

Post Office Dept.

23 Aug. 1827.

J. R. Richards P.M.
Kingston T.

Complaint is again made, that you frequently commit the care of yr. o. to a boy, who is carelessly leaving it often at the door standing open - that you are frequently absent, & other individuals have sustained inconvenience from the delay of letters at yr. o. I had hoped that after the representations &c. of last year, no further cause of Complaint could be given. If yr. duties & practice of physic place it out of yr. power conveniently to pay the necessary attention to the duties of the P.O. & that complaint should cease, would it not be well to resign the office?

M.C.

J. G. Bowden P.M.

23rd Aug.

Northumberland Pa

Complaint is made to this Dept. from some of the Offices in the district of Country between the mouth of Lycoming & Tioga that in consequence of yr. forwarding letters for that region, by the North East branch of the Susquehannah they are much longer reaching their destination than they w^d. be if sent by Williamsport &c. on the west branch route. You will please to examine closely before despatching yr. mails, that those for Troy, Bowdertown, Willsboro & others on the head waters of Lycoming, Loyalsock, Sherry & Tioga, all be forwarded by way of Elmwood, Lycoming, &c. to ensure greater expedition & regularity.

M.C.

J. A. Roland P.M.

23rd Aug.

Mr. & Mrs. H. Ward, a mercantile Co.

I have rec'd. the memorial signed by yr. & other citizens in yr. vicinity on the subject of extending the mail account in stages from Phil^a to Lancaster via routes 141 & 155. You will please to ascertain from the proprietors of the stages, or others at what price the service can be rendered, & communicate the same.

M.C.

Post Office Dept.

23 Aug. 1827.

J. Willis & Rand
Boston M.

The "Youth's Companion", from the copy enclosed to me, would seem to come nearer to a Magazine than newspaper, but as the charge of postage is less on the latter than the former, I incline to give the law a liberal construction, & rate it as a newspaper. The law, which fixes the charge of postage on a newspaper, has no reference to the size of the paper but to its denomination. A newspaper printed on the $\frac{1}{4}$ part of a sheet must be charged the same postage as if it were as large as the "Nat^l. Intelligencer". At the last session, on my application, the postage on pamphlets was reduced, when printed on a size less than a sheet. This was done to favor the circulation of small tracts, which are believed to be highly useful & the postage on which, under the former law, was more than the price of the book. There are no half sheet newspapers. The postage on a half sheet pamphlet, may be often higher than the full charge on a newspaper. The two papers enclosed, should be charged, as two newspapers, whether separated or not. This construction is within the letter & spirit of the law. No subscriber for his own use can be presumed to want two copies. & if two or more copies could be printed on one sheet, the law could be avoided with impunity, unless postage should be charged for each copy.

M.C.

Washington R. O'Hara

23rd Aug.

Post Doctor O.

Have rec'd. of letter of the 13th I observe in regard to yr. enquiry, that where stages are established on a route, proposals should specify the mode of conveyance - if on horseback, in like manner (if not otherwise directed) in the latter case, proposals will be rec'd. & considered for the adoption of stages. In all cases, charges are noted, & if found desirable, adopted.

M.C.

Post Office Dept.

23^d Aug. 1827.J. B. Bryan Post
Perfield N.Y.

If the pieces of cloth ref'd to in yr letter of the 8th inst, as being contained in a letter & for which you charged as for separate letters, did not when connected with the letter, in which they were enclosed, weigh an ounce, no more postage can be charged than for a single letter. In yr charge of 6^½ cents for each of the pieces of cloth you were clearly within the spirit of the law, but strictly, the provisions of the law, do not embrace the case, unless the weight as above remarked, exceed an ounce. When a letter is plainly directed to Perfield from Utica or elsewhere, & the person whose superscription it bears resides at another place, & you are requested to forward the letter to his place of residence, you should charge us add^c postage the same amt. as if the letter were originally mailed at Perfield for such place. And you will make this charge altho' you may have made yr. return of the post bill from Utica, to the Genl. P.O.

McLean

Isaac Tonkins

23 Aug.

Advices from Charlestown say that a man calling himself J Hall, answering to the description of y^r J Hall, is at the Carolina Coffee House in that City; who has been frequently seen there within the last year, without professing to have any particular business; & who lately ret^d from an excursion to Montreal, Quebec &c, professing an intimate knowledge of the Niagara Country &c.

The officer who pursued the J Hall, who left the post route with Gates &c Montreal, informed Mr. Allen of New York, that J Hall may possibly be found at Mr. Stewart's Carolina Coffee House, Charlestown. The officer last heard of him near Preewick, he may have passed over the Lake at Kingston & punctuated thro' by Easton P. to Phil. Norfolk &c.

He has arranged to sail in the ship Scioence for Liverpool England, about the 1st Sept. — I make you this communication, that you may govern yr. movements accordingly

P. Duplicates to Buffalo, Rochester &c

M.L.

Post Office Dept.

23 Aug. 1827.

James Percival
Esq^r. Genesee N.Y.

I have in no case interfered with the advertising of what is called dead letters, by P. Ms, further than to require them to publish in a paper which has the largest circulation in the vicinity of the office. At some of the large offices, where such letters are advertised monthly, it is the practice to publish in several papers. I have been pleased with this arrangement, as it is sometimes more satisfactory to the public, & does not increase the expense of the Dept. In giving the notice there is but one object in view, & that is, to inform those who have letters in the office that they may be taken out of the plan best calculated to attain this object, should always be adopted. I shall write to the P. Ms. of Genesee, on the subject.

McLean

P. Masters
Genesee N.Y.

23 Aug.

Mr. Percival who publishes a paper in yr. village, complains that you do not give such notice of the dead letters in yr. P. Ms, as is best calculated to inform the persons interested. That you publish only in one paper, which may not give as wide a circulation, as if the notice were occasionally given in the paper of the writer. Believing that this publication should be directed by the P. Ms., as a small patronage attached to their office I have in no instance interfered or imposed the smallest restriction farther than to require, that the notice should be published in a paper that had the widest circulation in the vicinity of the office. The object of the notice is to inform the persons interested, & the mode best calculated to attain that object, will always be most pleasing to me. At some of the large offices where dead letters are advertised monthly, as in New York, the publication is made in 2 or 3 papers, alternately. I leave this subject to yr. discretion, with the request that you will publish in such paper or papers as may best attain the above object, & meet the general approbation.

McLean

Post Off. Dept.

23. Aug. 1829.

I am Redit by Balto.

In answer to yr letter of yesterday, I have the honor to enclose you a newspaper which contains a correspondence between this department and a committee of the Merchants of Philad^{ps} on the propriety of charging inland postage on letters transported on certain waters. A general exposition of the law is given in this correspondence, and it is believed that it will be more satisfactory to you, than if I were to give a more limited view of the subject. If the certificates to which you refer, contained in a blank envelop, related to the cargo on board themselves, the postage will be remitted on presenting this letter to the Post Master. If there are any points on which you may wish to know the construction of the departmental, they not being contained in the enclosed correspondence, it will afford me pleasure, at any time, to give you my views respecting them.

I am sure you will see in the construction which has been given to the law, no other motive than to desire to execute its provisions, and advance the general interests.

As I have no other paper which contains the enclosed letters to Philad^{ps}, you will ~~confer~~ confer a favour, by returning the paper, when it may suit your convenience.

Yrs Dft^r S. McLean

J. J. Skinner P. M.

Baltimore Md.

23rd Aug.

Inland postage should be charged on letters, only for the distance they have been conveyed in Vessels, or waters established as mail routes. By the 3^d sec. of the Law of 1823 "all waters on which SteamBoats regularly pass from port to port, shall be considered and established as post roads, subject to the provisions contained in the several acts regulating the P. O. establishment".

A Steam Boat regularly plies from N. Orleans to the Belize a distance of about 100 miles. For this distance, & any other distance which a vessel from N. Orleans may pass on a mail route, as above defined, in its passage to Balto. inland postage should be charged on all letters conveyed by it. The same rule will apply on all other routes.

When packets relate to the cargo, such as bills of lading, certificates &c, no charge of postage should be made. A liberal construction in such cases, is best calculated to ensure a punctual compliance with the law, as to

the delivery of letters, & will avoid any opposition to its provision. It would be well to make contracts with all the masters of yr. packet-boats, for the delivery of letters, & as an inducement for them to enter into Contract, you can agree to pay them three cents for each letter or packet they may deliver into the P. Offices.

McLean

J Green P. M.

Columbus Oh.

24 Aug. 1829.

I will thank you for early information, in regard to the average weight of the mail on the route to Augusta

Md.

J. Frazer P. M. ^{Augusta} from Fayetteville via Columbia
& McRae P. M. Fayetteville Md. " via Columbia

J. McNamee P. M.

Cooperstown N.Y.

24 Aug.

I have rec'd the memorial of the citizens in yr. vicinity for the establishment of a daily mail to Cherry Valley &c. I will thank to ascertain from Mr. Story at what price the account will be given by him, & advise me of the result.

Md.

J. A. Bryan P. M.

Ellicottville N.Y.

24 Aug.

If letter of the 15th has been rec'd. I have decided on granting the account of a 2^d weekly mail between Centreville & Ellicottville ~~post~~. Dr. Atkins can commence the service forthwith \$100 a year will be added to his pay. advise me of the period as I may have it noted.

Md.

R. Birmingham

Carlisle Pa.

24 Aug.

Yrs of the 15th has been rec'd. & agreeable to request I annex the respective routes, & the sum paid for the transportation of the mail thereon ^{1/3}.

Carlisle to York \$220

" to Strasburgh 95

" to Lancaster 104

Md.

Post Office Dept.

24th Aug. 1827.J. Baylies P.M.
Salem N.H.

I have rec'd. y^r letter of the 20th. M^r. Morgan's contract has been annulled. I wish you to enter into an engagement for supplying the route for the balance of the year, on the best terms possible. Morgan rec'd. \$195 a year. If you cannot make an engagment readily, advertise for proposals. Advise me of the person employed & a cont. will be sent for execution. Y^r vigilance is duly appreciated.

M.L.

J. D. Hoyt P.M.
Patterson N.Y.24th Aug.

Y^r letter of the 14th enclosing the "Proposals" of Mr. Roswell Baker, to convey the mail in stages twice a week, between Danbury & Patterson, for the sum of \$60 a year, & to relinquish his claim to the proceeds of the offices on that line, has been rec'd.; & I have decided to adopt the change, & have so voted on Mr. Baker's cont. Please to let me know when the service is in operation.

M.L.

Geo Suckley
New York City24th Aug.

I will thank you for the information, at what time will the addl. Steam Boat, between Mobile & New Orleans, be in motion?

M.L.

Dennis Pennington
Corydon Ind.24th Aug.

The mail routes were advertised in my absence, & I regret the several errors have occurred. Indeed it is impossible to avoid some inaccuracies. It will not follow that the mail will be transported on each route, exactly as described; a bidder may in his bid, propose any change that he deems for the public interest & it will be duly considered. All offices on a mail route, are not often named - as they are named merely for the purpose of designating the route, an omission of one or more affords no evidence of their being discontinued.

M. L.

Post Office Dept.

24th Aug. 1827.H. Sanford
Norfolk Va.

Y^r letter of the 14th has been rec'd. In regard to the proposition submitted I wish you to state distinctly, whether it is your intention to run two stages a week from Norfolk to Washington D.C. without any add^d. expense, but in consideration of dispensing with one mail weekly, between Somerton & Edenton.

M.L.

R. B. Cranston P.M.
Newport R.I.24th Aug.

I have rec'd. y^r letter of the 15th. If the delay in the departure of the stage for New Bedford, to the hour of 11 A.M. or on the arrival of the Steam Boat as suggested shall be found beneficial & convenient to the course & shall not derange the connection of the mails - it may be adopted - if so advise me therof - Leave Newport, Monday Wednesday & Friday at 8 A.M.

Arrive at N. Bedford same day 5 P.M.
New B.^r. to Boston - leave Tuesday Thursday & Saturday no 3 A.M.

M. L.

Dennis Carnall
Cincinnati O.24th Aug.

The proposals for mail contracts were published in my absence, & I regret to find many inaccuracies in the descriptions of the routes, & in some cases of the routes themselves. You will observe that any bidder is at liberty to propose in his bid any changes that he may deem calculated to promote the public convenience, & in examining the bids, his suggestions are duly considered, & if approved of, are adopted.

It w^r be well for you to bid to convey the mail as advertised, on the route from Cincinnati to Goshen, for a specific sum, & also propose for a certain sum, to transport it on the nearest & best route. I have changed, as you will observe, in the Intelligence & Journal, the term of the P.M. contracts from 2 to 4 years, being sensible that the interest of the public required the alteration. In the other states, named, the contract will be made for 3 years. Heretofore there has been but 3 contract districts in the Union, except 4th year, no contracts were made - 4 districts have recently been made, & as the states where the contracts are proposed to be made for two years, are connected with others, in

which the mail contracts will expire at the same time, it was deemed necessary to limit the term of the contracts about to be made, as above stated. It is necessary that all the contracts in the same district should expire at the same time.

J. M. Lean

J. Bryan P.M.

24. Aug. 1827.

/ Hopkinsville Ky.

A mail carrier has no right to carry letters, pamphlets or newspapers, out of the mail, unless where he has stipulated in his contract, for the privilege of carrying newspapers & pamphlets; & then, the privilege is viewed as a part of the consideration he receives from the Dept. In some cases where a P.O. is remote, there may be no impropriety in a mail carrier delivering newspapers to subscribers. Hand bills or tickets, may be conveyed out of the mail, but a printed circular letter, is in no respect different, as it regards postage, from a written letter, a post rider violates his duty where he carries it out of the mail. If he offends in this way often being informed what the law is, he should be dismissed.

J. M. Lean

J. Ann Peacock Esq.

24. Aug^t. 1827

/ P. M. Harrisburg Pa.

That the Post Office lately established at New Caledonia may be supplied once a week with a mail, I request you will consult Mr. White the P. Master, and enter into a contract with a person to supply it once a week, or twice, or twice if it can be effected at a small expense. The period for making the mail contracts for the middle section of the U.S. being near at hand it is only necessary to make it for the short time, which is yet to intervene, a small post master may be procur'd for the purpose if you have none on hand, by order of

J. M. Lean

Post Office Dept.

24. Aug^t. 1827.

/ Mr. Charles Bolles,
Hartford, C. T.

A great press of business, which I have had, since my return from the West, has prevented my acting upon your proposal until now. I am pleased to find that the printing of blanks can be done lower than the price at present paid, and as I am desirous of retrenching every unnecessary expenditure in my Dept., I shall give a very favorable consideration to your proposition.

Blanks for the Genl. Post Office for the New England and New York States, have for many years past, been printed at Boston at prices, first fixed by Contract, and since the expiration of the Contract, the same prices, I believe have been paid. On the failure of Mr. Read, he informed the Dept. that he had transferred his printing materials to Messrs True & Green, whom he recommended as gentlemen of good character, and who would print the blanks and distribute them for the same compensation paid to him. I think he also stated that they had in their employ the person who attended to the distribution under him, and that the business would be in all things well conducted.

Messrs True & Green under the above arrangement, have done the printing and distribution, to the satisfaction of the Dept.

Last winter a proposition was made through the Hon. Mr. Webster, by the same one, I believe, in Boston, to do this printing, but it was not deemed, at that time, expedient to make the change. The correct distribution of the blanks is as much importance, as the printing of them, and it is an object with the Dept. to have one employed who is acquainted with the manner of distributing them.

In order to lighten the mail, it is desirable that the blanks should be printed as near the place where they are to be used as practicable. But, to have them printed at a great number of places, at the Capital, for instance, of each state, would reduce the quantity so much, as necessarily to enhance the expense of printing. I have therefore endeavored to fix on a proper medium, which will be likely to combine more advantages to the Dept., than any other.

At New York City, the blanks are now printed for that state, wrapping paper & twine are also furnished there to the offices of that & the neighboring states of N. Jersey. The blanks for New England at one place, and whether that shall be Boston or Hartford, is perhaps not very important. The most eligible point for distribution would be, at the centre of business, from which the great mail routes branch. Boston, would therefore, seem to be rather preferable to Hartford.

as it is nearer the centre of the Country to be supplied, and the principal place of business.

If I were now to accept your bid, because you offer to do the work lower than Messrs True & Green, an observance of the same rule, would compel me to take the printing from you, when any one should propose to do it for a less sum. This course would not be consistent with the principles of justice, and could not be beneficial to the Deptt. I have therefore concluded to advertise for proposals for the printing and distribution, and shall be very happy to make the contract with you, provided the terms you may offer be more advantageous than others. From the respectable recommendations presented by you, there will be no hesitancy, in confiding in your engagements -

You will see the advertisement in the Boston papers -

Ephraim W. Weston, Esq.
Watertown, C.

25th

J.M.C.

Your letter advising of the loss of money, in April last is duly rec'd. An inquiry has been instituted - Every thing in the power of the Deptt shall be done to effect the discovery, and if successful you will be immediately informed -

John Brown, P.M.
Puttledge, Tenn.

25th

J.M.C.

In reply to your letter of the 10th you did right to charge the postage on the letter contained in the parcel of news-papers, which no doubt was introduced without the knowledge of the P.M. at Lynchburgh, to whom, however you will please to write, and enquire into the case, that the person who committed the wrong may be traced -

J. G. Seary, P.M.
Tallahassee, Fla. Dec.

25th

J.M.C.

In reply to yours of the 8th you were right in advising that strong linen bags be procured for the convenience of transporting the mail - Attention is necessary that they be of proper fabric and dimensions:

A P.M. when absent from his office temporarily, he is considered to have the right to frank his letters -

J.M.C.

Post Office Dept.

25th Aug^t 1827.

Richard Powell, Esq.

Phila Pa. In reply to your letter of the 17th Inst^t, an enquiry was immediately instituted into the cause of the delay of letters, sent from Phila to Hallsborough, Va. but has not as yet resulted satisfactorily - It will be continued and the remedy applied, with the least delay.

J.M.C.

William H. Coffin, P.M.

Hudson, N.Y.

25th

In reply to yours of the 20th Inst^t, an executive Officer is not answerable for the policy of the law, he is bound to execute it. The law referred to can easily be sustained on sound policy. The river Hudson is a mail route - If letters, not relating to the cargo, may be conveyed by sloops etc, on the river at pleasure, it will be resorted to as a conveyance, greatly to the prejudice of this Deptt. Permit me to refer you to the 3^d Sec. of an "act to discontinue certain post roads, and establish others," passed in March 1823 - and to the 19th Sect. of the P. Office laws of 1825.

By a liberal construction of the provisions of the 5th Sec. of the same law, Vessels which regularly ply upon a mail route may convey letters under an implied or express contract with the Deptt, their Commanders delivering them into the P. Office, and receiving for each letter two, and under special agreement, three cents. No other construction could save the master of a Vessel from incurring the penalty of fifty dollars, for carrying letters on a mail route -

In all cases material to the interest of the P.O. Deptt, it is important that its officers should promptly resort to the most efficient means for its protection - Having the sanction of the laws, little is to be apprehended from the displeasure of those by whom they have been violated. The more virtuous and enlightened portion of the community will applaud the course -

Hon. J. C. Allen,
Greenfield, Ms.

25th

J.M.C.

The proposals were made out and published in my absence, and I regret to find several inaccuracies have occurred, none of which I believe will affect the public accommodation.

The route you report to can be hit for, as advertised, and also in another bid, it would be proper to cover the entire route, as established -

J.M.C.

Post Office Dept.
25 Augt. 1827.

✓ R. L. Duerson, Esq.
Fredericksburg, Va.

The record of the judgement against Breeder is returned. You as Sheriff, can have no claim on the Deptl. for the pay of Breeder, although you may hold an execution against him. Such an interest, is not liable to be levied on, by execution, unless there be a special Statute in Vt., and such Statute could not be considered, as in force, within this District -

No Court, even a Court of chancery can impose its powers and decree that money shall be paid in any other manner, than in pursuance of the contract with Breeder. If such a power could be exercised, the operations of the U. States mail might be suspended, at the pleasure of the creditor of any Contractor. The Money cannot be controlled, until it reaches the possession of the Contractor. Then, it becomes his, and is liable to the claims of his creditors. Before it reaches his posse^s, it is the money of the government, and is alone subject to its disposition -

J.M.L.

✓ Mr. J. H. Thornton,
Portsmouth, Ohio.

25th

The P. M. Govt. has not power to discontinue posts routes or establish new ones. He may change a route, if the public interest require it.

Perhaps your notice may induce those who are interested in the present route, to make the necessary repairs.

Your application must be addressed to Congress, if the subject be, to discontinue a part of the present route -

J.M.L.

C. Scofield, P. M.

25th

✓ Lancaster, Ohio.

By the 13th Sec. of the P.O. Law, a P. M. is prohibited from sending by mail any parcel exceeding 3 lbs. -

A mail very recently arrived from the West brought a box from your office to the address of Doctor Wm. Thornton weighing upwards of 12 lbs., which I presume must have been put into the mail without your knowledge -

J.M.L.

Post Office Dept.
25 Augt. 1827.

R. Bache, P.M.
Phila. Pa.

At present, as I understand, the mail for the peninsula in Delaware, departs from Phila in the morning stage, and remains at Wilmington until the following morning. The object of the lately proposed arrangement, is, to send all letters for the above place that may be deposited in your office, before the departure of the Wilmington boat. These letters would be taken on by the stage the next morning from Wilmington. This would give the advantage of near half a day to the citizens of Phila, who wish to write to the South east of Wilmington -

The principal mail would of course be sent in the stage in the morning as it is now carried, and the arrangement with the Wilmington boat, would only be, to take the letters mailed after the departure of the mail stage, and before the departure of the boat - I shant suppose two or three cents a letter would be deemed an ample compensation for this service -

J.M.L.

✓ Moses Hodson, P.M.
Levant, Me.

27th

Your letter of the 8th Inst. is rec'd. - In many instances to the east, in consequence of the low prices, at which contracts were taken, Contractors were permitted to carry news-papers outside the mail, for their private emoluments. The case you mention is considered by the Amt^t P. M. Genl. to be one of those so permitted - I applaud your watchful attention to the interest of the Deptl.

J.M.L.

✓ J. R. Taylor, P. M.
Mayville, Ill.

27th

In reply to yours of the 13th ult: rec'd. 20 Inst: It is expected that P. Ms will use their utmost exertions to examine & despatch the mail at all times -

In some Contracts where the extent of duty could be clearly defined, a certain time is mentioned for opening & despatching the mails - At small offices seven minutes is considered a reasonable time, and at very small offices it has been done in from 3 to 5 Minutes -

J.M.L.

Post Office Dept.

27 Augt 1827.

Abel Hawkins, Esq.
Charleston, W. Va.

Your letter of the 31st ult. has been recd. The proposals for mail routes, were publishing during my absence; and your letter first directed my attention to the time, fixed, for those of Ky. Your remarks on the subject are just, and merit my acknowledgment and I have accordingly, changed the period to four years. Enclosed is the advertisement -

The amt paid under present Contracts, for the service between Louisville and Maysville is \$12,656 -

J. McL.

Ab M. Clancy, P.M.

27th

✓ Wellsburg, W. Va.

Your letter of the 17th has been recd. I find on reference that route 24 has been provided for under the proposals of last year, under modification, thus - Morgantown to Wheeling; thence to Wellsburg. The answer given you on the 24th March, appears to have been predicated on your allusion to a new route. I shall be glad to have Mr. Goldensburgh bid for any of those under publications -

✓ Messrs Strother, Hennis & Youmans
Charleston, S. C.

27th

The P.M. at Parkers Ferry has advised me, that you do not visit his office with a mail - you will please to give directions forthwith, for that service - Your schedule embraces Charleston, Jacksonboro; Parkers Ferry, Pollocks, Ocootaliga, Crosswhatchie, Bolans, Parrysburg &c to Savannah. I shall transmit a Counterpart from your government -

✓ Mr. James Young,
Lancaster, Pa. N. C.

27th

Your letter of the 10th has been received. I regret that circumstances should have operated against the adoption of stages on your route; but the public interest & the rules of the Dept. require the course pursued. You will be allowed one month's extra pay.

J. McL.

Post Office Dept.

Augt 27. 1827.

J. Dozier, Esq.
China Grove, S. C.

Your letter of the 15th has been received. The explanation, in regard to the late failures, are satisfactory - I have required Messrs Malletts, to resume their schedule, and presume you will not in future, meet with unnecessary detention -

The connection must not be broken. If the Messrs Malletts fail to arrive at the hour they shall continue to be fined as they have been -

✓ Messrs C. & R. Mallett,

Fayetteville, N. C.

27th

There has been two failures of the mail at Charleston in consequence of the negligence of your drivers between Fayetteville and Godfrey's Ferry - instead of arriving at 6 P.M. they do not appear before nine. Mr. Dozier had been instructed to wait a reasonable time for your stages, and the drivers have abused the indulgence - Mr. Dozier will not be required to wait as heretofore - You will provide accordingly -

✓ Mr. Eli C. T. sign,
Sheffield, Mass.

27th

You will please to give an additional trip to the Mail between Pittsfield and North Adams. You can consult the P.M. of the latter in regard to the day -

✓ Peter Briggs, P.M.
North Adams, Mass.

27th

I have rec'd the memorial signed by myself & others, under date of the 7th Inst. and have decided to grant the additional mail to Pittsfield as prayed for - The Contractor has been instructed on the subject - you will fix the day, and advise me thereof -

✓ Sam'l. McColl, P.M.
Clarendon, Mass.

27th

I return the bond of Mr. Moore which you will observe has not been signed - the Contract only having been executed - planned to have it completed, as early as can be and forwarded -

J. McL.

Post Office Dept.

27 Augt 1827.

O. Hale, P.M.
Pleasant Vale,
Pike Co., Ill.

Your letter of the 17th ulto has been rec'd. - I observe, in regard to your remarks, that in arranging the new routes under the Contracts, about to be made, care will be taken to give accommodation to all points regarding them so far as the public interest will admit.

J. M. L.

27th

J. Rider, P.M.
Mount Vernon, N. C.

I return the Contract and bond of Mr. Rice - You will observe the Contract has not been executed. Please to have that and the Counterpart signed, and return them as soon as convenient.

J. M. L.

27th

G. Shober, P.M.
Salem, N. C.

I return the Counterpart of Mr. Blums Contract for signature - Please to return it as soon as executed.

J. M. L.

27th

J. Crozier, P.M.
Knoxville, Tenn.

I return the Counterpart of Tolls, Clys, & Lincolns Contract for execution - Please to return it as soon as completed.

J. M. L.

27th

J. Todd, P.M.
Greensburg, Pa.

The persons desirous of bidding for the route you refer to, can do so, as the route is advertised, and also, as, in their opinion, would most comport with the public convenience. Every suggestion of alteration in a bid, will be duly considered.

J. M. L.

27th

✓ Hon. J. Vance,
Urbana, Ohio.

Post Office Dept.

27 Augt 1827.

I inclose you a communication which I have just rec'd, respecting the late change in the stage route directed by you. It is not my intention to alter the arrangement made by you, as I intended to leave the subject entirely to your discretion, knowing that all the facts were familiar to you. As but a small sum is paid to the Contractors for the mail, they would complain of injustice, at any order from the Deptt, which would subject them to additional expense, or much inconvenience. From the information rec'd by me on my late tour, I had concluded to make the next contract, so as to require the stages to pass by Bellefontaine, and I do not see, how a change a few months earlier, could be very injurious to the contractors - I have, however, sent you the inclosed, that you may act on it, as you may deem best for the public, as I shall not controvert your direction - I was much pleased with the route -

J. M. L.

Messrs. Warden, Campbell & Reanhay,
Springfield, Clark Co., O.

27th

I have written to Genl. Vance respecting the change of your route, which he was authorized to make. Knowing that he was well acquainted with the roads, I was willing to rely on his judgment, as to the route that would be most convenient for the public - As you are paid a very small compensation for the conveyance of the mail, I do not think, it would be proper to subject you, by any order of the Deptt, to a serious inconvenience -

From the facts which were stated to me on my late tour, I have concluded, that under the next contract, the mail should pass by Bellefontaine. Whether change should be made, on the first of Sept^r. next, or after the new Contract shall go into operation, may not be very important to the public or the Contractors -

J. M. L.

J. B. Gardner, Esq.
Xenia, Ohio.

27th

I thank you for your communication of the 16th last, and shall always be greatly obliged to you at all times for information respecting the irregularities of the Mail. That a P.M. should feel any delicacy in reporting such irregularities is very extraordinary -

J. M. L.

Post Office Dept.

27th Augt 1827.

M. Fisher, P.M.
Springfield,
Clark Co., Ohio.

A gentleman of Xenia informs me
that he happened to be present at the opening of the mail there on the evening
of the 16th Inst. and was surprised to see fifteen packets by the same stage
all destined for places north of Springfield, to wit, Detroit, Sandusky,
Akron, Tiffin &c. - The stage was passing from Springfield to Cincinnati.

J.M.C.

Cyrus Lockwood, P.M.
Galena, Ill.

28th

It is represented to this Off^t that two letters of
the 8th & 14th June, and post marked 20th June last, directed to Rocky Island,
were mailed at your office and sent to Louis-ville subject to the postage
of 25cts. from whence they were forwarded to their destination, and 18¹/₄cts.
additional postage charged. Will you please to explain how this occurred?

J.M.C.

Mr. M. A. Gillespie,
Clyton, N.C.

28th

In reply to your letter of the 27th July an
enquiry has been instituted for tracing the missing letter and enclosed, cancelled
note - If successful you will receive the earliest advices from this Off^t

J.M.C.

Mr. Thomas Maund,
Albion, N.Y.

28th

Yours of the 24th is recd. - The postage on the
anonymous letter to you from Leesburg. I have directed to be remitted.

J.M.C.

Lewis L. Smith, P.M.
Albion, N.Y.

28th

You will be pleased to remit the postage on the
anonymous letter to Mr. Thomas Maund, bearing the post mark of the
Leesburg, office, N.Y.

J.M.C.

Post Office Dept.

28th Augt 1827.

Stan Clark, Esq.
P.M., Vernon Centre, N.Y.

I return you herewith the letter couched in yours
of the 24th Inst., which appears to contain an enclosure. Your charge of double
postage appears to be correct; but if not double, the receiver may have the
deduction made by the P.M. at Utica.

J.M.C.

Mr. Thos. Wright,

28th

Hudson, N.Y.

Your letter of the 8th Mo. 24th, is received. In relation
to the most direct route from Hudson, N.Y. to Frankfort Ky. the most
expeditious is by Baltimore & Wheeling. In future I recommend that you indicate
the route, on the left corner of your letter which you prefer it shall pass, viz.
via, "Baltimore, Wheeling, & Louisville," which will serve to guide the distributing
P. Masters, and ought not to fail of success.

I regret there should have occurred any delay on a route so well understood at
the distributing offices for the states through which your letters must necessarily
pass.

J.M.C.

Mr. Nathaniel Wolf,

28th

Charlottesville, Va.

In reply to your letter of the 23rd Inst. the energies
of the Off^t will be directed to the recovery of the missing letter from N. York.
An enquiry will be instituted without delay.

J.M.C.

Joseph Picklen, P.M.

28th

Lexington, Ky.

It is entirely unnecessary to send you a copy of your
letter respecting the flag being carried by the mail stage, as requested, as in that
letter, you expressly exonerated the contractors from any agency in the transaction.
Supposing from your communication, that it was the act of a mail carrier, or
some officious individual, I did not, nor write to the contractors on the subject.
If there has been any impropriety on the part of the drivers of the stage, I
have no doubt his employer will apply the proper corrective.

J.M.C.