

Post Office Dept

Hon John Thompson
H. of Reps.25th Feby 1830

On Post Route N. 396 Lower Sandusky (Ohio) to Detroit (Mic. Tenn) Edward Fifield was the original contractor to carry the mail thrice a week (and back) in two horse stages from the 1st Jan'y. 1828 to the 31st December 1831 for the yearly compensation of \$1200.

The latter end of February 1831 Gen'l. Harper (adormant Partner) claimed \$600 a year additional for running four horses in his stages instead of two horses, which on a representation of the late P.M.G. (and Col. Avery was allowed - viz - from the 1st Jan'y. 1828 to 31st March 1830 at \$600 per an. \$1350.

Gen'l. Harper did not claim additional compensation for any time subsequent to 31st March 1830 altho three quarters of the time had subsequently expired; because as he then alleged Mr. Fifield had transferred the contract to other hands, from (and after the 1st April 1830, and the transferees had agreed to transport the mail at the contract price during the remainder of its term, so that Mr. Fifield would not incur any additional expense.

Gen'l. Harper now claims the extra com-pensation from 1 April 1830 to December 31st 1831 on the ground that the same service has been performed during this latter period, (and urges in vindication of the claim, that the transfer of Fifield was not sanctioned by the Department. In answer it may be observed that the transfer of Fifield was by subcontract which did not require or contemplate the sanction of the Department. Fifield was still amenable to the Department, and in the articles of trans-fer he secured the amenability of the sub-contractors to him. It does not appear that either Gen'l. Harper or Mr. Fifield has incurred any extra expense for extra service performed by the sub-contractors. Nor does it appear that

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Gen'l. Harper contemplated receiving any extra allowance subsequent to the 31st March 1830, or, it is presumed he would have included it in his claim presented in February 1831.

Upon a reconsideration of the whole subject the claim is not allowed -

W. J. Barry
27thHon Wiley Thompson
H. of Reps.

As the Ge. l. Post off. Dept has no authority to establish the route proposed in the enclosed petitions without the interposition of Congress, the papers are returned to you without delay -

G. B. B.
27thHon. John Blair
H. of Reps.

The enclosed letter I have the honor to send you for your perusal & transmission -

G. B. B.
27thHon William Cabron
H. of Reps.

Pay for the transportation of the mail between Haverhill N.H. & Lyndon Vt. has this day been remitted the contract to Messrs. Stone, Bailey & Smith up to the first day of Jan'y. 1832 from the commencement of the service, and likewise a counter-part of their contract signed by the Postmaster General -

A. N. for P.M.G.

✓ Hon. J. R. Mitchell S Post Office Dept.
Ho. of Reps 3 27 Feb 1832

I am instructed to inform you, that no definite proposal has as yet been received from Mr. C. P. Mallett for the route from Laurel Hill, N. C. via of Barnettsville to Cheaw S. C. - but he expects to be in this city, in a few days, when the subject will be finally determined.

O. B. B.

28th

✓ Hon. Isaac C. Bates.

Ho. of Reps.

I am instructed to state that the changes recommended by your correspondent Mr. Hamilton on Post Routes No. 338 & 381- have been adopted since the 1st Jan'y. 1832 as certified to the Department by the Postmaster at Middle Granville - Mass. The letter of Mr. Hamilton herewith returned was handed to this Bureau for answer on yesterday

A. A. for P. M. G.

28th

✓ Hon. Thos. Davenport
Ho. of Reps.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a letter from Stephen Terry Esq. to your address requesting an alteration of the schedule for the route No. 2019. New London v. to Pittsylvania C. H. so as to leave New London on Monday Morning instead of Tuesday. & in reply, I am instructed to inform you, that the request is granted & the Contractor directed to run that route agreeably to that arrangement.

O. B. B.

Post Office Dept.
28 Feb. 1832

✓ Hon. A. Buckner
Ho. of Reps.

I have the honor to inform you that an additional trip per week, has been ordered on the route from Shannetown to Jackson.

The P. M. G. is compelled to decline the diversion of the the route by Cape Girardeau as by so doing Bainbridge would be left un supplied & the distance would be considerably increased -

O. B. B.

28th

✓ Hon. J. W. White

Ho. of Reps.

I have the honor to acknowledge the the receipt of your communication of the 21st enclosing a letter from A. Kelly to your address in relation to compensation for carrying the mail from Webbville Fla. to Campbellton, and in reply, I am instructed to say, that as there is no evidence in the Dept. relative to the performance on that route, the Postmaster at Webbville has been requested to inform the Dept. who has been carrying the Mail there, the time, by what authority &c. & as soon as his answer shall have been received, you shall be advised of the result.

O. B. B.

28th

✓ Hon. Lewis Stewart

Ho. of Reps.

I am instructed by the P. M. G. to inform you that Mr. Shoops claim of \$135²⁵ for his services and losses sustained by the sale of the property which he had provided for the performance of his contract is allowed -

O. B. B.

Post Office Dept.
28th Feb 1832

✓ Hon. James Ford
Hs. of Reps.

I am instructed by the P. M. G. to inform you that Mr. Gillis the contractor on the route from Bellefonte to Clear has been written to and requested to inform the Dept. as early as practicable for what sum per annum he will convey the mail twice or three times a week in a two horse stage between Smithport and Clear. When his answer shall be received the decision of the Postmaster General will be communicated to you.

O. B. B.

29th

✓ Hon Wm Hendricks
U. S. Senate

I have the honor to inform you, that in conformity with your request & that of others the Postmaster General has directed a mail three times a week between Indianapolis & Lawrenceburg in four horse post coaches.

O. B. B.

28th

✓ Hon Theo. Frelinghuysen
U. S. Senate

I am instructed by the P. M. Genl. to inform you in answer to your letter of 20th Inst. that the Postmaster at Orange has been written to and requested to offer Mr. Vreeland the proprietor of the line of stages now running between Orange and New York twenty five dollars per annum to convey the mail six times a week between those points. As Mr. Vreeland has the stock on the road, and is running stages for the accommodation of passengers, it is considered that, that sum would be an ample compensation for the service.

9.

Post Office Dept.

I am also instructed to transmit to you the enclosed memorial, to be used at your discretion, the P. M. Genl. not having the power to comply with the request of the memorialists. Legislative interference will be necessary to establish the route.

O. B. B.

March 1st 1832

✓ Hon. Bates Cooke
Hs. of Reps.

I am instructed to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 27th ult. enclosing a Petition from New Haven N. Y. for the establishment of a Post Route from Kempville to Lockport N. Y. with proposals for carrying the mail thereon by Joseph Yeud. should the route be established by Congress the proposal of Mr. Yeud will have all due consideration.

A. T. for P. M. G.
jet.

✓ Hon. C. A. Wickliffe
Hs. of Reps.

After having read the enclosed letter to Mr. Penny will you be pleased to forward it to him.

O. B. B.

Post Office Dept.
29th Feb. 1832.

Hon. B. Lyon

Its of Rep't.

Your letter of the 28th Inst. is received. I am much surprised to learn that any excitement has been created in consequence of my giving the contract for the route from Bowling Green via Russellville to Nashville to John Gray Esq. of Elkhorn, in preference to Mr. Henry, and must conclude that it has originated in a misunderstanding or a misrepresentation of the facts. At the letting of the contracts in October last, the route from Louisville to Nashville was accepted to Stough, Henry and Johnson. It then intended to continue the old plan of having three of the mails from Louisville to Nashville carried by Russellville, thus making it form a part of the Louisville route, and therefore assigned the route from Bowling Green via Russellville to Nashville to Stough, Henry and Johnson, as it is important that the whole line should be in the hands of the same individuals and the said individuals were required under this arrangement to alternate via Russellville, for a pro rata compensation.

At the earnest solicitation of many highly respectable individuals and the strong representations of the contractors, and with a view to afford the earliest intelligence to the commercial cities interested, and for the purpose, if practicable, to extend further facilities on various other routes, I re-examined, after the letting of the Contracts in October, and before the 1st of January, the proposals of Stough, Henry &c for improvements on divers routes, in which it is proposed among other improvements that "on route 1742 from Louisville to Nashville, we bind ourselves to leave Louisville at 10 o'clock A.M. and arrive at Nashville next day at 5 o'clock P.M. and returning leave Nashville at 16 o'clock A.M. and arrive at Louisville by 5 o'clock P.M."

The Department will perceive that ample time is given between the arrival of the

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Eastern & Southern mails, for letters to be received and answered prior to the departure of these mails, but if the Department think proper to give less time at those points, we will depart at any hour and maintain the same speed; all of the above we will perform in good faith on this route, and all other extra service as recited in route N° 1731; it is understood that we bid for this route daily Louisville by Bowling Green on the direct road to Nashville.

On mature consideration of the several propositions contained in the proposal alluded to. I determined to direct the contractors to afford the increased facilities. The acceptance of the last proposition left by the route from Bowling Green via Russellville to Nashville without a contractor, inasmuch as Stough Henry &c had not bid for it, it not being mentioned in their proposals, and then did not then exist the same reason for having it in the hands of the same individuals, who transported the mail from Louisville on the direct route, as existed before.

A member of Congress understanding the effect of the change stated, called on me for the purpose of having the route from Bowling Green by Russellville to Nashville accepted to Mr. Henry. I immediately had reference to the proposals, from which I discovered that Mr. Henry had made no specific bid for this route, but had included it in a joint bid for four routes, three of which had been accepted to other individuals; with a view, however, that Mr. Henry should be offered the route, if he should seem to be willing to take it at as low a rate as any other individual or individuals who proposed for it, and whom I regarded it expedient to accept as a contractor. I subtracted the amount, at which the three other routes alluded to have been accepted, from the amount of his joint bid (and perceived), by this rule and I had no other data, that his bid amounted to a sum of 3637 dollars. His losing bid, when

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his bid, who was then in this city insisted should be considered, was 2980 dollars, being less than Mr. Henry's. The time for putting the new Contracts into operation had so nearly arrived as to render a correspondence with Mr. Henry or any other individual in Kentucky previous to the 1st ^{day} of Jan'y. wholly impracticable, and Mr. Gray's bid being regarded sufficiently low for the service to be performed, and he being known as a good contractor, I determined to accept his proposition and accordingly a contract was forwarded to him.

W. J. Barry.
March 5th 1830

✓ Hon James Bates
Ho. of Reps.

The enclosed letters are for your perusal and transcription. Mr. Morrison has been paid for supplying Chandlerville (Maine) with mails from the 15th January 1829 and it is but proper that he should be made to refund advances made him for services which it now appears he never performed. Mr. Hausey's letter to your address is retained as evidence against Morrison & justification for the action of the Department in the premises.

A. Nelson for P.M.G.
5th

✓ Hon. A. Rancher
Ho. of Reps.

Agreeably to your request of the 28th ulto. I enclose you a copy of your letter of the 6th ulto. to the Department on the subject of Route No. 2143. Raleigh N.C. to Salisbury

O. D. Brown

Post Office Dept.
5th March 1830

✓ Hon Sam'l. W. Smith
Ho. of Reps.

After having read the enclosed letter to Messrs. Hugh & Major Co. will you be pleased to forward it to them.

O. D. Brown
" 6th

✓ Hon Langdon Bethune
Ho. of Reps.

The claim of John Campbell appears to be perfectly just and satisfactorily vouched for, and will no doubt be allowed. the absence of the P.M. Genl. will however prevent a decision to day - on tomorrow as early as practicable the claim will be presented for Mr. Barry's consideration and the result forthwith communicated to you.

A. Nelson
for P.M.G.
6th

✓ Hon R. M. Johnson
Ho. of Reps.

The enclosed letter is returned to you with the information that the alterations desired by Mr. Jackson have been directed

O. D. B.

Post Office Dept.

✓ Hon. H. W. Bowen 3
March 6th 1832

As of Rep.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th ult. requesting information relative to the amount paid Mr. John Bowen for carrying the mail on route No. 218 Edgefield S.C. to Greenville, and in reply I am instructed to inform you, that Mr. Bowen's bid for that route is now on file at the U.S. Treasury Dept. that the original amount of his bid was six hundred dollars, but was afterwards altered to five hundred and fifty dollars and was accepted by the Departt. In filling his Contract for this and other routes, five hundred dollars appear to have been embraced for this route in question and Mr. Bowen was paid for his services five hundred dollars per annum from Jan. 1. 1831 to December 31. 1830 being four years.

O. B. B.

7th

✓ Hon. J. Tipton
W. S. Senate

I am directed to inform you that the original Contractor on the route from New Castle to Covington failed when the Contract was made with Geo. Smith who also having failed, the P.M. at Covington was directed to employ a person to carry the mail to Crawfordville until further arrangements can be made by the Department. The P.M. at Crawfordville has written to me on the subject & desired to state immediately how the mail is now carried.

O. B. B.

Post Office Dept.

✓ Hon. W. Hendricks
March 7th 1832

W. S. Senate

The enclosed petition is referred to you for that disposition which you may think best, as there is no such route established by law.

O. B. B.
7th

✓ Hon. J. Duncan
As of Rep.

The P. M. B. directs the enclosed papers to be referred to you, as there is no such route established by law, and therefore no power vested in him to act in the case.

O. B. B.
7th

✓ Hon. J. M. Robinson
W. S. Senate

The application for the mail to run three times a week on the route from Shawneetown to Carlyle, one trip by McClellan, and two by way of Equality, has been considered.

I have the honor to inform you that the improvement has been granted by the P. M. B., and the direction for its execution will be given soon.

O. B. B.
7th

✓ Hon. C. C. Clay
As of Rep.

I have the honor to refer the enclosed letter to you, as there is no such route established by law.

O. B. B.

Post Office Dept.
March 7th 1832

✓ Hon. Sam'l. J. Norton

As. of Reps.

The P.M. Genl. instructs me to inform you that the route from Gainesville to Jackson, has been assigned to Benjamin H. Scott.

O.B. Brown
7th

✓ Hon. A. H. Buckner

W. S. Senate

I have the honor to inform you that your application for a stage from Shawneetown to Cape Girardeau, and thence by Jackson & Greenville to some point in Arkansas, has been considered. The P.M. G. feeling at all times desirous to extend the facilities of the Dept. to the wants of his fellow citizens when the revenue will justify the expense, regrets that in this case the expense consequent upon the desired improvement, forbids his compliance with your request. As it regards a direct route from Jackson via St. Genevieve & Ste. Genevieve to St. Louis, there is no such route established by law and it is therefore a matter for the consideration of Congress.

O.B. B.
7th

✓ Hon. A. E. Wing

As. of Reps.

After having read the enclosed letter to Mr. Brown, will you be pleased to forward it to him -

O.B. B.

Post Office Dept.
March 7th 1832

Hon=

Mark Alexander

As. of Reps.

Your letter of the 6th. inst: in relation to the neglect of the contractor for route N^o 2040. Petersburgh Va to Halifax C. St. to supply Laurel Hill is received -

The contractor has again, (this day) been written to on the subject & directed to supply that office, and notified that his pay will be suspended for that route until he shall show good reasons for having refused to comply with the instructions of the Dept.

O.B. B.
7th

✓ Hon. James Ford

As. of Reps.

After having read the enclosed letter to Mr. Shurtliff, will you be pleased to forward it to him -

O.B. B.
8th

✓ Hon. James Standifer

As. of Reps.

The proposition for a two horse stage (having been again brought to the consideration of the P.M.G.) between Pickerville and Medium ville, I am instructed to state to you, that the sum of ten dollars per mile, being \$300, will be given for this improvement. If authorized to accept this proposition for the contractor, you will please signify it to the Dept. as early as practicable. The sum \$300 is definite & cannot be altered whatever may be the distance ascertained.

O.B. B.

Post Office Dept.

8 March 1852

✓ Hon. J. Tipton

W. S. Senate

I have the honor to inform you, that a mail has been ordered twice a week between Niles and Fort Wayne & that the contractors pay will be doubled.

O.B. B.

8th

✓ Hon. E. F. Plummer

Hs. of Reps

Your letter enclosing one from the citizens of Raymond was duly received, & I have the honor to state to you that the subject has been attended to.

O.B. B.

8th

✓ Hon. James Ford

Hs. of Reps

After having read the enclosed letter to Mr. Bull. will you be pleased to forward it to him?

O.B. B.

8th

✓ Hon. John G. Watkinson

Hs. of Reps

I am instructed by the P. M. G. to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 27th ulto enclosing the proposal of Mr. Hart for the contemplated route from Philadelphia to New Hope, and to state in answer that the routes provided for in the bill which has passed the House of Reps. cannot be put in operation until it shall have become a law, after which the 15th section of the Post Office Law renders it the duty of the P. M. G. to give twelve weeks public notice before entering into any contract for carrying

Post Office Dept.

the mail, that such contract is intended to be made, and the day on which it is to be concluded &c.

The proposal of Mr. Hart will be preserved for consideration when the period shall arrive for the letting of the contracts for the new Routes -

O.B. B.

8th

✓ Hon. Henry King

Hs. of Reps

After having read the enclosed letters to Messrs. Jacoby and Wetcknough will you be pleased to forward them to those gentlemen -

O.B. Brown

8th

✓ Hon. Philander Stephens

Hs. of Reps

After having read the enclosed letter to Mr. Hart will you be pleased to forward it to him?

O.B. Brown

8th

✓ Hon. George Greenell Jr.

House of Reps

The Postmaster at Albany N.Y. has been instructed to make up and forward mails for Greenfield and Boston Mass by Route No. 379 as requested in your note of this morning

A. Nelson fact
P. D. Greenl

Post Office Dept.

March 14-1832.

✓ Hon. Lewis Bondick

Hs. of Reps.

I am instructed by the P.M.G. Genl. to inform you in answer to the enclosed letter, that a similar application was made some time since thro' the Hon. Mr. Frelinghuysen, but the Post master Genl. not being authorized by law to establish the route, the petition which had been received on the subject was transmitted to him for legislative interference, if he should deem it advisable to give it that direction.

P.B.B.

10th

✓ Hon. A.H. Sherer

Hs. of Reps.

The letter of Mr. Gray the contractor on the route from Batesville to Little Rock is received. As it regards changing the schedule as desired by the contractor, the Post Master General has no objection to the change, but cannot make an additional allowance as the arrangement can be made without increasing his expedition and therefore without any increase of expense. You will please inform Mr. Gray and if he desires the change & it is not opposed by the Postmaster at Batesville it will be ordered.

P.B.B.

10th

✓ Hon Silas Bondick

Hs. of Reps.

I am instructed by the P.M.G. Genl. to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 8th Inst. and the memorial of divers citizens of Union County N.J. which accompanied it requesting that the mail may be carried daily between Newark and Patterson.

On the 2nd of Feb. last instructions were given to the contractors to transport the mail between the points above mentioned, then

Post Office Dept.

times a week until 1st of May next, and after that period six times a week, which it is hoped will be satisfactory to the memorialists.

P.B.B.
12th

✓ Hon. Jas M. White

Hs. of Reps.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a letter from T. Battell Esq. to your address, representing, that the contractor for the route N. 2478. Tallahasse, Fla. to New Mexico, does not visit Webbville with his stages, on said route.

The enclosed letter, which is forwarded for your perusal & transcription, will inform you what has been done in the premises.

P.B.B.

12

✓ Hon Jas. Mandifer

Hs. of Reps.

The enclosed letter is sent for your perusal and transcription.

P.B.B.

12th

✓ Hon John L. Brodhead

Hs. of Reps.

The enclosed letter to the Postmaster at Marlboro N.Y. relative to an application to the P.M.G. Genl. for an additional weekly mail between Milton and Newburgh via of Marlboro, is for your perusal and transcription.

A. Nelson

for the

P.M.G. Genl.

✓ Hon. J. S. Barlow
Do. of Reps.

Post Office Dept.
March 12th 1832

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 8th inst, strongly recommending the extension of the daily line from Warrenton to Orange C. St. on Route No. 1905. ^{a letter} and enclosing from the Contractor to your address specifying the sum for which he will perform the service, and in reply, I am instructed to inform you, that agreeably to your recommendation the proposal of the Contractor is accepted and he has been directed to commence the service on the 1st of April 1832 —

A. Nelson for P.M. General
12th

✓ Hon. Wm. Caborn
Do. of Reps

The enclosed letter to Mr. Elijah Doughton relative to increased pay on his route from Haverhill N.H. to Derby Line. Vt. for detention at Haverhill four hours viz. from 4. A. M. to 8. A. M. is for your perusal and transmission to Mr. Doughton.

A. N. for P.M.G.
12th

✓ Hon Sam'l. P. Brown
Do. of Reps

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 5th inst. proposing on behalf of Mr. James H. Tate, Contractor for Route No. 2154 Morgantown N.C. to Ashville, to run twice a week, in four horse coaches, on said route, for one thousand dollars per annum, additional compensation, and in reply, I am instructed to inform you, that the proposal is accepted, and the contractor has been directed to commence the service immediately

O.B. B.

✓ Hon. Joseph Sprague
Do. of Reps.

Post Office Dept.
March 12th 1832

The following is the arrangement of Route No. 2174. and schedules for the same - viz. from Raleigh N.C. via Smithfield Waynesboro, Spring Bank, Kingston, Cox's Creek and Love Creek to Newbern. & back, three times a week in two horse coaches; and if the increase of passengers shall render it necessary for them to run four horses, they are to do so without any additional increase of compensation.

Leave Raleigh every Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 5 A.M. Arrive at Newbern next day — by 7 P.M. Leave Newbern every Monday Wednesday & Friday at 5 A.M. Arrive at Raleigh next day — by 7 P.M.

O.B. B.
12th

✓ Hon A. G. Hawes
Do. of Reps

I am instructed by the P. M. Genl. to inform you in answer to your letter of 24th ulto that the Contractor on the route from West Point to Shawntown has been directed from and after the first day of May next to run thro' Haverhill and Bloomsport instead of Gorham. The application for the establishment of an office at Roberts' is referred to the proper branch for consideration.

The P. M. Genl. has decided to suspend for the present the further consideration of Mr. Clemens's proposition to carry the mail 3 times a week in 4 Horse York Coach es.

O.B. Brown