

Post Office Dept.

16. March 1826.

1. Hon. R. P. Henry  
A. of Reps.

It gives me pleasure to inform you that measures are in contemplation for giving effect in the course of the present year, to the principal branch of the proposition record<sup>d</sup>. in y<sup>r</sup>. Commt<sup>t</sup>. of the 13<sup>th</sup> inst. Proposals will be publicly invited in a few months for the establishment of a stage transportation of the mail between Louisville & Nashville, & if the accord<sup>d</sup>. can be effected on reasonable terms it will go into operation <sup>before</sup> the 1<sup>st</sup> Jan<sup>r</sup>. next. In reference to y<sup>r</sup>. 2<sup>d</sup> suggestion, a more expedient & less expensive connection would seem practicable from Russellville to Smithland. To form it, 50 miles of transportation would be saved to the Dept<sup>t</sup>. of the distance between Nashville & Smithland would not be increased more than 10 miles. And while it would supersede the necessity of the Cr<sup>d</sup> of route from Russellville to Hopkinsville, the amt<sup>t</sup> of public accord<sup>d</sup>. would be little inferior to that which would be afforded by the 3 entire lines proposed by yourself & the other signers of the paper you have submitted to me. As to the time at which it will be in the power of the Dept<sup>t</sup>. to afford this 2<sup>d</sup> accord<sup>d</sup>, no definite calculation can now be formed. The proportion between the expenditure & the income on the line in its present state of transportation is as 3 to 1, against the Dept<sup>t</sup>. but it is obvious that the operations should be consecutive & not simultaneous. The conveyance in Stages from Louisville to Nashville being in operation, & the demand for a line connecting with it existing in the degree represented in the paper you enclosed, at Smithland, an inducement will at once be created for profitable employment which private enterprise will hardly overlook, & will render much exertion & expense on the part of the Govt. unnecessary. Upon the whole it may be calculated that between Louisville & Nashville, the mail will be conveyed in Stages on or before the 1<sup>st</sup> Jan<sup>r</sup>. next; & that a similar transportation will probably be established as a natural consequence of this operation, without much delay, from Russellville to Smithland.

M.L

309  
Post Office Dept.

16. March 1826

1. Hon. J. Forsyth  
A. of Reps.

A letter is rec'd from the P.M. at Gibelton Co. reporting that in consequence of the delay of the Capt<sup>t</sup>. to commence his operations on the new route from DeKaleb to Houston Co. he himself had continued the principal transportation of a weekly mail on part of this route so that if the other sections constituting that line, have been affected by this delay, the Counties of Pike & Simpson, have been exempted from the inconvenience.

M.L

1. D. W. Haley  
Natchez M<sup>i</sup>.

16. March

On the 12<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>r</sup>. your "intermediate mail" failed at Jackson M<sup>i</sup>. & a fine of \$20 is entered against you. It is reported that y<sup>r</sup>. Rider was drunk on the route. He should be dismissed.

M.L

1. Hon. W. Thompson  
A. of R.

16. March

In consequence of the information of neglect contained in the enclosed letter, an order is this day issued to the Capt<sup>t</sup>. requiring him to furnish forthwith a regular supply of mails to the P.O. at Madison Springs. In addition a fine has been imposed for his previous failure, & in order to ensure his future punctuality his pay on the Route is suspended.

M.L

1. Foley P.M.  
Parish of Assumption Lafourche Interior L<sup>c</sup>.

16. March

The amt<sup>t</sup> of add<sup>d</sup>. allowance required by the statement contained in y<sup>r</sup> letter of the 6 Feb<sup>r</sup>. is \$9.45 for 2<sup>d</sup> \$36.52 per annum. It will be necessary for you to forward a certificate showing the time at which this extra service commenced.

M.L

## Post Office Dept.

16 March 1826.

J. C. Daniel

Lodging-out L. F.

On the 4<sup>th</sup> July last a P.O. was established at Madison Springs, on y<sup>r</sup> route between Elberton & Barnesville & the Post was authorized to require of you a regular supply of mails. By a letter from him of the 2<sup>d</sup> inst to Genl. Thompson of Ga. it appears that he had made several applications to you for the same, that you had declined calling at his office. His pay is consequently suspended on that route N<sup>o</sup>. 283, & a fine of \$30 is entered against you.

J.M.L.

J. J. Vaiden P.M.

16<sup>th</sup> March

Charles City Co. Va.

There is no mail route established by law from New Kent Ch. to y<sup>r</sup> office, but if the Comt. will agree to convey y<sup>r</sup> mail twice a week from New Kent Ch. to supply the Granville P.O. once a week for the Compt. which he is now entitled to, the change proposed in y<sup>r</sup> letter of the 11<sup>th</sup> ult. may be adopted. You can in this case report the alteration to the Dept. & to the P.M. at Richmond & New Kent Ch. that is may go into operation without delay & be properly sustained.

J.M.L.

J. A. Morton P.M.

16 March

Farmville Va.

If you can provide for the conveyance of two mails a week from Rains to y<sup>r</sup> O. at \$50 a year, you can hereby authorize to do so. The connection will be useful - particularly if you will adjust the times of arrival & departure judiciously, as I have no doubt you will do.

J.M.L.

G. Stovall

16 March

Columbus Mi.

Y<sup>r</sup> mail failed at Jackson Mi. on the 7<sup>th</sup> Inst. & a fine of \$30 is entered against you.

J.M.L.

## Post Office Dept.

16 March 1826.

H. F. Rose P.M.

Zebulon Ga.

The weekly mail conveyed as reported in y<sup>r</sup> letter of the 23<sup>rd</sup> ult. is sanctioned, until the operation of Mr. Morris's contract shall supersede it, or some other.

J.M.L.

J. D. Green of  
St. Louis Trustee

16 March

It is proposed to revise the present transportation on the route from Louisville to St. Louis from a 2 to a 4 horse stage, & to reduce the time between the two places to 4 or 5 days. It is also proposed to have two mails a week. That part of this service which is attached to the line between Louisville & New Orleans, is hereby offered to you, as a privilege of Freight, at \$32 a mile for both trips to be performed each in two days, which is the highest amt. of comp. that will be allowed. The same offer will be made for the residue of the route to St. Mills.

J.M.L.

J. M. Rae P.M.

17 March

Fayetteville N.C.

A merchant of Edenton has enclosed a correspondence between himself & others in that place & certain merchants in Charleston, by which it appears the letters between the two places are frequently 6 weeks in passing & are generally much delayed & very irregular. In some instances it appears that they are sent to Charleston by way of Asheville N.C. which shows an extensive deviation from the proper route. This correspondence is distributed at y<sup>r</sup> O. & it is therefore that the unaccountable & mischievous derangement is mentioned to you. It is hoped you will be able to correct it effectually & promptly.

J.M.L.

A. B. Oliveira

17 March

Edenton N.C.

The subject of y<sup>r</sup> letter of the 4<sup>th</sup> inst. shall receive immediate attention, & I trust it will appear that the discovery & the correction of evils in the operations of this Dept. are nearly simultaneous events.

J.M.L.

## Post Office Dept.

17 March 1826.

J. D. Green of St. Louis  
Present.

The P.M. on Clay Ch. M<sup>c</sup> under date of the 14<sup>th</sup> Inst. report two successive failures just preceding that time, this letter was written some hours after the 3<sup>d</sup> mail was due, & in the apprehension of another failure. Sums to the amt. of \$60 are imposed, & cannot be remitted unless the most satisfactory causes for these failures shall be ascertained. The P.M. affirms that he has had no mail since the 14<sup>th</sup> Jan'y. & that small boys, unable to perform the duty, are employed as carriers. Such an entire neglect of duty if continued must soon compel a forfeiture of the Contract. The P.M. has been instructed to forward the mail by express in the event of failures. He alleges that the high water or ice could not have caused the late failures.

J.M.Z

Hon. D. Trimble

17 March

4 of Reps.

Routes N: 307 & N: 317, the one from M<sup>r</sup>. Sterling to Prestonsburg, the other from Cynthiaburg to Pike Ch. appear to lie in j-  
district, & are among those reported for discontinuance to Congress.  
If the measure thus proposed should appear to you to comport with  
public convenience, it is hoped you will take occasion to recommend it  
to the P.O. Committee. At present it does not seem probable that  
the expense of the Deptt. would be diminished by the discontinuance  
of any of the P.O., except the one at the Peck's Oak.

J.M.Z

Wm. B. Ferguson P.M.

19 March

Hopefield Ark. T.

The proposition contained in y<sup>r</sup> letter of the 31<sup>st</sup> last  
for removing y<sup>r</sup> C. from Hopefield to the seat of justice of Crittenden Co<sup>r</sup>, is considered  
judicious & the removal is hereby directed. You will loss no time in effecting  
the arrangement, & in requiring the Com<sup>t</sup>. to change his route accordingly.  
You will inform him that increase of distance will entitle  
him to increase of compensation.

J.M.Z

## Post Office Dept.

17<sup>th</sup> March 1826.W. J. Smith P.M.  
Clay Ch. M<sup>c</sup>

On the 6<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup>. the P.M. on Franklin was instructed to form  
a special arrangement for the regular transportation of the mail from his  
Office to yours, in case failures on the part of the Com<sup>t</sup>. should continue  
& it is hoped he has done so. The expense will be charged to the Com<sup>t</sup>,  
& you are requested to aid Mr. Samuels in the business if any aid  
is required. The Com<sup>t</sup>. is here & shall be apprised of the delinquency  
of his carriers & shall be dealt with in the manner most likely to  
render him efficient & attentive.

J.M.Z

Hon. L. Scott

18 March

4 of R.

In conformity with y<sup>r</sup> suggestion respecting the dif-  
ference between the actual & the estimated length of the Route  
from St. Louis to Greenville a add. allowance equivalent to 15 miles  
of increased service, will be extended to the Com<sup>t</sup>. from the com-  
mencement of his Com<sup>t</sup>. An allowance of \$26 per An. will also  
be made him for the expense he has incurred in ferriges over  
the above which was contemplated when the Com<sup>t</sup>. was formed

J.M.Z

D. M. Oriall P.M.  
Richfield O.

18 March

Contractors have no more right to convey & seepers out  
of the mail, than they have to convey letters, but in some cases, it is  
made a stipulation in the Com<sup>t</sup>, that they may carry & papers out of  
the mail. You call on the contr<sup>s</sup> to whom you allude, to show their  
authority for carrying & papers out of the mail, & if they do not show  
it you will report them by name to this Deptt.

P. Carey P.M.

18 March

York Ch. H.

The covers of pamphlets, or such as fully  
have covers, are not charged with postage.

J.M.Z

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Post Office Dept.

18<sup>th</sup> March 1826.

A. L. Mills

Vincennes Ind.

For conveying the mail twice a week in 4 horse stages, & in a space of time not exceeding 3 days, on the direct route from Vincennes to St Louis, I propose to allow you as present proprietor of part of that route, a comp't at the rate of \$32 a mile annually, the distance counted one way. This offer if accepted, must be accompanied with an agreement on yr. part to carry a weekly mail from Mayfield by Vandalia, Edwardsville &c to St Louis at \$10 a mile per m. Counting the distance also one way. Such deductions from yr. present pay for the part of yr. route which this arrangement is to cover will of course take place as soon as it goes into operation. The mail by Vandalia is to be conveyed in a 2 horse stage when the state of the roads will admit, & at other seasons on horse back.

M.L.

J. Ghelson & Fox

18<sup>th</sup> March

Louisburg N.Y.

It is not the intention that you should wait so long as Warrantee as to cause a failure at Raleigh; for the object is not to ensure but to prevent failures. I should think 10 is as late as you can be required to wait; but if you should wait a little longer, credit would be given you at Raleigh in proportion. The great object is to preserve the connection throughout, & on the line from Petersburg to Raleigh anything like precision would of course defeat that object. The game of fast & loose, give & take affords the only chance of success, one in which the Dept. is obliged to take a hand, & to set an example of much forbearance

M.L.

W. Clark P.M.

18 March

Salina N.Y.

The packet ref'd to in yr. letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> inst. having been unintentionally placed in the mail, may be delivered to the poor man for whom it was intended free of postage

M.L.

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Post Office Dept.

18<sup>th</sup> March 1826.

Hon. W. Rivers

H. of Reps.

In conformity with yr. suggestion respecting an increase of account on the route from Columbia to N.York, the Comt. is required to report the lowest amt. of Compt. for which he will agree to transport until the 1<sup>st</sup> Jan'y next a 2<sup>d</sup> weekly mail. To render the operation in any degree consistent with a just regard to the public interest, the offer of the Comt. must be extremely moderate - the cost of the route being now about 25 per cent greater than its income.

M.L.

J. Hard Hollis & Co.

Charleston S.C.

18 March

The uniform & rather increasing delay which prevails in the arrival of yr. mail at Augusta, denotes a want of energy & diligence which excites disapprobation & will lead to inconvenience.

M.L.

J. E. Sprague P.M.

Salem N.H.

18 March

I hope you will use unremitting vigilance respecting the subject of the enclosed letters. There is reason to believe that Harrison was an accomplice in the late mail robbery near Phila. & it is to be hoped that in the search & investigation it has not so far been as yet arrested. It will be proper for you to be cautious in incurring expense, as the means of the Dept. are very much abridged by the cost of detecting & prosecuting mail robbers.

M.L.

P. Wilson

Prestonbury H.

20. March

You will supply the new C.O. at Olympia Springs with mail, weekly during the months of July, Augt. & Sept. once a fortnight on the rest of the year. Let this operation be prompt & regular, & be assured that increase of distance gives increase of compensation.

M.L.

Hon H. W. Bowles

At of R

Post Office Dept.  
20 March 1826

The proposition contained in the memorial signed by various Members of the N. C. Legislature which has been submitted to me, was called to the attention of the Dept. at an early period of the present session & was then fully considered at the suggestion of the Hon W. Saunders, the Pres<sup>t</sup>, & other Southern Members of both houses. The ex<sup>n</sup> resulted in a conviction that the establishment of a 2<sup>d</sup> weekly stage mail between Fredericksb<sup>t</sup> & Powells<sup>t</sup> Ga., w<sup>t</sup> subject to the Dept. to an excess of expenditure over income that could not be prudently or justly incurred. The present cost of the route is \$7200, its income \$5014 - leaving a balance against the Dept. of \$2186 annually. Applications have recently been made to the Contractors for statements of the lowest amt. of Compt<sup>r</sup>. they would require for a 2<sup>d</sup> weekly stage mail, & in every instance the demand is the full amt. of their present Compt<sup>r</sup>. The present contracts will terminate at the close of the present year, when an effort will be made by virtue of the new contracts to provide greater expedition. It is not probable that the correspondence on this route will be considerable for some time to come. There is not likely to be much trade between Fred<sup>b</sup> & Salisbury or between Salisbury & Powells<sup>t</sup>, & the profits to be derived from travellers is but a collateral & indirect inducement for an expensive mode of conveying the mail.

B. H. House P.M.

20 March

S. Francisville L<sup>a</sup>.

Henry Bainbridge has the mail robbery was arrested at Batavia N.Y. on the 7<sup>th</sup> inst. I shall have him conveyed as soon as practicable to Ga. & wish you to have all the facts pertinent to the case laid before the grand jury for the U.S. Circuit C<sup>t</sup>. that a bill of indictment may be found against him.

A. Dufay P.M. New Orleans L<sup>a</sup>.

H. Alexander P.M. Baton Rouge L<sup>a</sup>.

Same

Post Office Dept  
20 March 1826

J. Bonner

At Dist. M<sup>t</sup> Orleans L<sup>a</sup>

Henry Bainbridge Con. who robbed the mail in Jan'y last near Baton Rouge is arrested & in jail at Batavia in N.Y. where he will be removed to L<sup>a</sup> without unnecessary delay. The P.M. at N. Orleans, Baton Rouge, & S. Francisville are instructed to collect the proper evidence & it is hoped you will have a bill of indictment found at the next U.S. Circuit Court.

J.M.L

N. Brewer P.M.

Educator N.C.

20 March

Since the rec'd. of yr. letter of the 21<sup>st</sup> ult. attempt has been made to connect the course of Correspondence between Educator & Charleston but as late as the 7<sup>th</sup> Inst. it appears from a letter of Mr. Oliveira, they had not been successful. The most direct & rapid conveyance, would seem to be from y<sup>r</sup> O by way of Warrenton, where the letters for Charleston will fall into a line of daily transportation. The P.M. at Fayetteville who is remarkable for accuracy, intelligence & attention, has rec'd. particular instructions on this subject.

J.M.L

Hon D. Trimble

20 March

At of R.

A post office is established at Olympic Springs & the Cont<sup>c</sup> is directed to supply it with mails, weekly in July, Aug<sup>t</sup> & Sept, & once a fortnight during the rest of the year. If the route from Prestonsburg to Mt. Sterling should be discontinued by Cong<sup>r</sup>. Mr. Garrett will be authorized to convey the mail to the Springs from Mt. Sterling.

J.M.L

R. C. Cutler

20 March

Lovington N.J.

The Hon. Wilson having rec'd. an increase of account & any route you are requested to state with a view of ascertaining whether the operation is practicable, the lowest amt. of Compt<sup>r</sup>. for which you will agree to convey until the 1<sup>st</sup> of Aug<sup>t</sup> next, a 2<sup>d</sup> weekly mail from Columbia to N. York.

J.M.L

Post Office Dept.  
21 March 1826.

J. P. Canfield  
Hartford Ct.

The conduct of Post M<sup>t</sup>. can only be viewed by this Dept. in the light of their official relation & subordination to it. The omission to report according to the instruction in reference to that ~~subject~~ to the Publishers, the fact that their pamphlets or magazines are not taken out of the P. O. by the persons to whom they are directed, certainly renders a P. M<sup>t</sup>, as an officer of this Dept. liable to reprimand or removal, as the nature of the offence may seem to require. Whether it involves him in any legal responsibility to the publisher, is a judicial question, which the P. M<sup>t</sup>. G. is not competent to decide.

J.M.T.

Hon W. P. Mangum  
H of R.

The app<sup>t</sup> & alteration record in y<sup>r</sup> letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> are both directed.

J.M.T.

Knowe D. McLeanahan  
Harrordsburg K.

If the Pile at Richmond K. will receive the charge alluded to in y<sup>r</sup> letter of the 28 ult, & the Pile at Manchester up to it, the Dept. will authorize it. The fine you refer to was remitted to you in the amt. long ago.

J.M.T.

B. L. Powell  
Harrisville Va.

The questions you ask in y<sup>r</sup> letter of the 15<sup>th</sup> are such as can be answered only by a judicial tribunal, except the last, which requires no answer at all. The only way in which you can obtain from this Dept. money on acc<sup>t</sup>. of Mr. Penruddick, is to forward an order signed by him, the amt. of which should it be due, will be paid in that case to you.

J.M.T.

Post Office Dept.  
21 March 1826.

Hon J. T. Pearson  
H of R.

The connection between the Pendleton & Ashville routes, the latter leading up into the Western States, is considered important, & the excessive indolence manifested by the Const. in complaining of 30 miles a day being required of him, constitutes objections to granting the account desired in the enclosed letter. The mail might be carried on foot 20 miles a day, which is the speed proposed by Mr. Walker. The example of indulgence to such sloth would not fail to be pernicious. It is hardly necessary to add that the Const. is the measure of the Compt<sup>r</sup> of Post M<sup>t</sup>.

M. Dillard

21 March

Raleigh N.C.

Y<sup>r</sup> mail failed at Murfreesboro on the 2<sup>d</sup> Inst. for which a fine of \$30 is entered against you. It was almost destroyed by wet. I am add<sup>e</sup>. fine of \$20 is incurred. Y<sup>r</sup> thursday mails are said to be generally irregular, of horses in different ty<sup>r</sup> riders incapable.

J.M.T.

J. P. Deering

21 March

D. Atty. Louisburg N.C.

The information contained in y<sup>r</sup> letter of the 16<sup>th</sup> Inst. is thankfully rec<sup>t</sup> & promptly acted on. It is hoped y<sup>r</sup> search for a different culprit may be successful. The detection & punishment of these offences is an object of humanity as well as of justice, for it is the only way to prevent the frequency of them.

J.M.T.

J. S. Morrill Pile.

21 March

E. Chelmsford N.H.

There is no occasion for any public notice being given or taken by this Dept. of y<sup>r</sup> new town. All letters must be sent in the mail.

J.M.T.

Post Office Dept.  
21 March 1826.

N. Brewer P.M.

Edenton N.C.

Information has been rec'd that early in this month you handed to the brother of W. H. Box from y<sup>r</sup> Office, a letter post-marked New York which contained the following words "Immediately on the receipt of this letter the neighbourhood where you are, have it for deligual search is making for you." This letter was addressed to W H Box. It was returned to you i.e. is understood to you are requested or rather directed to have the person who may apply for it arrested & detained, till proper care may be made into the circumstances. One of the persons said to have been engaged in the recent robbery of the mail near Phil<sup>a</sup>. is believed to have travelled lately to the South.

JMC

J. P. Johnson

21 March

Great Crossings N.Y.

Y<sup>r</sup> mail failed at Harrodsburg on the 2<sup>d</sup> inst. & a fine of \$30 is entered against you.

JMC

J. A. Greene P.M.

21 March

Hickley O.

The request contained in y<sup>r</sup> letter of the 27<sup>th</sup> ulto. cannot be granted.

JMC

J. Kilchin & Gooch  
Richmond Va.

22<sup>nd</sup> March

The paper enclosed will present a more complete & satisfactory answer to y<sup>r</sup> letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> inst. than without a tedious retrospect could now be given to it.

JMC

J. Walker

22 March

Bahaba A.

Y<sup>r</sup> mail failed at Montgomery on the 1<sup>st</sup> inst. & a fine of \$20 is entered against you.

JMC

P. L. Cook P.M.  
Hillsboro N.C.

344  
Post Office Dept  
22 March 1826.

Upon the receipt of this letter you will change the departure of the Hillsboro mail from Wednesday to Thursday & direct the Capt. W. Ward, to conform to the alteration. A Post office will be immediately established at Cedar Grove said to be 10 or 12 miles from Hillsboro where a mail must be regularly delivered.

JMC

J. D. B. McCord

Tallahassee Fl.

22 March

When the average weight of a mail exceeds 75 lb. then allowance for an add<sup>d</sup> horse is made to the Capt. But when it falls short of this, or reaches it only occasionally, no add<sup>d</sup> allowance is granted. W. Prindartown mail is said to be conveyed without the covering of a bearskin or oil cloth. This must be provided. On the 1<sup>st</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> one Dr. pay will be due you on the Prindartown route, & so much of 1<sup>st</sup>. on the St. Augustine route as may be in proportion to the time from which you commenced. It will be then sent to you in regular course.

JMC

J. Dillard P.M.

22 March

Hartford Ga.

It is reported that the Capt. from Hartford to Montgomery does not convey all the mail that is destined for that place from y<sup>r</sup> O. It arrives at Prindartown with but half the Florida mail. It is further said that he furnishes no cover of bearskin or oil cloth for the mail bags. If these irregularities do exist, you should report them, & in the mean time endeavour to correct them.

JMC

J. H. J. Meriwether

22 March

H. of Reps.

The enclosed letter estimates the expense of the alteration you propose, at a higher rate than was anticipated. The subject is submitted for y<sup>r</sup> consideration.

JMC

Post Office Dept.  
22<sup>nd</sup> March 1826.

J. D. B. McComb

Tallahassee T.

The affidavits of y<sup>r</sup>. carriers of your Commt<sup>t</sup> of the 24<sup>th</sup> do not excuse the irregularities complained of both at St Augustine & Tallahassee. The P. O. at the former place report that y<sup>r</sup>. Carrier Phillips wilfully deviates from the direct route, & thereby increases his obstructions & delay - delivers the mail to strangers to convey it & declares he will continue to do so. At Tallahassee it seems on the 22<sup>nd</sup> ult<sup>d</sup>. the P. O. prepared his mail; but that neither y<sup>r</sup>. Sub-Cont<sup>t</sup>, nor y<sup>r</sup>. self, tho' personally applied to, furnished the proper transportation. A fine of \$25 is in consequence entered against you. There must be more regular & correct management. P. carriers must be dismissed if they are deficient in ability or disposition to perform the public service.

J.M.L

J. Hon. W. Thompson

22<sup>nd</sup> March

H. of R.

A proposition was made some time ago to the Dept<sup>t</sup> by the proprietors of the Cont<sup>t</sup> covering the route from Milledgeville Ga. to Montgomery Al. for running the transportation thereon to 3 stage marks a week; & it has been accepted. This improved operation is expected to commence in the course of the Spring or at the beginning of Summer. As it was to increase existing & not to provide new transportation, no public proposals were issued - the usage of the Dept<sup>t</sup> requiring that the right of presumption in all such cases should be recognized in the Cont<sup>t</sup>.

J.M.L

J. H. Hopkins

22<sup>nd</sup> March.

Arlington Va.

If the fine complained of in y<sup>r</sup>. letter of the 18<sup>th</sup> Inst. is improperly imposed on you, it will be in y<sup>r</sup>. power to show the fact, by the Certificate of P.M. Y<sup>r</sup>. pay will be regularly transmitted as it becomes due.

J.M.L

Post Office Dept.  
22<sup>nd</sup> March 1826.

J. A. L. Mills

Vincennes Ind.

I<sup>r</sup>. propose to convey a mail on each of y<sup>r</sup>. trips from Indianapolis to Terra Haute, from the latter place to Clinton for \$100 a year, is accepted, & you are directed to commence the operation without delay, & continue it without interruption.

J.M.L

J. Wickham P. O.

East Ridge N.Y.

22<sup>nd</sup> March

In cases where P.M. detect N<sup>r</sup> papers in consequence of arrears of postage, as appointed in y<sup>r</sup>. letter of the 2<sup>nd</sup> inst. it is proper that they be kept on hand at least until the end of one year from the time the detection commenced, & then they may be sold for postage provided the publisher has been informed & refused to discontinue sending them or paying the postage.

J.M.L

J. Cook P. O.

22<sup>nd</sup> March

Ashfield N.H.

P.M. have a right to open N<sup>r</sup> papers in order to ascertain whether they contain clandestine news. It is their duty then to wrap them again. In case you find a letter marked single which you know or believe to be double, it is y<sup>r</sup>. duty to charge double postage for it & if the person claiming it disputes the charge, to require him to open it in y<sup>r</sup> office, to decide what it is single or double, & then charge postage accordingly.

J.M.L

J. Hon. R. Brown

22<sup>nd</sup> March

H. of R.

M. Mills is directed to convey a mail regularly from Terra Haute to Clinton, in conformity with y<sup>r</sup>. suggestion.

J.M.L

J. W. Moore P. O.

Franklin K.

22<sup>nd</sup> March

By writing to the P. O. at Bowling Green, if you require new boys, you can get them.

J.M.L

Post Office Dept  
23<sup>rd</sup> March 1826.

J. P. Drin. P. B.  
Nashville T.

It having been determined to confer on you the app't. of P. M. at Nashville, in the place of R. B. Barry Esq; resigned, it becomes proper to inform you that the discontinuance of all connection with the publication of a newspaper becomes an indispensable prerequisite to the fulfilment of this intention. The app't. will therefore be forwarded to Gov. Carroll, who will be requested to retain possession of it, until you lay before him sufficient evidence, to be returned to this Dept. of yr. having relinquished all concern in the publication of a newspaper. You are requested to avoid delay.

M.Y

W. Carroll, Gov. of T.  
Nashville T.

23<sup>rd</sup> March

I have the honor to transmit herewith a letter of App't. as P. M. at Nashville T. for Mr. John P. Erwin, which, in order to secure his compliance with an indispensable rule of the Dept., I take the liberty of committing to yr. Excellency's care. Mr. Erwin is instructed by a letter of this date that such is the direction given to this transaction, that you are requested to keep possession of his app't. until he places in yr. hands, satisfactory evidence of his having relinquished all concern in the publication of a paper. This evidence I must further request of yr. Excellency to have the goodness to forward, at yr. earliest convenience to this Dept.

M.Y

J. Walker  
Cahaba Alab.

23<sup>rd</sup> March

On the route from Montgomery to Cahaba, you will pass always by the way of Washington, & return to Memphis by the opposite side of the river.

M.Y

Post Office Dept  
23<sup>rd</sup> March 1826.

James Walker  
Columbia T.

As soon as convenient after the receipt of this letter you are to adopt the following schedule of postage on Route No. 32 - in lieu of the schedule by which you now operate. From Columbia you will proceed by Waynesboro, <sup>Carrollsville</sup> Hardinsville, Purdy, Perry Ch. & Lexington to Carroll Ch. at which last place you are to deliver yr. mail in time to be forwarded to the mail from Carroll Ch. to Jackson. This alteration you will perceive will dispense with yr. touching at Jackson altogether, & it is understood will not increase or diminish in a perceptible degree, while it will add considerably to public account. You will concert with the P. M. at Columbia such a change in the time of yr. arrival & departure, as this order may render expedient.

M.Y

Hon J. Houston

23<sup>rd</sup> March

14<sup>th</sup> of R.

Before I rec'd. yr. letter of the 22<sup>nd</sup> inst. a final determination had been made respecting the App't. of Mr. Barry's successor as P. M. to Nashville, & of course the opportunity of considering the propriety of yr. suggestion was then foreclosed. While it would have been both my duty & my pleasure to adopt the course you recommended, had I been found consistent with expediency, I cannot disjoin the apprehension, that the paramount control which it would give to every resigning P. M. over the designation of his successor, would probably have formed a strong objection to it.

M.Y

M. Dart P. B.

23<sup>rd</sup> March

Petit Gulf Al.

The mail now provided for the office Petit Gulf, is at a cost of \$100 a year, & should the operations of the office prove that it will justify further account another mail will be granted.

M.Y

S. Henderson Post  
Indianapolis Ind.

Post Office Dept.  
23 March 1826

There appearing to be a diversity of opinions respecting the residence of Mr. Evans, the Comt. ref'd to in yr. letter of the 24<sup>th</sup> ult. it is deemed expedient to authorize you to fix the times of his arrival & departure at Indianapolis as suitably to his residence as the public service will admit.

P.S. Mr. Mills has been authorized to carry a M.L. mail on every trip from y<sup>r</sup>. O. to Terra Haute, or from the latter place to Clinton.

1 Hon W. Hendricks  
H<sup>t</sup> of Reps.

23<sup>rd</sup> March

The P.M. at Indianapolis is instructed, in conformity with yr. suggestion of yesterday, to regulate the arrival & departure of Mr. Evans, with as much accord. to his residence, as the public service will allow

M.L.

G. Swaine P.M.

23<sup>rd</sup> March

Ashville N.C.

The mail from Raleigh to Ashville should pass by Salisbury. It is the direct route. There have been failures this winter on the line, which may have contributed to the derangements you mention in yr. letter of the 10<sup>th</sup> Inst. & which will form the subject of immediate instructions to the P.M. at Raleigh.

M.L.

R. Jones P.M.

23<sup>rd</sup> March

Harmony Grove Ga.

In reference to the subject of yr. letter of the 3<sup>rd</sup>. you will require the Comt. to fix an hour & a day for calling at yr. office; which if he declines, the Dept. will fix for him.

M.L.

Post Office Dept.  
23 March 1826

B.B. Smith P.M.  
Raleigh N.C.

Complaints of failures & misdirected letters, on the Raleigh, Salisbury & Asheville line are rec'd from the last named place. A letter mailed at Raleigh for Asheville is said to have reached its destination 4 weeks afterwards endorsed Nashville T. Another mailed the 13<sup>th</sup> Jan'y. shared the same fate. In Sept. a packet forward<sup>d</sup> by the Govt. to the Commissioners to the Cherokee Nation, reached Asheville in Nov. by way of Nashville T. You will be good enough to point out the cause of these irregularities if you can & endeavour to remove them.

J H Walker

23<sup>rd</sup> March

Waynesville N.C.

M.L.

Before the receipt of yr. letter of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Inst. the Hon Mr. Carson had been informed that it was not thought proper to increase either yr. time or yr. compensation

M.L.

B.P. Rogers P.M.

23<sup>rd</sup> March

Covington Ky.

M.L.

Information rec'd rec'd from Mr. Hicks of Ligonier dated the 8<sup>th</sup> Inst. from which it appears that up to that time the order which was directed to you on the 20<sup>th</sup> Oct. last had not been executed. You are requested to say whether it was rec'd, & if so why it was not complied with. It directed you to forward certain pamphlets to Mr. Hicks - a direction which is now repeated, & will be enforced.

M.L.

J. B. Hicks

23<sup>rd</sup> March

Ligonier Ky.

Another order founded on the facts communicated in yr. letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> Inst. is this day issued to the P.M. at Covington; whose neglect is unpleasing & unaccountable.

M.L.