not prefer conveying the mail in a 2 hour stage for \$600, I am at liberty to make a cont^t. with another person for the conveyance of the mail, agreeably to the 14th sec. of y^r Cont.

M.L.

Thaddeus Scribner
Ballston N.Y.

27th Aug.

The reasons you allege for demanding \$26 for supplying the P.O. w^t Receipts, flats with the mail, are so satisfactory that I have concluded to allow you that sum. I have noted the same in y^r letter of the 4th hs. as well as y^r Cont.

M.L.

Isaac Sherwood
Skaneateles N.Y.

27th Aug.

I have y^r of the 19th. You would be perfectly acceptable to this Dept. as the partner of Col. Bird. That Gatt^t wrote to me upon the subject of y^r connection with him, he & Mr. Abel appear to have the control of the line, & I apprehend that you may associate with them in their stage business, with safety, but you are the best judge of the matter.

M.L.

David Ford
New Lebanon N.Y.

27th Aug.

You will hereafter leave Cambridge on Thursdays at 6 A.M. arrive at N. Lebanon on same days by 8 P.M. Leave same every Friday at 6 A.M. & arrive at Cambridge by 8 P.M. same day.

M.L.

Post Office Dept.
27th Aug 1825.

J. Watson
Chillicothe O.

It is a subject of great complaint, that you convey the mail in a Waggon instead of a Stage, as is specially stipulated in yr. Cont. The corresponding carriers find the measure prejudicial to their interest, because the travellers will not enter the line for passage. When the fact is known that they cannot be accommodated with stages of a convenient size. Travellers complain of the indolence taken by you in using waggons instead of stages, inasmuch as they justly state that you are p^o for the mails transport in stages, with a view to give travellers a chance to travel in that way, & you will give a partial security to the mail against robbery &c. It is further alleg'd that you have farmed out a part of yr. Cont. upon terms so disadvantageous to yr. Agent, as to remove from him in a great measure, the ability to carry into full effect, the terms required in yr. Cont. Under these circumstances I find it necessary to remark, that if you do not carry the mail in strict compliance with yr. Cont. that I shall consider it my duty to place the mail in other hands - meaning those parts of the line on which you do not send a stage. (There is no objection to yr. using a waggon or cart for transportation of the mail, when the road is so deep as to prevent the necessary progress in a stage) M.L.

A. Reynolds P.M.

27th Aug.

Rochester, Monroe Co. N.Y.

17th of the 18th inst. A cont. is made to you before 8^o in a few days to you to be executed by Orra Adams, for transporting the mail between yr. Office & Batavia, & he must be p^o for rates, for extending the route to South Chillicothe. If Mr. Carter who now carries the mail between Moscow & Charlotte at \$145 a year, does not wish to convey yr. mail in a stage, I can contract with Mr. Plate, if his terms are moderate. M.L.

Post Office Dept.
27th Aug. 1825.

Benj' Howard
Worcester M.

It is said that you convey the mail between Worcester & Providence, on such days as best suit you, you will therefore on the receipt. of this letter, send the mail between Worcester & Providence as follows, via Mendon &c. Leave Worcester every Tuesday & Thursday at 7 A.M. arrive at Providence same day by 8 A.M. leave same every Wednesday & Friday at 7 A.M. & arrive at Worcester same day by 6 P.M. On the Uxbridge-route you will leave Worcester every Wednesday & Friday at 6 A.M. arrive at Providence same day by 7 A.M. leave same every Thursday & Saturday at 7 A.M. & arrive at Worcester same day by 6 P.M. You will either conform specially to these schedules to convey the mail daily, or as much often as than 4 times a week as yr. Stages run. This arrangement to remain until direction is given you. M.L.

B. H. Wheeler P.M.
Providence R. I.

27th Aug.

I have rec'd yr. of the 20th inst. I have directed the cont. to arrive at yr. Office with the mails from Worcester every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday & to depart thence every Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday. He must arrive by 6 P.M. & depart by 7 A.M. & from yr. office, he ought to carry the mail as often as the stages run. M.L.

H. Nelson P.M. & others
Fairfield N.Y.

27th Aug.

Show yr. of the 17th. If a² mail can be sent between yr. Office & Little Falls once a week, at a rate not exceeding one dollar, you can send such extra mail & pay the expense & charge it to the Dept. as in yr. ap^l current. If the service can be performed for less, I shall expect you to have it done as low as possible. M.L.

Post Office Sept.

27. Aug. 1825

Marcus Carter
Moscow N.Y.

You can visit the Covington Office & visit both offices in Middlebury. Mr. Street will visit Pavilion to visit one of these offices. The intention is for you to go direct, & him also on your route respectively.

M.M.

J. Roberts P.M.
Winchester Va.

29th Aug.

The failure of the mail as mentioned by the P.M. at Harper's Ferry of the 22^d proceeded from an error committed at Fred. Town by the P.M. or his Apts. who were not sufficiently informed about the manner of using the large locks.

M.M.

J. Collett P.M.
Newport, Vermillion Co. Ind.

29th Aug.

I wish you to inform me who supplies yr. Office with the mail, & what route embraces it. The growing importance of yr. State is such, as to make it necessary to collect all the information I can, to give the greatest facilities to the mail in the different sections of yr. State.

M.M.

G. D. Patton P.M.
Clinton, Vermillion Co. Ind.

3 Same

W. Criswell
Butler P.

29th Aug.

I had cont^d with H. M' Culloch to convey the mail between yr. office & Lawrenceburg before yr. proposal of Aug 20^d was rec'd.

M.M.

Jacob Mechling. Same as the above.

J. Ramsey P.M.
Jefferson Co.

29th Aug.

I have yr. of July 25^d. A. Peckster while he is regularly authorized to perform official duty, has the privilege of franking whether at home or abroad.

M.M.

Post Office Sept.

29^c Aug. 1825

Erastus Daley
Whitehall N.Y.

You may have forgotten the circumstance that you have stipulated with this Dept. to convey 2 mails each week between Troy & Whitehall via Greenville &c. in stages. A great N. of persons who reside in Scaghticoke & Greenville, complain loudly against you. They state that you neither use stages, nor proceed with any sort of regularity, & they urge me to employ a Mr. Haskell as yr. successor. And without your promptly make a satisfactory explanation, I shall consider it proper to comply with their wishes.

M.M.

John Ross
Williamsport P.

29 Aug

The explanation given yr. of Aug 21, in regard to the ev^e mail is satisfactory & you will not be fined. I have not rec'd. sufficient information on the subject of the Northumberland & Allegheny route, to give you a decisive reply.

M.M.

M. Smith P.M. Brothers
Scaghticoke N.Y.

29th Aug

I have yr. of the 19th inst. The Capt. Daley is informed of the complaints alledg^d against him, & if he does not give a satisfactory explanation, & assure of his future fidelity, I must supersede him. He is bound to convey the mail twice weekly in stages, & receives as a comp't. \$500 a year.

M.M.

John Harrington P.M. Brothers
Greenville N.Y. 3 Same as the above.

A. White P.M.
Brooklyn Co.

29 Aug

I have yr. of the 18th. The mail from Thompson is due at yr. office on Wednesday by 3 P.M. from Prospect on Friday by 8 O'clock, from Chelsea at noon on Friday & from Plainfield on Tuesday Thursday & Saturday at 8 A.M. I wish you to report every wet mail.

M.M.

Post Office Dept.

30th Aug. 1825

J. Law P.M.

Hartford Ct.

Sherman who has been some time a carrier on routes 198 & 201 & who has lately confessed that he has plundered the mail, alleges that he was first led to act the robbery, by discovering a rip in the mail Portmanteau of sufficient size to take out a package, & he states that in another instance he availed himself of the means of plunder, by getting his hand between the chain, which was designed as a security to the mail. Most probably on acc^t. of the distance of the staples from each other, so that both instances of robbery may be traced to the inattention of P.M. No mail, shewed under any circumstances, he enclosed in a Portmanteau, which is in the slightest degree rapped, nor where the staples are so distant as by contriving the chain, a hand may be introduced, & a packet taken out. The staples ought not to be more than $\frac{1}{2}$ inches apart, & when there is a greater distance, a staple should be placed between, so as to place them within an inch of each other. I trust that you carefully inspect every Portmanteau before it leaves yr. office, it is a duty which is indispensably necessary to be performed by P.M. & who should at all times Despatch mails in Portmanteaus which are sound & substantial, & where the staples do not exceed an inch & half apart. As a measure of safety, I wish you to put all mails for Providence in a sealed bag addressed "Providence mail" and such mails as you send to Albany you will enclose in like manner, addressed "Albany mail". The Boston mails, I trust you now send in that manner.

J.M.L

B. H. Wheeler P.M.

Providence R. I. 3rd Same as the above.30th AugJ. Johnson P.M.
Canterbury Ct.

I trust you will carefully hold the notes which Sherman plundered from the mail. These bills will be important as a part of the testimony when his trial takes place, for robbing the mail.

J.M.L

Post Office Dept.

30th Aug. 1825J. M. White
Scotland Ct.

I am fav^r. with yr. of the 23rd & am much gratified to learn that you have arrested the mail robber. The course you pursued was judicious, & evidence of fitnes^f for bring^g the rogue to light. Are you satisfied that he has not plundered the mail in more instances than he has acknowledged. Has he not had access to other routes than 198 & 201, if so I am sure you will find it out & likewise ascertain he has taken at various times. The papers & letters, if in his possession should be secured, & every fact distinctly noted (more that will throw light upon any part of the transactions. I have already taken measures for the future security of the mail Portmanteaus, nor can I withhold my surpris^e, that the P.M. in N. Y. C. of Country should permit Portmanteaus to be used, from which a packet could be taken without a key, or knife, or some instrument to force the lock.

J.M.L

Wm H Coffin P.M.
Hudson N.Y.30th Aug.I am informed by Mr. Bailey, that he makes up & forward^d to yr. Office for S. Boat, a mail, on the 15th inst. an^t of postage am^s \$1.95⁴ & 25^f distributed \$12^m paid at his office. The error therefore was clearly the Captain's of the S. Boat.

J.M.L

J. Bailey P.M.
New York.30th Aug.

Yr. of the 21st clearly shows that yr. Office duty was faithfully performed on the 15th in regard to the P.O. at Hudson, & that the error complained of, rest upon the Capt. of the S. Boat, who had charge of the mail on that day.

J.M.L

M. A. Stark P.M.
Delavaria P.30th Aug.

If as you demonstrate by the Diagram enclosed in yr. of the 28th that yr. travel will be increased 4 miles by visiting Berryisburg with the mail, I shall not insist on yr. doing so at present.

J.M.L

Post Office Dept.
30 Aug 1825.

J. Alwood P.M.
Bolton C^t

I fear that vigilance is not paid in regard to the Portmanteaus used in conveying the mails in y^r dear No. Postmanteau should, under any circumstance, be used, which will not safely secure the mail from being plundered, without a key, or kept in some instrument, or that has a rip of any sort in it, nor where the Staples are 2 inches or more apart; & where Staples are placed 2 or more inches apart, an intermediate staple should be fixed, so the Staples ought in no case to be more than 1½ inches apart.

J.M.C.

R. Bachr. P.M.
Phil^a P.

30 Aug

I have lately rec'd. the patent mail Portmanteaus, made in y^r City, & I perceive that the staples are about 2 inches apart. The greatest distance ought not to exceed 1½ inches, & I wish you to instruct the Manufacturer to fix them not more than 1½ inches apart. The expense of the add^e staples will be inconsiderable, & the add^e security very great. Several robberies have been lately committed, by drawing the chains, so as to admit the fingers in, to take small packets out of the mail Portmanteau's.

J.M.C.

Stockton & Stokes
Balt^a. N.Y.

30 Aug

I fear that y^r cross mail between Wilmington & the N.B. landing at French Town, has been too late in the course of the last week, as the mails for Wilmington have been rec'd. at this City P.O. on Day too late (in two instances), H^t immediate attention to this subject is requested.

J.M.C.

J.S. Skinner P.M.
Balt^a. N.Y.

30 Aug

The Wilmington D. mail invariably goes to the P.O. here, by the 1st or 2^d day mail; or is that important point overlooked by M^r. Clark who is charged with the duty of despatching m^rg^s mails? For some cause unknown, the Wilmington mail has in two recent instances, arrived a Day later than it ought to do.

J.M.C.

Post Office Dept.
30 Aug 1825.

J. S. Phillips P.M.
Smithtown N.Y.

I have y^r of the 26. The correct way of rating postage, is to charge the postage upon the nearest & direct route. As there appears to be no easier route to connect the North & So. routes, on the Island, postage & Express fees on letters for East Hampton, must be estimated by J.M.C. & rated accordingly, viz 18^½. When you discover errors by P.M. as to the charge of postage, I would recommend you to point out the error to them.

J.M.C.

J. Hazeltine P.M.
Jamestown N.Y.

30 Aug

I have y^r of the 16. You had an undoubted right to recommend the establishment of a mail stage, in y^r official capacity. By a reference to the late P.O. Law & Instructions, you will find that all subjects to be considered as contingent expenses, are detailed & fully so.

J.M.C.

J. Blason P.M.
Reading P.

31 Aug

I have rec'd. y^r & regret that the mail has been irregularly delivered at y^r office. I trust that Mr. Burke will, under date of my letter of this month, provide a regular mail for y^r office hereafter.

J.M.C.

Roswell Bettford
Wellsboro' P.M.

31 Aug

I have y^r of the 15th. If the route for which you bid, is approved to you, the bond & Co^t. will be found to y^r P.M. to be executed by you, who will judge of the sufficiency of y^r surety. A record of fifteen for contracting, should accompany proposals, by a P.M. or other persons of standing.

J.M.C.

J. Riley P.M.
Wellsboro' P.

31 Aug.

I have noted the improvement suggested in y^r of the 15th Inst. in regard to Route No^r 149.

J.M.C.

Post Office Dept.

31st Aug. 1825

J. H. S. Ryley P.M.
Schenectady N.Y.

I have rec'd. of the 21st. Every mail carrier must be sworn before he can be legally qualified to take charge of the mail; & it appears to me that every man of just & honest intentions will, unhesitatingly comply with the law, in regard to the oath or affirmation, as the case may be. I wish you to inform the Comt. that their carriers must take the oath, or others must be forthwith employed.

M.L.

J. F. Seelye P.M.
Bethel Ct.

31st Aug.

I have yr. of the 27th. I found it to be advisable to let the Newhaven mail pursue its usual course for the present. The P.M. of Danbury ought to forward all letters to yr. office, which are designed to be delivered from it, whether they are or are not fully addressed on the superscription, that is, such as Mr. Wildman knows are for persons within yr. delivery.

M.L.

J. W. Amberson
Merino P.

31st Aug.

I have rec'd. yr. letter of the 22nd & two others on the same subject. The recpt. of Mr. Clark will most probably continue the transportation of the mails on the route lately in his charge, & to them I would refer you. If yr. son obtain a transfer of the route, I shall be willing to accept him as the substitute.

M.L.

J. F. Wildman P.M.
Danbury Ct.

31st Aug.

Such letters as come to yr. office for persons residing in Bethel, should be forwarded to that office for delivery. If they come charged to yr. office, you will in that case, credit their amt. in the column of letters overcharged or mispaid.

M.L.

Post Office Dept.

31 Aug. 1825

J. H. Wheeler P.M.
Providence R. I.

Yr. of the 24th is rec'd. I had anticipated the information, as you will perceive by my letter of yesterday. If the carrier is but 15 yrs. of age the Comt. who employed him, is deserving of censure, & perhaps would be liable for losses or robberies committed by young Sherman.

M.L.

Ind M. White
Scotland Ct.

31st Aug.

It is said that Sherman, who robbed the mail, is but 15 yrs. of age. My instructions require that no person of less than 17, shall be employed as a mail carrier.

M.L.

W. Dunning P.M.
Canaan Ct.

31 Aug.

Yr. letter postmarked Aug 2nd is rec'd. The Comt. has assured me, that the mail shall be hereafter punctually delivered at yr. office.

M.L.

Isaac Hill
Concord N.H.

31st Aug.

Since I wrote to you last, I find that the M. of Canaan considers that he has not rec'd. the mail with the regularity he ought to. I have however yr. assurance that all shall be right hereafter, for letters of Aug 23rd.

M.L.

Benj. Cotton
Hartford Ct.

31st Aug.

Yr. of the 25th is rec'd. The legal dep't. of Mr. Gridley, have the right to carry the mails which were in his charge.

M.L.

Timothy Squires
Dayton O.

31st Aug.

I have rec'd. yr. of Aug 25th & the Comt. letters therein closed. I am satisfied that the Dept. is indebted to you for the early & successful establishment of a line of stages between Cincinnati & Dayton, or principally so. The pay. shall pass thro' yr. hands agreeably to yr. agreement. You need not apply the office at Dick's Mills, as we have made other provision for that office. I am satisfied to

the travel will be greatly increased between Cincinnati & Columbus, if the mail & stage pass between those places in two days - no change of the kind should be made until this Dept. is apprised of it, & consents to it, as the days must be specially noted on the cont'd. to which the change refers, & other corresponding changes on other routes must be made, which connect with that mail line

J.M.C.

J. S. Skinner P.O.

1st Sept. 1825.

Balt. Md?

It is evident that the failures in the due receipt of the Wilmington mail at the P.O. in this City, is chargeable to the Cont'd. As you state in y^r of the 30th ult^r. that you rec^d no way mail from that office on the several days, that the failure of that mail was noticed at this City P.O. One duty you omitted, which was to apprise me of each failure on its occurrence.

J.M.C.

J. R. Stockton

1 Sep.

Balt. Md?

Since I wrote to you on the 1st ult^r. upon the subject of the Wilmington mail, I am informed that the failures are clearly attributable to y^r Agents on the Fred^r Davis, Elkhorn &c route, to Wilmington. The penalties incurred must be exacted, as I can see no cause for the failures, but they are represented to proceed from old & worn down horses being employed, & which are not able to perform the services assigned them.

J.M.C.

J. Webster P.O.

1st Sept.

Somerset P.

I have rec^d y^r of the 25th ult^r. I have addressed a letter to Mr. Patten on the subject complained of & shall require him to attend strictly to the tenor of his Cont'd.

J.M.C.

J. Smith P.O.

1st Sept.

New Castle N.Y.

I have y^r of the q^r. If I abridge the route as you propose, I do not see how the P.O. at Flod^r bay will be supplied with a mail.

J.M.C.

Post Office Dept.
1st Sept. 1825.

John Patten
Somerset P.

It is alleged that y^r carriers convey & papers post regular P.O. & deliver them to persons in the immediate vicinity of P.O. much to the prejudice of the P.O. Revenue. I trust that you are desist from a practice so erroneous, & expressly at variance with the P.O. Law, & not compell me to resort to the alternative prescribed in the law, as I trust y^r proceedings are rather the result of impropr reflection than to a disposition to act at variance with the P.O. Law.

J.M.C.

David Lewis
Post^r to Phil^a Pa.

1st Sept.

Since I rec^d y^r of the 25th ult^r. I have instructed the O.S. of Phil^a, to send mails for P.O. in the Counties of M'Kean & Porter, by the Saturday mail for Harrisburg, & from thence the mails will proceed on Sunday via Northumberland &c to their places of destination.

J.M.C.

J. R. Bache P.M.
Phil^a P.

1st Sept.

I wish you to send mails for P.O. in the Counties of M'Kean & Porter via Harrisburg, by the mornings mail of Saturday.

J.M.C.

John Magee
Bath N.Y.

2nd Sept.

It is stated that the carrier of the mail on route N.Y. is but 12 y^r. old. He ought to be dismissed, as no person short of 17 y^r of age should be employed.

J.M.C.

L. Tracy P.M.
Wheeler N.Y.

2nd Sept.

The lad of 12 y^r. old, as mentioned in y^r of the 23rd ult^r. must be dismissed from the service of carrying the mail.

J.M.C.

Post Office Dept.

2^o Sept. 1825.J. Wallace P.M.
Milford P.

I have yr. of Aug. 15th. If the mail can be kept secure in the Tavern & under a lock & key, I see no objection to yr. delivering the mail over night to the Courier. The rate of postage charged on the Letter of? to from Phil^e, may be according to the strict letter of the law, but it has not been the practice of the Dept^t. to confine the rate of postage to minute points, & the practice was therefore such as to consider a paper applied to a seal, as a part of the sheet which was chargeable with postage & to rate the postage accordingly. You will of course receive Double postage on the letter only.

J.M.S.

W^t H. Hunt,2^o Sept.Ed^r. P. G^r. Pensacola F.

I am pleased to learn by yr. of the 15th ult^r. that you have published my advertisement of Troubles in Florida. You will make out yr. bill & present it to the P.M. of Pensacola for pay^t. He will allow you the usual sum p^r. for advertising, not exceeding 12 inscriptions in all.

J.M.S.

Reside t Moore

2^o Sept.Cumberland M^r.

It appears that yr. Western mail on its arrival at Hancock on the 30th ult^r was wet, & what is very extraordinary, that Molasses was the liquid which injured the mail. Besides imposing a fine, the subject requires an immediate explanation.

J.M.S.

W^t H. Soule P.M.2^o Sept.Plympton M^r.

I have rec^d yr. of Aug 26th. There is but one general rule about the pay^t of postage, & which is, to pay when due or called for, either by a deposit in Bank, or to a mail Cont^r. on the presentation of a Draft. If you should be absent, yr. Aft^r can discharge that duty.

J.M.S.

Post Office Dept.

2^o Sept. 1825.M. W. Godfrey P.M.
George Town S.C.

As it appears yr. of the 25th ult^r, the Southern mail (or Charleston) is due at yr. Office at 11^o clock, it will be proper for you to close the Northern mail at 11^o clock, or yr. an hour before the mail departs, which is understood to be noon. In regard to yr. Office hours, I would remark, that if you consult the wishes of yr. Merchant & business men, & are governed by their wishes generally, that you will give more satisfaction in that than any other.

J.M.S.

W^t Stanley
Chester Town M^r.2^o Sept

I have yr. of Aug 29th. As you state, that as Aunt of John Kemp die^d the mail will be carried on acct. of the estate, no longer than the 30th of this month, I must provide for its transportation on th. most reasonable terms, I therefore wish you to specify the lowest terms you will take p. r. as in my decision, I must take the lowest & best offer, & I shall probably receive proposals from Elletta, N^r & Wilmington D. to convey the mail as now carried by you for the estate of Mr. Kemp.

J.M.S.

J. Stevens P.M.
Stamford C^t.2^o Sept

I am sorry to find by yr. of the 29th ult^r that some evil disposed person is trying to impose on the publick or to defraud the revenue by simply stamping letters "paid" without making other corresponding endorsement, or accompanying the letters with a post bill. That the revenue be not injured, I wish you to charge each letter with postage & forward it to its proper destination. If an explanation be asked by any one to whom they are addressed you will state the fact in regard to it. It is probable they are sent by some mischievous person, to provoke unpleasant feelings, & it appears to me that you may ascertain these letters are stamped, with great certainty, & there would be no difficulty then in finding out the person who applied the stamp.

J.M.S.

W^t H. Jones P.M.
New Haven C^t. 3 respecting the same.

Post Office Sept.
2nd Sept. 1825.

J. N. S. Williamson P.M.
Wilmington De.

I am fas^d. with y^r. of Aug 31st. If the P.O. at Elkhorn had reported the 1st failure, as he ought to have done, I should have taken measures to prevent a 2nd failure.

M. S.

P. Rich C. Stockton
Batt^e. M^c.

3rd Sept.

I have rec^d y^r. of Aug 31st. in which you represent that y^r. expenses will be increased \$1,630 annly. by conveying 3 add^d. mails each week between this City & Fred^r. Town M^c. It is not my intention to question the correctness of y^r. estimate, but I shall be governed in my decision upon the sum to be p^d. for the service, by the value of the service to be performed & by what it can be done for, by others who are qualified for the service. I therefore propose to give you \$1,320 per an. for the 3 add^d. mails between this City & Fred^r. Town. The mail to be carried in a 4 hour stages & as expeditiously as the present mail travel on the route. If you do not accept of this proposal, I wish an immediate reply, so that I can enter into a cont^t. with another person.

M. S.

J. J. Skinner P.M.
Batt^e. M^c.

3rd Sept.

y^r. note of Aug 31st. is rec^d. On inquiry I find that no mail was sent from this City office to y^r. on Monday for distribution, & the Boston mail rec^d. to b^y you, was distributed by accident to this City P.O. y^r. note will enable me to correct the error committed at Boston, by not giving the packages a distinct superscription, which they forward.

M. S.

W. H. Coffin P.M.
Hudson N.Y.

3rd Sept.

I have rec^d y^r. of Aug 30th & have opened the Cont^t. W. Washington, that if Capt. Cochran fails to deliver the mail to any P.O. on the route a 8 time, that if Capt. C. is not discharged as a mail carrier, & shall consider that I have sufficient ground to place the mail in other hands.

M. S.

Post Office Sept.
3rd Sept. 1825.

J. H. Bacchan P.M.
Geo. Town Co.

I wish you to address y^r. packet which are distributed at Batt^e. "Northern Batt^e" they will not in that case be distributed at the P.O. here as they sometimes accidentally are. You will distinguish y^r. packets, Distributed at Petersbg. N. "Southern Petersbg" they will not then be so liable to an erroneous distribution.

M. S.

J. Butler P.M.
Columbus O.

3rd Sept.

I wish you to inform me, the day & hours that each mail connected with y^r. office arrives at & departs from it & likewise, if the mail is carried once weekly between y^r. & Sandusky City, who carries the 2nd mail; as I understand a stage runs twice a week on that road. I presume that the mail is carried in each stage. An early answer will oblige me.

M. S.

J. Davis P.M.
Columbus O.

3rd Sept.

I wish you to state distinctly, the day you begin to convey the mail in a stage between Columbus & Dayton. the actual distance between Columbus & Dayton or the road you travel when you begin to convey the 2nd mail regularly, & the arrangement that governs you, when I get the information, (the sooner the better) I will note it on y^r. cont^t. & pay you for the services rendered.

M. S.

J. Kelley P.M.
Cleveland O.

3rd Sept.

y^r. att^e. is rec^d. The Detroit mail by Cont^t. is to arrive at y^r. office on Monday & Friday by 7 P.M. & depart on Tuesday at 10 A.M. & Saturday at 4 P.M. The mail is to arrive at y^r. on Monday Wednesday Friday by 7 P.M. & depart on Tuesday Thursday & Saturday at 4 P.M. I wish you to inform me, when those mails arrive at & depart from y^r. & the days that the Pottsb^r. & Columbus mails arrive at & depart from y^r. office.

M. S.