

Post Office Dept.

10 Nov. 1825

J. Gardin

Pineville H.

The Dept had been able to anticipate the information respecting the route from Columbia to Pineville, which yr. of the 23^d. ult. contains, & had in consequence declined the establishment of mail transportation on it. Nor is any change contemplated in the existing arrangement of the mails, which communicate from above & below, with Pineville.

M.C.

J. McRae P.M.

10 Nov.

Fayetteville N.C.

The favorable report of the mails connected with yr. important office contained in yr. letter of the 4th Inst. is agreeable to the Dept. & reflects no little credit on yr. self. When you send in a bill of yr. expenses & an acct. of the time you were engaged in promoting the apprehension & punishment of the Culprits you mention, a reasonable & proper allowance will be made you. It is to be hoped that the issue of the trials, will prove that the mail cannot be violated with impunity, & that yr. vigilance & fidelity have not been in vain.

M.C.

J. W. Holland P.M.

10 Nov.

Candy's Creek Ga.

In case of freshets in the Creek, you are authorized to permit the mail carriers to omit yr. office, & to deliver yr. mail on its return.

M.C.

E. Harris P.M.

10 Nov.

Ebenezer Academy H.

Blank covers to pamphlets are not charged, & e converso, those which are not blank, are chargeable.

M.C.

Post Office Dept

11 Nov. 1825

J. D. Otto P.M.

Westmoreland Ch. W.

The ingenuous language in which you enfras the error upon which my letter of the 31. ult. contained an animadversion, entitles you not only to forgive my displeasure, inasmuch as the confession evinces good principles, while the absence of error is only proof of correct habits. I am very willing to forget the affair, & very confident it will never recur.

M.C.

J. Marshall P.M.

11 Nov.

Shawneetown H.

The P.M. at Harmony Jr. mentions that on a recent visit to Shawneetown he found that the paper published in Harmony Jr. on the 1st Oct. did not reach thos until the 15th, & he suggests that a mail route be established between Harmony & Carmi, by which he adds that letters would reach Shawneetown in 3 days & would be received from Shawneetown in one. On a late cont^{act} to you this plan was alluded to as a substitute for the existing mail ^{route} between Mt. Vernon & Shawneetown which was suspended in consequence of this view of the subject, & resumed on yr. application, in exclusion of it. You are requested to renew the consideration of the arrangement & to report the result of yr. reflections to this Dept.

M.C.

J. Schnee P.M.

11 Nov.

Harmony Jr.

The alteration in the existing cont^{act} between Harmony & Shawneetown, suggested in yr. letter of the 19th ult. had presented itself to the attention of the Dept. before yr. letter was rec'd. The design however was relinquished on the application of the P.M. at Shawneetown, who seemed to think the route between his office & Mt. Vernon indispensable. He is again consulted on the subject.

M.C.

J. Kennedy

Knoxville T.

Post Office Dept.
11th Nov. 1825.

It is hoped that the melancholy fate of Fiddle will serve to defend the inviolability of the mail & the property of correspondents for a long time to come - for such penal examples tho' necessary, are lamentable. In regard to y^r. Compensation, the practice of the Dept. requires that you should make out & exhibit a charge for the services you have rendered - which will be admitted either in whole or in part according as it may seem to you to be just or disagree with a reasonable amt. of compensation.

M.C.

J. J. Willbourn P. M.

11th Nov.

Mr. Vernon Jr.

Before the suggestion contained in y^r. letter of the 21st ulto. can be finally acted on, it will be necessary for you to ascertain & report, what increase of Comp^r. the Comt. will require for extending his route to Morganfield as you recommend.

M.C.

J. Green

11th Nov.

St. Louis Mo.

A fine of \$20 is entered against you in consequence of the injury sustained by the St. Charles & Jefferson mail previous to the 3^d ult. by reason of its not being furnished with an oil cloth or beardskin cover.

M.C.

P. M. Dillard P. M.

11th Nov.

Hibernia Mo.

The office at Col. Sans de pier being discontinued, you are authorized to take out such letters as may be directed to that place, & can be conveniently delivered at yours. office

M.C.

Joshua Chamberlain

Pontiac Mich. Ter.

Post Office Dept.
11th Nov. 1825.

Y^r. explanation of the 16th ulto. is satisfactory, & demonstrative that the spare time allowed by the Comt. is at y^r. disposal.

M.C.

W. Alexander P. M.

11th Nov.

Baton Rouge La.

The accident detailed in y^r. letter of the 16th ulto. is regrettable, energy approved, the reward sanctioned, & the recovery of the mail rejoiced at.

M.C.

Fe. W. Scott & others

14th Nov.

care of the P. M. Dentonville Va.

In compliance with y^r. statement & application of the 29th ulto. of 3^d post, the Comt. on this day directed to supply the P. O. at Dentonville, regularly with mails.

M.C.

J. A. Baber P. M.

14th Nov.

Johnson's Springs, Goodland Co. Ky.

The law expressly provides against the practice mentioned in y^r. letter of the 10th ulto. & prescribes a penalty for every case in which a mail carrier shall deliver any letter or packet out of the mail. Comt. are sometimes permitted to carry & deliver the papers - but in those cases no such special agreement, or authority, & none such has been granted, it is believed to Mr. Lake aforesaid.

M.C.

J. M. Lean

14th Nov.

Archinville Va.

Y^r. Carrier arrived at Wheeling on the 9th Inst. without the letter bag, a failure for which a fine of \$30 is entered against you.

M.C.

W. Taliaferro
Richmond Va.

Post Office Sept
14th Nov. 1825.

In future it is thought expedient that the orders recently given respecting y^r. route from Richmond to Johnson's Spring, should be so far modified or extended as to provide for the regular supply of mail, to the office at Dentonville. A n^o. of citizens, among whom is the Post, affirm that the distance from Short Pump to Johnson's Springs by way of Dentonville, does not exceed two along the direct & usual route, more than 3 miles, & that y^r. time will not be encroached upon to an extent greater than one hour in discussing the shorter & adopting the longer route. You are therefore instructed upon the receipt of this letter, to pass from Short Pump by Dentonville to Johnson's Springs entering the Mountain road above Short Pump & regaining the 3 Notched road below Johnson's Spring, delivering & rec^rg. mail regularly at Dentonville. It is understood that an order directing increase of distance, carries with it a claim to increase of Compt^r, to an equitable amt.

M.C.B.

D. W. Haley
Natchez Miss.

14th Nov.

y^r. mail failed at N Orleans on the 15th ult^r. To a fine of \$80 is entered against you. y^r. horses are represented to be in a condition not likely to ensure regularity to the mail, & y^r. riders are said on the lower end of y^r. line, to be as careless of protecting the mail, as their Rosinantes are incapable of transporting it.

M.C.B.

P. Moore

14th Nov.

Mt Tisay N.Y.

A contract had been formed for the route mentioned in y^r. letter of the 5th Inst. before its receipt.

M.C.B.

J. D. Preston P.M.
Richmond Va.

Post Office Dept.
14th Nov. 1825.

Large locked keys are ordered to be forwarded to the offices of Lynchburg & Staunton, in order to supply the wants & remove the inconveniences indicated at those places, by y^r. letter of the 10th Inst. Although you do not permit the absence of Col. Preston to be felt by the Dept., the consequence of its continuance is much to be regretted. In relation to the application of the rates of postage, you have stated very clearly the meaning & purview of the law. All articles other than M^s papers, Magazines, Pamphlets, & unbound legislative journals, are chargeable with letter postage. But in regard to prices current, which properly speaking are neither M^s paper nor pamphlets, policy recommends that a liberal construction be given to them they be charged with M^s paper postage only. — It is represented that the Comt^t. Taliaferro, on the route from Richmond to Charlottesville, transports M^s papers out of the mail. He should be restrained in this illegal practice.

M.C.B.

J. J. Skinner P.M.
Balt^t. Md.

14th Nov.

Representations from some of the offices enumerated in my letter of the 10th Inst. indicated that the Norfolk route for Southern mail, had been discontinued, etc. to them, a consequence which seemed probable from the comprehensive terms of the order which directed the Southern mail to be forwarded to the Office for distribution. The letter of the 10th was therefore intentionally addressed to you, to be understood as confirming the judicious arrangement, which it appears you had maintained. Corresponding directions were given at the same time to the P.M. at N York & Phila. Clerks Store, Niconton & Baltimore are properly embraced in the distribution. (The P.M. Gen^r. has been confined in the nonfreedom of paper for sending the mail to that place by the way of Petersburg, after they had made repeated applications to send it by the way of Norfolk. The former order therefore seems not to have had the desired effect. I suppose that you sent by At. only the letters first made up at y^r. office.

M.C.B.

Post Office Dept.
15th Nov. 1825.

J. Garthers Jr.
Hartford Ct.

The certificates contained in y^r letter of the 17th dep^t. as was intimated in mine of the 12th ult. do not entitle you to addl^r pay. Every increase of distance above that required by the schedule attached to y^r cont^r. forms a claim to increase of Compt^r proportional to the dist^r allowed in y^r cont^r. You are to supply the newly established offices in y^r route & if they increase of distance they will augment y^r Compt^r. A new draft will be sent you.

M.L

J.W. Pendleton P.M.

15th Nov.

Cuckoooville N.C.

You will require the Cont^r. M. Borden, to fix on an hour for his arrival at y^r office & if he declines, doing so, upon reporting the fact, the Dept^t will determine on one, to which it will be his duty to perform.

M.L

Wm. D. Waugh P.M.

16th Nov.

Wethersboro N.C.

You will provide immediately for supplying the offices at Jonesville & Bear Creek, with a horse & m^s once a week, at a rate of Compr. not exceeding \$4 a mile, counting the distance one way. It is hoped you will complete the business without delay, & you will report progress immediately to this Dept^t.

M.L

D. Reinhardt P.M.

16 Nov.

Lincolnton N.C.

If the Cont^r. can get to Charlotte in time after being detained at Lincolnton until 4 P.M. you can direct him to remain at the latter place until 4.

M.L

Post Office Dept.
16th Nov. 1825.

J. McRae P.M.

Payetteville N.C.

It appears from an editorial paragraph in the Fayetteville Sentinel of th^r qt^r. last that serious irregularities & interruptions obstruct the correspondence between Phil^a & Salisbury, & that the mail between Raleigh & y^r Office does not deliver letters punctually at Raleigh. You may well suppose that this intelligence is rec^d. with some incredulity, as it naturally occasions great surprise. You are ref^d to the article in the Sentinel & requested to say whether there is any cause to be found for it, in the construction & progress of the mails connected with y^r Office, & if so, to indicate the circumstances out of which it originates & the means by which it may most likely be removed. It is hoped too, that should you detect the seat of the disorder, you will at once apply the most suitable remedy.

M.L

J.B. Jones P.M.

16th Nov.

Wake forest N.C.

The cont^r for the transportation of the mail between Raleigh & Warrenton, terminates on the 31st Dec^r 1826. The amt of Compt^r stipulated in it, is \$14,200. pr. An. If any attempt should be made to vary the location or incumbency of y^r office, the invariable practice of the Dept^t would ensure a reference of the grounds & objects of the attempt to you, before any decision in regard to it had been adopted.

M.L

A. May

16th Nov.

Cahaba A.

y^r mail failed at Greenville on the 24th ult. & a fine of \$20 is entered against you.

M.L

E.P. Smith

16th Nov.

Huntsville A.

y^r mail failed at Doyle Mills on the 24th ult. & a fine of \$20 is entered against you.

M.L

Post Office Dept
16th Nov. 1835

Hon. L. Williams.

Panther Creek M.

The P.O. ref'd to in yr' letter of the 9th. Inst. were not
instructed by this Dept. On the 17th Sept. the P.O. at Rockford was directed
to provide for the transportation of a weekly mail between Huntville &
his office. Louisville & Briar Creek were incorporated in this schedule
attached to the Cont' of W. Davis. He however has omitted these two offices,
& is for, has failed in his duty & defeated the purposes of the Dept.
Altho' it is probable he will be compelled to carry his cont. faithfully
into execution, suspicion & delay to some extent will necessarily
intervene. But the public accommodation shall be attended to, &
measures shall be immediately taken for restoring the mail to
Grassville & Briar Creek.

M.L.

J. Harris P.M.

16th Nov.

Bellfonte P.M.

The P.M. at Doyals complains of yr' detaining
frequently & pertinaciously letters at yr' office, which are directed
to his, I avow that the fact here asserted comes within his own
knowledge. If such is yr' practice it becomes proper to inform
you that it is contrary to yr' duty, injurious to the public & repugnant
to common sense, & to require that you forward hereafter without any
add'l charge of postage & without delay, all letters that come to
yr' office & are directed to another.

M.L.

J. Hitchcock P.M.

16th Nov.

Utica N.Y.

There is no help for the evasions of lottery vendors,
& it is impossible to deny that the paper enclosed in yr' Cont' of
the 9th Inst. is a legitimate supplement - containing as it does matter
which customarily appears among the paper advertisements.

M.L.

J. Harvey P.M.

Doyals Mills A.

The P.M. of Bellfonte is instructed effectively on the
misconduct reported in yr' letter of the 26th ult.

M.L.

J. G. Eason

17th Nov.

Jonesboro' T.

When rewards are allowed by this Dept. for the apprehension
& conviction of mail robbers, to which in yr' letter of the 1st Inst. you lay claim,
it is confined in its application to the person who detects & arrests the culprit - not to the person on whose evidence he may be convicted. Witnesses
in such cases stand in the same predicament with witnesses in any other
criminal prosecution. They discharge a duty prescribed by law & enjoined
by patriotism, to the nature of which pecuniary recompence is held to be
repugnant, as custom is known to be opposed. You will however be
entitled to the money which was transmitted to Mr. Deadrick the P.M.
at Jonesboro; & also to the notes used on the trial of Fickle, provided
you can exhibit such evidence to the Court as will show yr' property
in the money, & the Court, on this being done, will doubtless order it
to be delivered to you. If not, it will be incumbent on me to return
the money now in the hands of Mr. Deadrick to the Gentleman in Belk.
from whom it was rec'd.

M.L.

F. Beckham P.M.

17th Nov.

Harpers Ferry W.

It is reported from Leesburg that on the 12th Inst. that the mail from
yr' office arrived at that place without a lock. You are requested to explain the
cause & to attend to the consequences of the unpleasing accident.

M.L.

W. L. Newton P.M.

17th Nov.

Newtown N.

My letter of the 16th Ult. was intended to be conclusive on the
subject of yr' P.O., nor is there any thing contained in yr' of the 29th cal-
culated to alter that intention.

M.L.

Post Office Dept

November 18, 1825

At Barnington

Charlotte Co. N.C.

The representations made to the Dept's on the subject of the comparative advantages presented by the Blackferry and Gaffney route for the passage of the mails have been of so contradictory a character that it is not easy to perceive clearly in favor of which they preponderate.

While the Master at Charlotte ch. and the contractors are inclined to prefer the route by Gaffney the Master at Halifax ch. Mr. Hunter Clark and the Member of Congress from the district through which that section of the line passes are decidedly favorable to the route by Blackferry, and the conflict of opinion as professed by persons all competent to speak on the subject, it becomes more equitable and judicious to adhere to the position taken by my predecessor, who had considered the subject and sanctioned by his authority the existing arrangement.

If the establishment of a Post Office at the Halifax side of Gaffney can afford the accommodation desired by you and your neighbors and the distance from Wheel is not more than ten miles, upon reasonable terms a contract may be entered into, Mr. Johnson to be appointed as Master. It will be facilitating the completion of the arrangement for you to designate in a more formal manner a suitable person for Master and to induce if in your power the speedy exhibition of moderate proposals, from an efficient individual, for the contract of 50 miles covering one way the limit.

M.C.

Nov. 18.

M. P. Hunt

Mr. Louis Mo. Tsi

It is now directed that the Vincennes mail shall arrive at Louis about 30 hours earlier in the week than at the present time, or rather, that instead of arriving on Saturday, it is to be hoped that it will actually arrive on Friday night. Even allowing it the unmeasurable interval of suspense it now consumes, viz. 53 hours - it might depart for Vincennes at 11 AM Sunday or by day Monday ~~noon~~ but it will have not ample sufficient for every purpose, if it should be made to leave Louis Sunday at 2 PM instead of Monday at 2 PM its present hour, twenty hours will be gained in the correspondence on the important route. The improvements are anticipated such as a moderate increase in the rate of travelling, and immediate removal

of time at the intermediate offices, which will shorten and split the intermediate between Louis & Louisville even on its present division route at least 30 hours a trip saving and coming together.

It is presumed that this arrangement will direct the depeding mails from Abt^o Jefferson & Greenville as well as the existing one, and if it does not, these routes can be so altered as to produce the necessary conformity to it - The Jefferson mail may be readily made to arrive at 1 PM instead of 2 PM on Sunday - the Abt^o mail which now deposits its contents at your office on Thursday at 7 AM where they have to wait until the evening Wednesday for a passage to Vincennes or Vincennes will even without any delay, deliver them ~~by~~ ^{before} 1 PM, when the V and also mail shall depart as herein proposed, on the following Sunday at 3 PM. A similar advantage will result from it in regard to the Greenville mail, and therefore no other connection are maintained by the present schedule for those in aisle. The arrangement of the Louisville line now under consideration, does not seem to require any alteration of it.

It is expected that you will give this and every thing a thorough

Mr. Leam

November 18.

I. School

Mr. Harmony Ch. Dir

As your letter of the 28th ult does not state either the place from which the letter ofурса was written, or the person who wrote it, to defeat its own object and affords no facility for tracing or retrieving the box which it reports.

Mr. Leam

November 18.

Ab Mills

Vincennes Ind. Dir

The letter of the 19th ult to which yours of the 15th has referred, was not designed to reproach you with a violation of your contract, but to stimulate you to a voluntary increase of your speed.

The Post at Vincennes, Vandalia & Louis will be directed to impose the best possible delay in dispatching your mails & it is hoped you will be able without inconvenience to accelerate your progress so far at least as to equal the rate of ordinary travelling - 30 miles a day is an sufficient expeditious and denotes something very little less than a dead stop.

Mr. Leam

Post Office Dept
Government of U.S.

J. N. M. & Co.

Mr. Randolph McLean

Br. Vandalia Mo. Nov.

In order to expedite the intercourse between Louisville & Louis and the intermediate Post Offices, orders have been given to the contractors Taylor & Mills, which are intended to have the effect of having the custom mails to your office thirty hours earlier in the week than the time at present fixed for its arrival and its return will be advanced in a corresponding degree at least. This arrangement is announced to you with a view of having every thing ready to conform to and promote it at your office, and particularly that the connecting mails may be prepared to take advantage of the addition's despatch which it will offer to them in their progress to the Eastward.

McLean

November 11.

J. T. Doyle
Tunicares Ind. Govt

In order that your animals at Tunicares may precede that of Mr. Mills, so that he may lose no time at that place, the Post at Louisville, is directed to deliver you the mail for the West at least 24 hours earlier than the time you are now accustomed to receive it, and you are expected to arrive at Tunicares on Sunday night instead of Tuesday morning - this alteration in your progress is of great importance to the public and to the efficiency of the system of intelligence of what you have in an interesting branch -

As soon as the change herein directed is actually effected, you will report the same to the Dept.

McLean

November 11.

J. T. Doyle
Br. Roswellville Va. Nov.

The compensation refused by the contr to for calling at your office, exceeds so far its probable return, that it is inexplicably refused, so that it can only be continued and supplied as a private office - you are therefore instructed to provide for the conveyance of a weekly mail to it from the nearest P.O. from W. Bradley or any other neighboring line, by a person to give its next receipt for that desired.

McLean

Post Office Dept
Nov. 18. 1863

J. T. Doyle

Br. Louisville Ky. Nov.

The horses with which the mail interchange between Louisville & Louis is at present conducted is the subject of much complaint and of equal inconvenience, and is found to arise in a great measure from the long interruption that occurs at Vincennes, at present the contr from Louisville arrives at Vincennes Mon. at 10 AM while the contr from Louisville does not reach the same place with the mail which is to be conveyed to Louisville until 24 hours afterwards, that is until Thursday at 10 AM, and as the Louis contr does not then get in motion until 2 PM a delay of 30 hours takes place there that ought not to be more than two at farthest.

It becomes necessary in order to correct the waste of time and error of connection that our Taylor mail should be despatched from your office at least 24 hours earlier than the time at present prescribed, so that he may reach Vincennes, before the Louis contr will have ready to depart. You are requested to give especial attention to the prompt and timely execution of the improved arrangement against which as you entertain animals 24 days in the week, it is not perceived that ^{any} objection can possibly be made by Mr. Doyle. Mr. Mills and the Master at Vincennes Vandalia & Louisville are to witness to our the despatch.

McLean

Nov. 18.

J. T. Sullivan
Br. Vincennes Ind. Govt

I would draw from a letter rec'd from Mr. Mr. Mills, that although he is not inclined to increase his speed beyond the usual pace of 10 miles a day he is willing to shorten the periods of rest which he at present is allowed at Tunicares. Vandalia & Louis - In your letter of the 12th ult it is observed that as Doyle has not reached Vincennes until 2 PM 10 AM - Mills is compelled to delay him from Mon 10 AM to 2 PM Tues - it therefore follows that the arrival of Doyle must be rendered earlier than it is, and both he and the contr at Louisville instructed on the subject - the Louisville mail ought to arrive at 5 PM on Sunday - the Hennettown mail at 6 PM same day, and the Clintonville mail same day 9 AM - so that if the animals of Doyle and Mills could be so adjusted as to enable the latter to depart from Tunicares about 8 AM - Mon 24 hours would be gained in the progress of the Eastern mail, at your office without the interruption of any line of intelligence connected with it -

You will confer with the contr on the subject, who will receive

instructions in relation to it from the Dep^ts and take measures for securing
to the transportation of the mail the important advantage herein indicated.

J McLean

Nov. 18.

J. B. Pardue
Postmaster & Co. Linc.

The receipt of the P. D. at Postville will not
justify half the sum you propose to require for supplying it with a mail
as your offer is therefore rejected.

J McLean

H. Stafford Esq^r P.M.
Putnam Ohio Sir

Nov. 21.

As the power of establishing post routes is not delegated except in special and subordinate cases by congress to this Deptt.
it will be necessary for you and those citizens who concur with
you on the expediency of a route from Lanesville to Athens to
make application to the House of Representatives

J McLean

Wm. Clemmons Esq^r P.M.
Clemmonsville N.C. Sir

Nov. 21.

A new route which is to go into operation
on the 1st of Jan'y. next will extend to your office the accommodation
which is now necessarily withdrawn from it

J McLean

J Henning Esq^r
Lewisburg Va. Sir

Nov. 21

Your mail failed at Uniontown previ-
ously to the 11th Inst and a fine of ten dollars is entered against
you. Your contract is said in addition to be negligently executed

J McLean

J Torrance Esq^r P.M.
Newtown Gap Md. Sir

Nov. 21.

If P. masters remit money by mail to
the General P. Office without special directions to that effect
it is at their own risk. If necessary P. offices are kept open
from Sun to Sun. That cannot be required at your office
but as less is required it is incumbent on you to give all the

accommodation that is desirable. No distinction is made between the
hours for the delivery of letters & of papers, except that the latter are
generally received and delivered with less trouble than the former.

A Post Master is a public servant & must behave for the public
convenience, & like all who sincerely try to please he will
please

J McLean

H G Whitehead Esq^r

Nov. 21.

& the Petitioners Monticello Mi. Sir

If the mail ~~and communication~~ from Washington
to Augusta alluded to in your letter of the 16th Oct. should be im-
proved during the term of the present contracts the proposal of Mr
Pardue for that service will be accepted in preference to yours
as it is much lower. It is not contemplated however at this time
to make any change in that quarter until the expiration of the year
1826 when the existing Southern contracts will terminate and when
probably a general revision and improvement of the Mississippi
routes will be executed

J McLean

C Roby Esq^r P.M.

Nov. 21

Thorntons Ferry N.C. Sir

The Deslct journals mentioned in your
letter of the 14th Inst. may be treated as newspapers and sold for
their postage or for whatever they will bring

J McLean

A Moonhead Esq^r P.M.

Nov. 21

Bowling Green Ky. Sir

The opinions expressed in your letter
of the 4th Inst. in respect of the official duties of P. Masters are
spirited and sensible, and your conduct is equally proper and commu-
nable. Every P. Master is a confidential agent of the Department, and
is in honour bound to watch over the integrity and efficiency
of the great system of which his office constitutes a member.
I not only approve of the step you have taken at the suggestion of Mr
Gray, but I applaud the cheerfulness with which for the public
interest you assumed the responsibility; and hereby request that
you will consider yourself clothed with authority to correct all
abuses that may occur in your section of the country. For your time
you shall receive compensation, and for your expenses full reim-
bursement

J McLean

Post Office Dept.

Nov. 21 1825

Wm B Stone Esq P.M.

Aquire va sir

Packets such as that described in your letter of the 16th Inst. are to be charged with postage by the weight. To apply any other construction to them would fail to guard the interest of the publick and to satisfy the spirit of the law.

When one composed of one sheet weighs an ounce the practice of the Dept. is to charge by the weight and the same principle requires that when 2 or 3 weigh 2 or 3 oz. they should likewise be charged by weight even if they are folded into one letter.

As moreover it is often impracticable to ascertain the number of sheets or pieces of which a letter consists the safest mode is to charge by weight whenever a packet exceeds an oz. & to charge by the piece only those that are under an ounce.

J McLean

J. Henderson Esq P.M.

Nov. 21.

Indianapolis Ind. sir

The contract requires the contractor return to in your letter of the 31st Ult. to leave Washington on Thursday & to return there on tuesday - so that his resting time is all at Washington

J McLean

Wm Dickson Esq P.M.

Nov. 21.

Greenville Fe. Sir

Mr Carmichael is instructed to leave Blountville every friday, to arrive at Jonesborough the same day & to return to Blountville the next. This it is hoped will satisfy the object of your letter of the 8th Inst.

J McLean

I Carmichael

Newport Fe. Sir

It is necessary to the maintenance of proper connections of the mail that upon the receipt of this letter you immediately so far alter your times of arrival and departure, as to conform to the following arrangement. Leave Blountville every friday, arrive at Jonesborough the same day & return to Blountville the next day. In this you are expected not to fail

J McLean

Post Office Dept.

21 Nov. 1825

J B Crozier
Clinton Fe. Sir

A contract was formed before the receipt of your letter of the 8th for the route to which it refers for 120 dollars less than your offer, the rivers & streams to the contrary notwithstanding

J McLean

W Smith Esq P.M. (Circular) Nov. 21.
Averysborough N.C. Sir

It has recently been communicated to this Dept. that on the 20th October last there arrived at the Post Office in Newbern a packet of letters containing money which had been mailed at Fayetteville on the 9th of April 1824.

The only object of this letter is to learn of you whether the detent took place at your office, and to enquire whether you know, suspect, or can ascertain the cause of this delay, whence it may have happened. A letter similar to this has been addressed to each of the Post Masters on the route

J McLean

A similar to the following offices viz

J MacKee Esq P.M. Fayetteville N.C. D Thompson Esq P.M. Smithfield N.C. R Washington Esq P.M. Waynesborough N.C. J Gallagher P.M. Washington N.C. P Brown Esq P.M. Trenton N.C. J H Stokes Esq P.M. Duplin Co N.C. J Whitfield Esq Duplin Old Co. N.C. D Wright Esq P.M. Wrightsville N.C. Zach. Cogdill Esq P.M. Clinton N.C. B D Smith Esq P.M. Raleigh N.C.

A Crane Esq P.M.

Nov 22

Tallahassee Fe. Sir

In a letter recently received from the P.M. at Early Court House he alledges that the road from Tallahassee to his office is the best and nearest communication with the Harford & Montgomery mails and solicits the permanent adoption of that route. You will recollect it was originally indicated, and the hope is still entertained that it will be found practicable

J McLean

Post Office Dept.

22 Nov. 1825

J D Pitts Esq P.M.

Westmoreland Co. Va. Sir

When letters directed to other Post Offices either in Westmoreland or elsewhere happen to be sent to yours, they are to be forwarded to the place of their intentional destination without delay & without additional postage. Reasons have arisen for believing that instances of inattention to this point of duty have occurred in your office, & that the complaints of individuals respecting it have in some cases been disregarded. This order founded on the 4th article of the 2^d instruction & the 2^d of the 8th is intended to be conclusive on the subject to which it relates

J McLean

J Hollingsworth Esq. P.M.

Nov. 22

Battletown Va. Sir

An examination has been made & no trace of the letter mentioned in yours of the 1st Nov. can be found. It is to be regretted that you did not comply strictly with my instructions in mailing that letter. A deviation from them may make you liable for the money lost, and certainly exposes you to censure. Should the letter be found hereafter of which there exists a possibility immediate notice shall be given you

J McLean

J Ficklin Esq. P.M.

Nov. 22.

Lexington Ky. Sir

As the contract requires that the mail should pass Burlington on both trips to Cincinnati no order to the contrary is thought necessary. But no objection will be made to an arrangement by which it is to be visited but once a week

J McLean

A Peters Esq

Zanesville O. Sir

Nov. 22

If the publications mentioned in your letter of the 11th Inst. are newspapers you can receive them in exchange for newspapers but not without. The law knows of no distinction between common and uncommon newspapers. A newspaper is a publication of frequent appearance and containing articles

of intelligence in relation to trade politics & business, with the current news of the day. A pamphlet or magazine is generally speaking less frequent appearance, & is either confined to the description of a single subject, or appropriated chiefly to matters of literature & science. The difference between them is more obvious than discernible and cannot fail to strike your own observation.

It is probable the charge of the P. Master at Zanesville is correct & that the publications in question are not newspapers

J McLean

Mm Burke Esq P.M.

Nov. 22

Cincinnati Ohio Sir

I have received yours of the 11th and approve the arrangement that you have adopted. The Chillicothe mail will leave Bainbridge every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at noon or as soon as the eastern mail arrives and arrive at your office the next days viz. Tuesday Thursday & Saturday by 7 P.M. leave Cincinnati every Monday Wednesday & Friday at 3 A.M. and arrive at Bainbridge on Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday by 10 A.M. or in time to proceed with the western mail to Chillicothe. Beard will leave your office every Sunday Tuesday & Thursday at 3 A.M. arrive at Lancaster on Tuesday Thursday & Saturday by 10 A.M. and he will arrive at your office on Monday Wednesday & Friday by 7 P.M. The same duties will be performed by the carriers now on each route as were required of the respective contractors in my letter of Sep. 13th only on different days, and the public would have been precisely as well served by the former arrangement as by the present one. I regret that you have not in any former communication informed me that Mr. Beard went out from Cincinnati and returned to Cincinnati without a mail. If I had been advised of such an error I should have at once corrected it, but you led me to believe that he brought you three mails and that he carried out three mails. If Mr. Watson does not carry the mails in a carriage the mail should be assigned to Mr. White the former contractor

J McLean