REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL.

Post Office Department, December 1, 1857.

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES:

SIR: Since entering on the administration of the Post Office Department, I have ventured on no new theories, nor attempted any innovations on the well-tried system established and practised upon by my predecessors. I have contented myself with endeavoring, as far as in my power, to perfect existing arrangements, and extend its facilities equally and fairly to every portion of our widely-extended country. In examining its present condition, it is worthy of observation that, while the total number of post offices created during the twenty years from 1827 to 1847 was but 8,146, the number established in just half that length of time, from 1847 to 1857, was 11,444. On the 30th of June, 1827, the whole number of post offices in the United States was 7,000; in 1837, 11,767; in 1847, 15,146; and on the 30th of June, 1857, 26,586. During the last fiscal year there have been 1.725 offices established and 704 discontinued, being a net increase of 1,021. The number of postmasters appointed during the year was 8,680. Of these appointments 4,767 were to fill vacancies occasioned by resignation; 1,681 by removal; 238 by death; 269 by change of names and sites, and 1,725 by the establishment of new offices. The total number of offices at this time is 27,148, of which 368 are of the class denominated presidential, their incumbents being subject to appointment by the President and Senate. The commissions of the higher class run four years from the date of confirmation, but the se of the lower are not limited.

TRANSPORTATION STATISTICS.

On the 30th of June last there were in operation 7,888 mail routes. The number of contractors was 6,576. The length of these routes is estimated at 242,601 miles, divided as follows, viz:

 Railroad
 22,530 miles

 Steamboat
 15,245

 Couch
 49,329

 Inferior grades
 155,497

The total annual transportation of mails was 71,906,067 miles, costing 86,622,046, and divided as follows:

Hailroad, 21,267,944 miles, at \$2,559,847—about ten cents and five mills a mile.

Steambeat, 4,518,119 miles, at \$991,998—about twenty-two cents a mile.

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Coach, 19,090,930 miles, at \$1,410,826—about seven cents and four mills a mile.

Inferior grades, 27,029,074 miles, at \$1,659,375—about six cents a mile.

Compared with the service reported on the 30th of June, 1856, there is an addition of 2,959 miles to the length of mail routes; 3,598,170 miles to the total annual transportation—being about 5 per cent.; and of \$586,572 to the cost, or 9% per cent.

The aggregate length of railroad routes has been increased 2,207 miles, and the annual trans ortation thereon 2,458,648 miles—11.

per cent.; at a cost of \$249,458, or 11, per cent.

The length of steamboat routes is greater by 294 miles, and the annual transportation by 277,949 miles, costing \$131,243 additional, or 6½ per cent. on transportation, and 15% per cent. on the cost.

The expense for this species of service was increased, in one case alone, \$28,200, without any additional service, that is, owing to the failure of the contractor on the New Orleans and Key West route. By act of Congress \$7,200 additional was also allowed between Bainbridge, Georgia, and Apalachicola, Florida, without additional service. A route was put in operation on the Missouri river on the 1st of June last, at \$85,000 per annum, including side mails by horse or coach, and regular land service during the suspension of naviga-Steamboat contracts were also made between Paducah, Kentucky, and Cairo, Illinois, at \$6,006 per annum; and between Columbus and Bay Port, Florida, at \$7,000; and a fourth weekly trip commenced between New Orleans and St. Francisville, at \$8,323. On the other hand, a reduction of \$15,719 per annum was effected by discontinuing service between Chattanooga, Tennessee, and Decatur, Alabama, and curtailing the Nashville and Memphis route so as to end at Cairo, Such are the more prominent changes in the steamboat Illinois. service.

The length of coach routes has been reduced 1,124 miles, and the annual transportation 24,061 miles; while the expense has been increased \$70,470, or about 5½ per cent., (\$10,000 less than would appear from comparing the cost on 30th June last with that reported on 30th June, 1856, the latter having been short stated by that amount.)

In the States of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and Ohio, where new contracts took effect on 1st July, 1856, the length of coach routes was decreased 505 miles, and the annual transportation 228,976 miles, at an increased cost of \$24,752. At the san i time the railroad service and cost in those States were largely increased—907 miles in length of routes, and \$119,208 in the cost.

In the New England States, during the past year, the coach transportation was slightly decreased, but the cost increased \$11,264—the

amount allowed by Congress to a failing contractor.

In Missouri there is a seeming reduction of coach service 1,366 miles in length of routes, 137,960 miles annual transportation, and \$13,174 in cost; but it must be noted that the Missouri river contract, above referred to, absorbed much coach service, which, to a

great extent, will continue as such, although, under the circumstances, unavoidably reported under the head of steamboat tran portation.

In Tennessee there is a disproportion between the miles and cost of coach service, the cost only being increased. This is accounted for by an allowance for expediting in the gap between the Virginia and Tennessee at. he East Tennessee and Virginia railroads, and other changes.

In other States there have been no changes requiring special notice. In some there have been reductions; but in most of them the coach

service, has been somewhat increased.

There is nothing of note in connection with the California, Oregon,

New Mexico, Nebraska, and Kansas routes.

The cost of the Utah routes was increased \$17,500 by the allowance of that additional pay, under an act of Congress, without any increased

service, on the route between Salt Lake and San Pedro.

The additional length of inferior routes is only 1,582 miles, owing partly to the fact that during the year ending 30th June last comparatively little new service of this description was put in operation. The large increase of such service reported 30th June, 1856, arose from new routes established by Congress, amounting to nearly 6,000 miles, in the northwestern and southwestern sections alone, and from other extraordinary service.

The increased cost over that of 30th June, 1856, (\$124,401,) may be explained by the additional expense under the new contracts commencing 1st July, 1856, in the middle section of the Union, (\$63,533,) while there was a decrease in the length of routes of this grade; and the allowance of \$17,500 on the Salt Lake and San Pedro route, without additional service, must also be taken into account.

As already stated, the extension of railroad service has been very great; and in order to exhibit this more plainly, the increase is given separately in five geographical sections, as follows:

States.	Additional length of route.	Additional miles of transportation	Additional cost.
	Miles.		
New England	137	26,123	\$11,149
New Jersey, Pennsylvanin, Delaware, Mary- land, and Ohio	907	1,257,075	119,208
Givergut	JH4	171,07H	19,899
Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi,	5*6	650,058	71,267
and Louisiana	393	354,284	27,935
Total	2,207	,2,45×,64H	949,45H

The letting of new contracts for the term commencing 1st July last embraced the New England States and New York.

The following table shows the new service as in operation on the 30th September:

Conveyance.	Miles in longth.	Miles of annual transportation.	Cost.
Raile ad.	6,413 770	7,099,505 474,608	\$718,840 27,348
'oach	9,967	4,6814,426	208,466
alerior modes	10,258	3,276,673	144,093
Tetal	1.7. jus	15,454,612	1,098,749

Compared with the service on 30th June last, there appears to be a decrease of 791 mile. In the length of routes, and 823,034 miles in the

unnual transportation, while the cost is increased \$120,041.

In New England the annual transportation by railroad is decreased 885,876 miles; but this is more nominal than real, owing to the fact that a great portion of this grade of service in that section has heretofore been stated at twelve trips a week, the contracts requiring the conveyance of mails as often as the cars run, while really but six trips were performed. Now, however, the service is reported as actually existing, and there is no reduction of mail facilities.

The cost is increased \$61,041.

Steamboat transportation is increased 147,784 miles, at a cost of \$13.918.

Coach transportation is decreased 320,471 miles, but the expense

increased \$5,074.

Inferior grades of service are increased 360,925 miles in annual

transportation, and \$22,405 in cost.

In New York the railroad transportation is increased 293.328 miles, at a cost of \$10,268. Steambout service, decreased 161,664 miles, at a decreased cost of 87,501. Conch service, decreased 143,384 miles, but the cost increased \$12,642. Inferior service, decreased 113,673 miles, and cost increased \$2,197.

On the 30th June last there were in service 406 route agents, at a compensation of \$310,900; 45 local agents, at \$28,488; and 1,335 mail messengers, at \$160,425; making a total of \$199,813. This amount, with the increased cost of service commencing 1st July under new central to \$(\$120,041) added to the cost of service as in operation on the 30th June last, (\$6,622,046,) makes the total amount for the current year \$7,241,903.

This is independ at of the cost of ocean mail service,

There should also be added the estimated cost of improvements made since 1st Jely last, (including the San Antonio and San Diego route.) \$587,825.

I have caused to be put in operation a steamship route, twice a month, between San Francisco and Olympia, and a weekly line on

Paget's Sound.

Also, a tri-weekly et ambont line between Napoleon and Pinc Bluff, Arkansas; and a semi-weekly line between Napoleon and Vicksburg; besides the daily mail on the Missouri river, already referred to, vis: from Jefferson City to St. Joseph.

The overland route from San Antonio, Texas, to San Diego, Cali-

fornia, has also been successfully commenced.

I have also made a contract for conveying mails six times a week between Prairie du Chien and St. Paul, in conches or sleighs, as the case may be, during the suspension of navigation on the Upper Mississippi.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES.

The comprehensive report of the Auditor, hereto appended, will be found to contain a mass of statistics skilfully prepared, and so judiciously arranged as to present with clearness and precision the financial operations of the department, in their various branches, during the past fiscal year.

The expenditures of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1857, including payments to letter carriers and for foreign postages, amounted to

\$11.508.057 93. viz:

Compensation to postmasters	\$2,285,609	
Ship, steamboat, and way-letters Transportation, including foreign mails	17,594 7,239,333	
Wrapping paper	52,120	
Office furniture, for post offices	3,978	
Advertising	75,106	
Mail bags	65,219	
Blanks Mail locks, keys, and stamps	117,170 12,287	
Mail depredations and special agents	65,228	
Clerks for offices—post offices.	834,025	
Postage stamps	30,638	
Stamped envelopes	63,597	
Payments to letter carriers	154,710	
Re-payments for "dead letters"	41	
Miscellaneous payments	189,107	
Payments for balances on British mails Payments for balances on Bremen mails	297,098 5.187	
ay mount for become on Dromen mans	0,161	7 1

\$11,508,057 93

If to the expenditures of the year, as stated, there be added the sum of \$734-16 lost by compromising debts under the 3d section of the act of March 3, 1851, and if the sum of \$1,121-93 gained by small balances carried to "Suspense account" be deducted, the net expenditures for the year will be \$11,507,670-16.

The gross revenue for the year 1857, including receivarriers and from foreign postages, amounted to \$7,35	pts from lette 3,951 76, vis	er E:
Letter postage.	\$983,207 2	24
Stamps sold	5,447,764 5	51
Newspapers and pamphlets	634,863 5	51
Registered letters	35,876 8	37
Fines	15 0	Ó
Receipts on account of emoluments	79,351 0	10
Receipts on account of letter carriers	154,710 5	il
Receipts on account of dead letters	6,756 5	7
Extra compensation overcharged	1,667 3	80
Miscellaneous receipts.	9,739 2	25

\$7,853,951 76

But if to the gross sum above stated be added the permanent annual appropriations made by the acts of Murch 3, 1847, and March 3, 1851, in compensation for services rendered to the government in the transportation and delivery of franked matter, the whole revenue of the year will be \$8,053,951 76, being \$3,453,718 40 less than the expenditures.

ESTIMATES OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES IN 1858, The aggregate sum appropriated by the act of Congress approved March 3, 1857, for the regular expenditures of the year ending June 30, 1858, exclusive of the transportation of foreign mails, of payments for foreign postages and to leaver carriers, was \$11,173,247 For Panama mails, act of March 3, 1857... 135,000 For Charleston and Havana mail, act of March 3, 1857..... 50,000 For the transportation of the mails between New York and Havre, and New York and Bremen, under the new contracts authorized by the acts of March 3, 1845, and July 2, 1836, there will be required the sum of..... 230,000 For payments to letter carriers, act of March 3, 1851, estimated...... 165,000 Payments for foreign postages, estimated 300,000 Total..... \$12,053,247 The means applicable to defray the foregoing expenditures consist of— 1st. The balance standing to the credit of the department on the Auditor's books on the lat July, 1857..... 1,163,886 2d. The estimated gross revenue of 1858, including foreign postages and receipts

7,795,188

from letter carriers.....

year 1858, as they have been authorized by law.

In the foregoing statement I have not embraced the cases in which Congress has by law directed particular services and made specific appropriations for them out of the Treasury, such as the transport that of the mail by sea between San Francisco, Cal., and Olympis, W. A., between New Orleans and Vera Cruz, Mexico, and for the mail of Puget's Sound, W. T., because the means are upplied by the Treasury upon the Postmaster General's requisitions; and if they were embraced as matters of receipt and expenditure, the resulting balance to be provided for would still be the same.

MONEY ORDERS.

The adoption of some plan for the more convenient and safe remittance of small sums of moneyt hrough the mails by means of orders drawn upon one postmaster by another having been frequently urged upon this department as a matter worthy of its attention, it is deemed proper here to state that, on the 31st January last. my predecessor transmitted to the chairman of the Committee on the Post Office and Post Boads in the House of Representatives, in compliance with his request, the outline of such a plan as might be put in operation in this country. The submission of it does not appear to have been accompanied by any recommendation of the department, nor does it appear that the Hon. Committee acted upon the subject. A system of remitting sums of money not exceeding £5 sterling (\$25) in amount was adopted by the British Post Office Department in 1839, and some idea may be formed of the growth and extent of its operations from the following brief statement derived from the Annual Report of her Majesty's Postmuster General, dated Murch 17, 1857:

Number and amount of money orders issued in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland every fifth year, commencing with 1840.

Year ending—	No. of orders issued in sums not exceeding £5 sterling.	Aggregate amount in pounds sterling.
January 5, 1840	2,806,808 4,439,713 5,807,412	£318, 124 5, 695, 895 8, 494, 498 11, 009, 279 11, 805, 562

OCEAN STEAMSRIP AND FOREIGN MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.

The contract with the Ocean Steam Navigation Company for monthly trips between New York and Bremen, and New York and Havre, via Southampton, expiring on the first of June last, it became necessary to make some arrangements for the continuance of that service, or leave the carrying of the European mails almost exclusively to the lines running between Boston and Liverpool and New York and Liverpool, on which twenty only of the seventy-two annual voyages are performed by American steamers. The Bremen and Havre lines having, under the sanction of Congress, been in operation ten years, affording direct communication between the United States and the continent of Europe, and it not appearing by its action at the last session that it was the intention of Congress that they should be discontinued on the expiration of the contract, I deemed it my duty to make provision for their continuance another year. This seemed proper, in view not only of the importance of keeping up, and if possible increasing, the direct communication with the continent, in order to avoid the expense of the English transit, but also for the reason that I had official information of the intention of a Bremen company to put on a line of semi-monthly steamers, so as, in connexion with an increased American line, to secure a weekly communication with the United States. In the mean time Congress may take action on the subject. Under the old contract, the annual compensation for twelve round trips on the Bremen line was two hundred thousand dollars; and on the Havre line, for the same number of trips, one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The temporary contract for the service on the Bremen line is with Cornelius Vanderbilt, and upon the Havre line with the New York and Havre Steamship Company. Each contract provides for thirteen round trips annually; and the compensation to be paid is limited to the United States postages, sea and inland, accruing from the mails conveyed. This, it will be observed, is a very considerable reduction upon the former pay, assuming that the postages for the year will be nearly the same as for the year ended 30th June last, when on the Bremen line they amounted to \$124,193, and on the Havre line to \$90,042. Moreover, it appeared to be a fit occasion to inaugurate a system of self-sustaining occan mail service; and I shall esteem it fortunate if the present temporary arrangements lead, as I trust they may, to the adoption of this as a permanent system.

A contract has been made with the Panama Bailroad Company for the conveyance of the mails, as frequently as may be required, between Aspinwall and Panama, at an annual compensation of one hundred thousand dollars. It took effect on the first day of April last, and is to continue until the first of October, 1859, the date of expiration of the contract for the connecting lines from New York and New Orleans to Aspinwall. Prior to the first of April last, the price of the isthmus service was regulated by the weight of the mails, the law authorizing the payment of twenty-two cents a pound; and at that rate the cost of the service for the year ended 31st March last was \$160,321, being \$60,321 a year more than is now paid under the contract.

The original contractors on the New Orleans and Vera Cruz line having abandoned the service, I made a temporary contract with Mr. C. K. Garrison for semi-monthly trips on the line at \$1,210 93 the voyage, or \$29,062 32 a year. This is the same rate of compensation paid the old contractors, who, although their contract called for three trips a month, never performed but two. The present contract will expire on the 30th June next, the date fixed for the expiration of the

original contract.

By its terms, the contract with the Pacific Mail Steamship Company for semi-monthly service from Astoria, by San Francisco, &c., to Panama, expires on the 1st October, 1858, while, under the decision of the Navy Department, the contract of the connecting lines on this side runs until 1st October, 1859. Therefore, to keep up the connexion with the Pacific line, as provided by law, and as originally contemplated, it will be necessary to extend the contract on the Pacific one year; and as the Pacific Mail Steamship Company have performed their service generally in a highly creditable and satisfactory manner, I cheerfully recommend an appropriation for such extension.

The aggregate amount of postages (sea, inland, and foreign) on mails transported during the year by the steamers of the New York and Liverpool (Collins) line was \$210,463 03, which is a heavy decrease as compared with the amount (\$461,575 94) of the previous fiscal year. It should be observed, however, that the additional allowance to this line authorized by the act of 21st July, 1852, having been terminated on the 20th of February, 1857, and six yearly trips dispensed with from and after that date, twenty round trips only, instead

of twenty-six, as formerly, were performed during the year.

The postages upon mails conveyed by the New York and Bremen line were \$137,754 78, and by the New York and Havre line \$97,950 05; being a decrease of \$5,491 74 by the Bremen, owing to the fact that much of the time there have been several foreign steamers running and carrying ship letters on this line, and an increase of \$2,125 02 by the Havre line, as compared with the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1856.

The amount of letter postages upon mails exchanged during the year with Great Britain was \$874,194 75; Prussia, \$326,872 57; Bremen, \$52,082 99; France, (trom 1st April to 30th June, 1857.) \$41,188 19; Hamburg, \$1,059 60; being a decrease on British mails of \$23,453 95, on Bremen mails of \$3,706 86, and an increase on Prussian closed mails of \$27,406 86, compared with the preceding

vear.

Of the amount of postages on mails exchanged with Great Britain, \$74,194-75 was collected in the United States, and \$300,133-30 in Great Britain; the excess of United States and British postages thus collected in the United States being \$274,061-45. In like manner, an excess of \$95,397-95 of the postages upon mails exchanged with Prussia, and of \$32,494-15 on mails exchanged with Bremen, was collected in this country.

States and British postal treaty during the last four years:

Number of letters and newspapers conveyed in the open mail between the United States and Great Britain from July 1, 1853, to June 30, 1857, inclusive, viz:

Ycar—	By United Sta	ites steamers.	By British	steamers.
I cur-	Letters.	Newspapers.	Letters	Newspapers.
Ending June 30, 1854 . Ending June 30, 1855 . Ending June 30, 1856 . Ending June 30, 1857 .	1,595,838 2,026,7.7 2,017,269 1,220,733	901, 477 1, 777, 130 1, 662, 825 1, 178, 629	2,740,866 1,815,501 1,591,859 2,658,313	1, 571, 299 1, 377, 470 1, 533, 1×9 2, 143, 423
	6,860.567	5, 520, 061	9, 106, 869	6, 625, 381

Origin of the above correspondence.

Year—	Sent from the United States.		Received from Great Britain.	
I oar-	Letters.	Nоwspapers.	Lottern.	Newspapers.
Ending June 30, 1854 Ending June 30, 1855 Ending June 30, 1856 Ending June 30, 1857	2, 137, 611 1, 937, 572 1, 997, 571 1, 917, 934	1,512,671 1,975.288 1,954,102 2,041,466	2, 199, 093 1, 904, 658 1, 911, 557 1, 961, 142	960, 105 1, 179, 312 1, 241, 912 1, 280, 586
	7,990, 6HH	7,483,527	7, 976, 44H	4, 661, 915

Amount of postages collected in each country.

Y	Collected by	United States.	Collected by Great Britain.		
Year— Paid senf.	Unpaid received.	Paid sent.	"npald received.		
Ending June 30, 1854 .	\$276,459 09	\$363,326 52	\$146,594 53	\$193,268 16	
Ending June 30, 1855 .	276,060 78	328, 046 41	181.886 27	143, 703 98	
Ending June 30, 1856 .	294, 634 28	306, 397 12	150, 942 18	145, 675 12	
Ending June 30, 1857 .	273, 386 72	300,808 03	154, 423 68	145,709 62	
	1, 120, 540 87	1,298,578 08	633, 846 66	628, 356 88	
	,	1, 120, 540 H7	,	633,846 66	
Total collections in Uni	ted States	2,419,118 95	In Great Britain	1, 262, 203 54	

Excess of British postages collected by the United States over and above total amount of United States postages collected by Great Britain.

Year—	Amount.
Ending June 30, 1854	\$175,367 11 64,820 64 84,530 83 193,287 47
Total excess in four years.	518,006 05

Number, in ounces, of letters conveyed in closed mails through the territories of the United States and Great Britain from July 1, 1853, to June 30, 1857, inclusive.

Year	U.S. closed mai transit thro England.	ls in ough				
	U. States and I sian closed ma		Canada i	mails.	California, 1	Isvana,
Ending June 30, 1854			206, 224)	ounces.	25, 0221	ounces.
Ending June 30, 1856 Ending June 30, 1856			344, 200	".	25, 366	"
Ending June 30, 1857			251, 680 250, 3231	;;	26, 432 28, 708}	**
otal U. S. closed mails	1, 198, 860 "		952, 487	"	108, 619 952, 437	11
			Total Br. clo	sed mails	1,061,056	"

Number of newspapers conveyed in closed mails through the territories of the United States and Great Britain from July 1, 1853, to June 30, 1857.

			n transit through the ted States.	
Year—	U. S. and Prusian closed mails.	Cunada maila.	California, Havana, &c.	
Ending 30th June, 1854. Ending 30th June, 1855. Ending 30th June, 1856. Ending 30th June, 1857.	50, 417 49, 953 65, 722 90, 486	790, 046 996, 893 809, 197 976, 244	49, 044 35, 206 50, 722 52, 075	
	256, 578	3,672,379 187,047	187, 047	
;		3,759,426	•	

Note.—The transit charge upon newspapers is 2 cents each in either country.

The Atlantic conveyance of closed mails was performed as follows, viz:

	By United Sta	tes steamers.	By British	steamers.
Year—	Letters, in ounces,	Newspapers.	Letters, in ounces,	Newspapers.
Ending 30th June, 1854. Ending 30th June, 1855. Ending 30th June, 1856. Ending 30th June, 1857.	122, 932 } 269, 318 262, 511 159, 398 }	46, 763 299, 311 295, 136 97, 141	335, 870 317, 718 <u>1</u> 330, 409 461, 258	842,744 782,740 630,505 1,021,664
·	814, 160	738, 351	1,445,255	3,277,653

Payments made for the transit conveyance of closed mails.

Your	By Great Britain to United States.	By the United States to Great Britain.
Ending 30th June, 1854	\$54,826 21 84,471 68 84,127 53 64,969 30	\$91,926 58 109,303 92 115,598 65 150,868 90
	288,894 72	467,698 05 288,394 72
Balance in favor of the British office	••••••	179, 303 33

Balances due the United States on adjustment of accounts with Prussia.

Fiscal year ended June 30, 1854	69, 694-1 45, 303-7	l
Total balance in favor of United States in 4 years		

Balances due Great Britain on adjustment of accounts.

For fiscal year ended June 30, 1854	\$195, 522 68
For tiscal year ended June 30, 1-55.	71, 161 65
For fiscal year ended June 80, 1866	108, 261 37
For fiscal year ended June 30, 1857	264,918 +9
· ·	
Total balance against the United States in 4 years	619, 867-59
	======

It will be seen that the excess of British postage alone collected in the United States is very considerable, amounting the last year This, as explained in previous reports, results disto \$193,287 47. advantageously to this department, inasmuch as its postmasters are paid commissions for collecting. Its expenses the last year on this account have been not less than \$75,000. The large increase in the excess of last year arises mainly from the circumstance that nearly two-thirds of the trans-Atlantic mails have been conveyed by the Cunard line of British mail packets, and, when thus conveyed, nearly four-fifths of the postage goes to the British government, saying no-thing of the still greater proportion it receives on mails so conveyed for countries beyond England. In the final settlement, too, it will be observed that the balance is every year largely against the United States, and that for the year ending 30th June last it reached the sum of \$264,918. A part of this, however, to wit: \$43,501, has been received back in the balance paid to the United States on final adjustment by the Prussian office, thus reducing our indebtedness to \$221,417. Under the arrangement with Prussia, the balance is in favor of this department, because the United States provides for the ocean as well as British transit conveyance of the Prussian closed mails; but the general balance must continue to be largely against the United States while so great a proportion of the mails are conveyed by British packets. Whether it is more descrable to be subject to this outlay for the transmission of our mails abroad than to incur probably a still greater expense in fully providing our own means of occur transportation, is for the wisdom of Congress to determine. fortunately, as before suggested, our steamship companies, aided by receipts from passengers and merchandise, shall find sufficient encouragement to establish lines of steamers and carry the mails for the postages thereon, it will be a great point gained. On this principle, were it practicable. I would be pleased not only to see the number of trips increased upon existing lines, particularly to the continent, but all the lines put in operation which have been or may be projected by

our enterprising citizens. Among these are the proposed lines fre Norfolk to Milford Haven; from New Orleans to Bordeaux; from N York to Antwerp, Hamburg, or Gluckstadt; from Savannah to Par in South America; from Panama to Valparaiso, &c. This whol subject is worthy the serious consideration of Congress; and I ven ture to hope that such action may be taken upon it, at an early day as that the department may clearly understand its duty in the previses. Whether the present lines are to be continued, and the tripincreased, on the expiration of the contracts, or new ones established at a cost, in each instance, exceeding what they may earn in post ages, and, if so, at what expense, in each case, I respectfully submit to Congress to decide.

A postal convention has been concluded between the United States and France, having been signed on the part of the United States by my immediate predecessor, and on the part of France by the French minister, on the 2d of March last, and has been in operation since the first of April. The rate of postage for letters of the weight of one-quarter ounce or under is fifteen cents, irrespective of the route, whether through England or direct, by which they are conveyed. France accounts to Great Britain for the British sea, and transit postage, as explained in the articles of agreement hereto annexed. This is the first postal convention between the two countries.

A postal convention has also been concluded with the Hanseatic republic of Hamburg, similar in all respects to that existing between

reprine of Hamburg, similar in all respects to that existing between the United States and Bremen—the rates of postage under both being the same. It was finally executed in June last, and went into effect on the first of July. The articles are annexed.

Negotiations are pending for a radical change of our postal arrangements with Great Britain; but as the proposition of the British office, in its present shape, cannot be acceded to, and as it involves, also, a preliminary agreement requiring the sanction of the treaty-making powers, definite action upon it has been necessarily postponed for the present.

CITY POSTS.

With the view to facilitate the receipt and delivery of letters in New York, Boston, and Philadelphia, the postmasters in those cities have been instructed to make improvements in their letter-carrier system to the full extent authorized by law. In New York, I found that nearly everything had been done that could be accomplished under existing laws, except the transmission of drop letters direct to their address without going into the main office, which is now done. Six stations, or sub-offices, had been established, at which, as well as at the principal office, the letters were sorted and passed into the hands of the carriers; and a large number of boxes for the collection of letters had been placed at convenient distances throughout the city. On all letters through the mail the carriers receive two cents each tor delivery, and on drop letters one cent. I had hoped to be able to reduce the delivery fee to the uniform price of one cent; but this was found impracticable in New York and Philadelphia, inasmuch as the law

requires that the entire cost of delivery shall be defrayed out of the carriers' receipts. In Boston, where the districts are all comparatively densely populated, one cent a letter is made to pay. age on drop letters, including the carrier's fee, is now two cents; and upon the improved plan now adopted for their delivery direct from the main office, or the nearest station, as the case may be, it is believed that the public convenience will be fully subserved. In each of these cities there are to be from four to six deliveries a day, and the letters for mailing, &c., are to be collected and disposed of as frequently as occasion may require. I do not feel at liberty to advise the free delivery of letters by carriers; but I would recommend a modification of the present la ... as to give the Postmaster General authority to have the delivery ...ade at one cent a letter, whether the carriers' receipts are sufficient to meet expenses or not. If the improved system is found to work satisfactorily in the three cities above mentioned, it is my purpose to extend it to all the other principal cities in the United States.

EXPRESS AGENTS.

One of the prominent subjects which have demanded my attention is that of providing more effectually for the regularity and safety of mails conveyed on railroads. Owing to the large number of separate bags on the great through lines, the frequent changes of cars, and the brief time allowed, in most cases, for that purpose, great care is necessary to guard against mistakes and losses. This is more especially important to the letter-mail pouches, which are exchanged between the principal cities and towns having railroad connexions in all sections of the country, however remote. In order that they may receive due attention at all points, agents of this department are required, and also a regular system of accountability for the performance of their The beginning of such a system was made by my immediate predecessor, and my aim has been to extend and improve it as much as possible. Its main features are, briefly, as follows: In the post offices at the ends of each separate route, as apportioned to mail agents, (say Washington and Philadelphia,) and at the prominent intermediate points, lists are kept, showing the ponches forwarded; which lists are receipted by the route or mail agent, who thus becomes directly responsible for a certain number of pouches for certain specified points. Upon delivering the same into post offices, to mail messengers, or to an agent on a connecting route, he takes receipts to show the fulfil-In addition, it is required, on some routes, that ment of his duties. full and careful accounts be kept, in book form, of all pouches, so as to show where they are received, how labelled, and how disposed of, By such means it becomes practicable to trace missing pouches, and there is also kept alive a sense of responsibility on the part of agents, impelling them to greater watchfulness in performing duties which, from their laborious and monotonous nature, might otherwise insensibly become, in a measure, mechanical, and not occupy so much of the mind as their importance demands. Moreover, all irregularities in sny way chargeable to agents can be traced to their true source, so

that suspicion in no case attaches to innocent parties. For such reasons, apart from an interest in the service generally, which is presumed to be felt by all agents of the department, the system in question has commended itself favorably to all who have been called on to give it attention. Its details are not yet perfected; but it is regarded as the beginning of a work which must be gradually advanced and improved, under the teaching of experience, until it shall fully accomplish that for which it is designed.

Experiments have been made on the great railroad lines between New York and Montgomery, Alabama, and Nashville, Tennessee, which have shown the advantages of the system as now existing, and given annole encouragement that it will be made more useful in the future.

On some of the principal western lines—as from Buffalo, New York, to Chicago, Illinois, and St. Louis-accounts of mail pouches are kept, but not quite so satisfactorily as on the other lines referred to, owing chiefly to the fact that the larger proportion of what are called through mails go by "express trains," in charge of baggage masters, and not the agents of this department. The latter travel on other trains, for the purpose of delivering mails to numerous post offices on the way where "express trains" do not regularly stop; and it has been considered an unnecessary expense to appoint agents simply to deliver bags, when the railroad companies are paid as well for that service as for conveying them, there being express stipulations to that effect in all con-These views are undoubtedly correct in theory; but experience has shown that railroad companies cannot be made to appoint persons to give the mails due attention in all cases, and there is, therefore, no alternative but to multiply largely the number of agents of the department on all great routes where important mails now go without In addition to the western routes just alluded to, there are many others of equal grade in the same category. The principal mails between Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington, and the west, for instance, have been nominally cared for by baggage masters, but who, having other duties equally if not more important in their estimation, have not always duly attended to the mails. Especially is it found that they cannot be induced to account for pouches, as desired by the department. Believing that such a state of things should be remedied, I have placed agents on the express lines between Baltimore and Cincinnati, and Philadelphia and Cincinnati, and required each one to run through the whole distance between those cities, Starting, say at Baltimore, an agent will give a receipt for the several pouches according to their distination, and the same will also be entered on a "way bill." For mails received and delivered on the route, receipts are to be exchanged and entries made on the "bill," and the agent will go through in the shortest possible time to Cincinnati, and deliver his mails and way bill for examination at the post office, If detained from any cause, he is to go forward by the first opportunity, and in no case to allow passengers to cutstrip him; and he must report to the postmasters the particulars of all delays, with their causes, for publication, immediately on reaching his final destination, so that the public shall be fully informed on the subject, and know where blame rests. In this way one individual is held responsible,

without chance of evasion, for the whole distance; whereas, under the ordinary division of duties, the mails would pass through the hands of perhaps five or six persons, rendering it always difficult and sometimes impracticable to know with certainty, in case of irregularities, who is really blameable.

Similar agencies will be established between New York and Cincinnati, and Cincinnati and St. Louis, and on other great routes, and all possible precautions adopted to insure the regularity and safety of the

mails.

It is frequently charged that the mails have not uniformly equal expedition with travellers on railroads; and, inscfar as this may be the fact, it is considered attributable to the want of attention to the mails on the express lines which are without agents of this department. The evil, therefore, can only be remedied by employing additional agents to accompany mails long distances without changing, and guard against all delays that can possibly be avoided, and especially to see that passengers enjoy no advantages over the mails, but that both are equally expedited under all circumstances.

It may be proper to add in this connexion that the preparation of all necessary forms and instructions for maintaining accountability on routes where this work is already commenced, and for extending it generally as proposed, will involve an amount of additional labor

which cannot be performed with the present clerical force.

NEW ORLEANS AND NEW YORK ROUTE.

For a number of years the attention of Congress and of the commercial public has been directed to the necessity of adopting measures to insure greater speed and regularity in the transmission of the mails between New York and New Orleans, the recognized centres, as these cities are, of two great commercial circles, conducting by far the larger portion of the importing and exporting trade of the whole country. The interest felt in the subject has been manifested, from time to time, in the presentation to Congress of memorials from citizens, chambers of commerce, and State legislatures, praying that means might be employed to effect increased expedition and certainty in the transmission of these mails; and in the subsequent passage of resolutions, by both Houses, calling on the Postmaster General to report the causes of the failures and delays referred to by the memorialists, and to state whether any and what legislation was necessary to accomplish the object of their prayers.

The great northern and southern mails are transported by railroad from New York, via Philadelphia, Washington, Richmond, Petersburg, Weldon, Wilmington, Kingsville, Augusta, Millin, Macon, and Columbus, to Montgomery, thence by coach to Stockton, and thence by steambout to Mobile and New Orleans. The service is twice daily between New York and Montgomery, and daily between Montgomery and New Orleans. The time prescribed in the contract schedules for the performance of the through trip is six days; but the instances in which this speed is actually attained constitute rather the exceptions than the rule. Of 627 mails sent from New York to New Orleans

within the year ending 31st March, 1856, only 163 were carried through in six days, the time occupied in the transportation of the remaining 464 ranging from seven to twelve days. Of 369 mails sent in the same year from New Orleans to New York, only 153 were carried through in six days, the remaining 216 ranging from neven to fourteen days. Of 651 mails sent from New York to New Orleans within the year ending 31st March, 1867, only 159 were carried through in six days, the remaining 492 ranging from seven to twenty days. Of 363 mails sent in the same year from New Orleans to New York, 161 were carried through in six days, the remaining 202 occupying from seven to sixteen days. No mail was received at New Orleans from New York on sixty-five several days within the year ending 81st March, 1866; and on ninety-six several days within the same year no mail was received at New York from New Orleans. Thirty-five similar failures occurred at New Orleans during the year ending 31st March, 1857, and ninety-seven at New York. The failures at intermediate points, going south, during the year ending 31st March, 1856, amounted to 381; going north, to 262. During the year ending 31st March, 1857, the failures going south were 284; going north, 324. The average time occupied in the performance of the through trip from New York to New Orleans, during the year ending 31st March, 1856, was seven days, four hours; from New Orleans to New York, seven days, one hour. For the year ending 31st March, 1857, the average time from New York to New Orleans was seven days, three hours; from New Orleans to New York, six days, twenty hours. The shortest time either way, in either year, was six days; the longest going south, in the year ending 31st March, 1856, was twelve days; going north, fourteen days. In the year ending 31st March, 1857, the longest time going south was twenty days; going north, sixteen days.

The inconvenience occasioned by these delays and failures is aggrawated by the fact that by far the larger portion of them occur within the winter months-from October to March, inclusive-comprising the period during which the great mass of the commercial operations of the year transpire. Thus, of the 163 mails carried through in six days from New York to New Orleans in the year ending 31st of March. 1856, only forty-six were transmitted within the winter months. 153 carried through in six days, in the same year, from New Orleans to New York, only forty-three were transmitted within the winter months. Of 159 carried through in six days from New York to New Orleans in the year ending 31st of March, 1857, only fitty-six were transmitted during the winter season. And of 161 carried through in six days, in the same year, from New Orleans to New York, only forty-nine were transmitted during the winter months. Of sixty-five failures, in the year ending 31st of March, 1856, to receive any mail at New Orleans from New York, forty-six occurred during the winter. Of ninety-six failures, in the same year, to receive any mail at New York from New Orleans, fifty-four occurred in the winter. Of thirtyfive similar failures at New Orleans in the year ending the 31st of March, 1857, thirty occurred in the winter; and of ninety-seven at New York, sixty one occurred in the winter. Nearly four-fifths of all the failures at intermediate points, in each year, transpired during the winter months. The average time of the through trips from New York to New Orleans for the six summer months ending with September, 1855, was six days, eighteen hours; for the six succeeding winter months, the average was seven days, afteen bours; for both together, seven days, four hours. The average time from New Orleans to New York, for the same year, was, for the summer, six days, eleven hours; for the winter, seven days, fourteen hours; for both, seven days, one hour. The average time from New York to New Orleans for the six summer months ending with September, 1856, was six days, seventeen hours; for the six succeeding winter months, seven days, thirteen hours; for both, seven days, three hours. The average time, the same year, from New Orleans to New York, was, for the summer, six days, nine hours; for the winter, seven days, eight

hours; for both, six days, twenty hours.

The causes uniformly assigned for these failures and delays are such as these: "Cars off the track," "Collision of trains," "Machinery deranged," "High winds," "Snow storms and ice," "Snow drifts,"
"Boad injured by heavy rains," "Bridge broken," &c. They are such, too, as necessarily attach to the description of service employed. The line between New York and New Orleans is composed of sixteen different links, or routes, the service on each being performed under a separate and distinct contract, having annexed to it, as a material part, a schedule of departures and arrivals, by which the contractors are to be respectively governed. To secure the speediest practicable transmission of the mails over the whole line, the connexions between these links must necessarily be close, and each separate road must be put up to its greatest average running power. Under these gircumstances, a very slight accident upon any one of the roads occasions a failure on its part to form a connexion with the succeeding link, and the consequence is a loss, in the through trip, of twelve or twentyfour hours, accordingly as the service on that part of the line is double or single daily. Periods occur every winter when the transmission of the mail is suspended for days together by reason of snow storms. During the last winter it was arrested for ten days at one point on the line, and at others for seven, eight, and nine days together.

Among the routes established by law during the first session of the thirty-fourth Congress were two described in the following words, viz: "From Cedar Key, Florida, to New Orleans, Louisians, in steamers." "From Fernandina, Florida, to New York, New York, in steamers."

In advertising these routes, the department, believing that they were designed, in connexion with a railroad in course of construction across the peninsula of Florida, from Fernandina to Cedar Key, to constitute a new route from New York to New Orleans, with a view to the speedier and more certain transmission of the great northern and southern mails, invited bids for tri-weekly and also for daily service, and requested bidders to state the least time in which they would guaranty to perform the trip. The railroad part of the line was not embraced in the advertisement, the act of 1845 (section 19) authorizing the Postmaster General to contract for the transportation of the mails on railroads with or without advertising.

In response to the invitations of the department, the Florida Rail-

road Company presented the following proposals, viz:

1st. To carry the mails tri-weekly in steamers between Cedar Key and New Orleans, the trip to be performed in thirty-eight hours each way, at \$110,000 per annum.

2d. To carry the mails tri-weekly in steamers between Fernandina and New York, the trip to be performed in seventy-five hours each

way, at \$165,000 per annum.

3d. To carry the mails tri-weekly or daily in steamers from New York to Fernandina, thence by railroad across the peninsula of Florids to Cedar Key, and thence in steamers to New Orleans, and back, the trip each way to be performed within five days, at \$300,000 per annum for tri-weekly, or \$500,000 per annum for daily service—to commence on the completion of the railroad between Fernandina and Cedar Key, and the contract to be renewed for four years from the expiration of the current term, (i. e., June 30, 1859.)

In a subsequent correspondence between the department and the bidders they gave assurances of their ability to perform the through trip ordinarily within four days, and stated that in fixing five as the limit they had allowed ample mergin for any such detentions as were likely to result from accidents, head winds, or storms. They also submitted

the following modification of their proposals, viz:

"The company will perform a daily service throughout the year

for the sum of \$456,250.

"To insure a five-days mail, they will guaranty the time; or, in other words, no pay will be demanded for any trip not performed within five days between the terminal points of the route, viz: New York and New Orleans.

"The company will also stipulate that a ... ny time during the contract, when required by the department, upon three months' notification, they will convey a mail from Cedar Key to Aspinwall, Greytown, or Huasacualco, (as preferred by the department,) and back, twice monthly, and from Cedar Key to Key West and Havana and back twice monthly, the compensation for both services to be \$100,000 per annum.

"The time between Cedar Key and Aspinwall guarantied not to exceed one hundred and twenty hours, and between Cedar Key and

Havana not to exceed thirty-five hours.

"If Greytown or Huasacualco be selected, the time to be propor-

tionately reduced.

"The service to Havana and the Pacific crossing to start from Tampa, instead of Cedar Key, when the road to that point is com-

pleted.

The transportation of the great northern and southern mails by the proposed new route would obviously be free from many of the causes of interruption and delay to which the land route is subject. The whole line would be under contract to a single party, with a schedule fixing the period within which the entire trip should be performed; whereas, by the present arrangement, si cteen different parties are employed in the service, with separate schedules, each of which must be exactly complied with to insure the performance of the through trip in contract time. The running time proposed, also, is one day less than the least in which it has proved practicable to transport the mails by land, and more than two days less than the actual average. The liability of mails to depredation and to misdirection by frequent overhauling and distribution would be obviated, in the proposed arrangement, by enclosing the matter in crates or boxes in New York or New Orleans and transporting it unopened to its destination; and thus, also, the abrasion of packages, with the consequent liability to lose of directions, &c., would be prevented—a consideration of no small value, in view of the generally bad condition of the document mail on its arrival in the southwestern States, and the too frequent failure of such matter to reach its proper destination.

The establishment of the proposed service, while it would not interfere with the carriage of the local mails on the inland route. would relieve the department from liability to embarrassments under which it has at times been placed in consequence of being dependent on a single line for the transmission of the through mails; and it would be productive, both to the department and the public, of other advantages

naturally arising from the competition it would create.

The inducement it would offer to the mercantile community to insure the due transmission of their communications by duplicate letters, to be forwarded by both routes, would be a source of increased revenue to the department; and the greater speed and certainty it promises would have the effect of relieving the mail service, to some

extent, from the competition of the telegraph.

By conveying the mails for California upon the proposed route as far as Cedar Key, and forwarding them thence by a separate steamer to Aspinwall, Greytown, or Huasacualco, and by substituting the branch proposed from Cedar Key to Key West and Havana for the present Charleston and Havana line, and for that part of the New Orleans and Key West line between Cedar Key and Key West—say half the route—an annual saving of \$285,000 would be effected. In such event, this saving should be deducted from the cost of the proposed daily service, to show the net additional expense to the department, which would thus be reduced to \$181,250 per annum.

Upon the question of accepting the proposals for this service, considering the uncertainty of the period at which the railroad portion of the proposed line will be completed, I have been unable, thus far, to announce to the bidders any definitive determination. But the subject is referred to here because it is deemed to be one of vast public interest, in view of the promise which the contemplated new arrangement affords of so materially facilitating the communication between the two sections and the two great commercial capitals of the country.

THE MAIL SERVICE ON THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER BELOW THE OHIO.

The river is divided into the following sections, for distribution of the local mails at the different towns and offices on it:

Route 7305.—New Orleans to St. Francisville, 170 miles, four times a week, by steamboats.

Route 7809.—New Orleans, via St. Francisville, to Vicksburg, 397 miles, three times a week, by steamboats.

Note.—This arrangement makes the service daily between New Orleans and St. Francisville, and three times a week between St. Francisville and Vicksburg.

Boute 7499.—Vicksburg to Napoleon, 230 miles, twice a week, by

steam boats.

Route 7512.—Napoleon to Memphis, 203 miles, twice a week, by steamboats.

Besides these four subdivisions for local purposes, there is the great through mail, No. 7809, from New Orleans to Cairo, which, like all

the others, will expire the 30th June next.

The department recommends that, on the expiration of the present contracts, another subdivision be added, from Memphia to Cairo, so that the plan for supplying the local mails to the various towns and settlements between the Ohio and New Orleans may be adequate and uniform.

As to the great through mail from Cairo and New Orleans, the hope is indulged that there will be no necessity for continuing it on the river, as at present. When first ordered by Congress, there was great and obvious propriety in it; but the progress since made in constructing several railways nearly parallel with it has put a new aspect on the question. By the 30th June next, it is believed that the railroad from New Orleans to Jackson, Canton, &c., will be so far completed that, with one or two short stage lines between the unfinished portions, the mails may be conveyed over it in nearly half the present time, and with much more certainty and regularity. This may confidently be anticipated with respect to so much of said road as is south of the Tennessee line. Thence it is already completed to Jackson in the latter State, and, from the progress making and expected, it is probable that the great through mails may, at no distant day, be conveyed on the entire line to and from Cairo with infinite advantages over the present river route.

The department, however, desires the power to make river contracts for a shorter term than four years, as at present, so as to continue that mode of conveyance until sufficient progress is made with the above or any other parallel route to authorize the transfer of the entire

through mail service from the river.

The personal acquaintance of the Postmaster General with that river, and the investigation of the fines heretofore imposed on the contractors for the present service, fully convince him that no regular and expeditions transportation of the mails need ever to be looked for on so long a route, at any reasonable compensation. If the contractors shall be required, by express provision, to take on themselves all the risks and losses growing out of the ice in winter, the low waters of summer and fall, and of the fogs that prevail at nearly every season of the year, they will covenant to perform the service, but only at enormous rates. In making out bids, they would estimate liberally for all the trips that may be lost, all the failures to arrive in schedule time, and all the failures to connect with other routes, whether arising from ice,

low water and fogs, the breaking of machinery, or other casualties, of whatever nature. Thus enormous prices would be paid, and, after all, on account of the physical impossibility in some cases and unavoidable accidents in others, the regular and punctual service required would not be obtained. The express service, on horseback, established by a former able head of this department, (Mr. Kendall,) furnishes an aptillustration of this subject. He expressly advertised that no excuses would be received, and the consequence was, that when a failure took place the fine or forfeiture was deducted unconditionally; but to this the contractor could well afford to submit, having amply allowed for it in his bid, and obtained a contract accordingly at a high price.

In the existing contract, however, for transporting mails between New Orleans and Cairo; there was no express provision that the contractors should take on themselves all the risk of failures by physical causes or unavoidable accidents, such as ice, unprecedented low waters, fogs, damage to machinery, &c.; and hence due allowance was to be made for them, as in the case of all other contracts, construed and enforced as they have been in the long and uniform

practice of the department.

Congress, on the last night of the last session, enacted, with reference to this case, "That the Postmaster General be, and he is hereby, authorized to re-examine and adjust all questions arising out of fines imposed upon the contractors for carrying the mails on the Mississippi

river."-(Act of 3d March, 1857.)

Under this law several applications were made for the remission of fines and forfeitures under late contracts for services on the Mississippi river; but, as the act seemed to the department to have been only intended to embrace existing contracts now in course of being carried out, such applications were not considered, under a rule, well settled, not to review or reverse the decisions of a former head of the department, unless something existed on the record showing that he himself intended to have re-examined the case.

The act of Congress above quoted, referring to the present case, took it out of this rule, and the decision of the department is shown by the separate statement marked A in the appendix. The amount remitted may appear large; but, according to law and the testimony taken in the case, and the practice in similar cases, the department

seemed not to be warranted in making it less.

The irregularity of the service, as fully ascertained by this investigation, would have induced the annulment of the contract; but, having only some eight or ten months yet to run, no one was found willing to take it, except at a rate double the present compensation, and even then it was required that a new contract should be made for four years, and not merely for the few months remaining of the regular term. Such a contract not being allowable by law, it was found unadvisable to annul the existing one; and, in order to secure its most efficient execution through the remainder of the term, the agents of the department at New Orleans and Cairo were instructed to engage any boat on hand and despatch the mails in every case of failure on the part of the contractors to do so at the time required—the cost of such temporary service (not exceeding \$450 the half trip) being chargeable

to them. The pestmaster at Memphis, where commercial connexions have now become vastly important, was also instructed that whenever the mail boat from Cairo failed to arrive there in reasonable time he should transmit mails for New Orleans by any other boat, at the expense of the contractors. Under these arrangements, now being energetically executed, the hope is indulged that the service for the few months remaining may be satisfactorily rendered.

All the difficulties in relation to this route have been inherited from former years; and the department looks forward to the day, believed not to be distant, when the great through mails from Chicago, St. Louis, Memphis, and other important cities of the west, can be transmitted to New Orleans in less than half the time now required, and with the regularity of a well-constructed and well-managed railroad.

PINES.

A detailed statement will be presented to Congress showing the fines and deductions which were imposed upon the contractors for imperfect mail service during the fiscal year. These fines and deductions will be found to amount in the aggregate to \$188,746 84. In this amount of \$188,746 84 is included the sum of \$74,598 46, being that portion of the deductions made from the contractors' pay on the New Orleans and Cairo route during the third and fourth quarters of 1856, which has since been remitted to them, in pursuance of the 7th section of the act of Congress passed on the 3d March, 1857.

SETTLEMENT OF THE CLAIM OF GEORGE CHORPENNING, JR.

By an act of Congress of March 3, 1851, the Postmaster General was "required to edjust and settle the claim of George Cherpenning, jr., as surviving partner of Woodward & Chorpenning, and in his own right, for carrying the mails by San Pedro, and for supplying the post office in Carson's Valley, and also for carrying part of the Independence mail by California; allowing a pro rata increase of compensation for the distance by San Pedro, for the service to Carson's Valley, and for such part of the eastern mail as was carried by California during all the time when said services were performed;" and to adjust and settle the claim of said Chorpenning "for damages on account of the annulment or suspension of Woodward & Chorpenning's contract for carrying the United States mail from Sacramento. in California, to Salt Lake, in Utah Territory, as shown in the affidavits and proofs on file in the House of Representatives;" also, to allow and pay to said Chorpenning his full contract pay during the suspension of their contract, from 15th March to 1st July, 1853, and theresiter to pay him at the rate of thirty thousand dollars per annum. which sum was to be in lieu of the contract pay under both the contract with Woodward & Chorpenning, which expired June 30, 1854, and under his (Chorpenning's) present contract, which runs four years from July 1, 1854. The contract pay under the first was \$14,000 for monthly service between Sacramento city and Salt Lake, by Carson's Valley; and under the present, \$12,500 a year, for the same number of trips from San Diego or San Pedro to Salt Lake by San Bernardino. In obedience to this law, and on the proofs and affidavits on file in the House of Representatives, to which I was, by the terms of the law, restricted, I have allowed—

105010000, 2 11510 2-10110		
1. For damages on account of the annulment or susper old contract	nsion of (\$30,000 1,153	00
months	21,794	62
tween San Pedro and Salt Lake, (all the above being under old contract)	28,000	00
5. For carrying Independence mails under present contract, from July 1, 1854, to October 1, 1856	28,125	00
In the aggregate	109,072	95

In making the pro rata allowances, the act of Congress not being specific on this point, I have taken as the basis of the calculations the original pay under each contract, instead of the higher sum of \$30,000, to which, as above observed, the compensation has been raised. But, even upon this lower basis, the sum allowed, it will be perceived, is very considerable, independently of the further increased compensation of sixteen thousand dollars under the old, and seventeen thousand five hundred dollars per annum under the new contract.

The settlement of this claim has not been made without considerable embarrassment. The act of Congress was peremptory to adjust and settle, not according to the proofs that might be taken before the final action, but "as shown by the proofs and affidavits on file in the House of Representatives." These were to be the sole guides in the settlement, and neither the records of the department nor any contradictory or explanatory testimony could be taken by the government to assist in attaining what might be considered exact justice in the case. The act directed that the claimant should be paid pro rata for carrying his own mail, under his contract, from Sacramento, around by San Francisco and the coast, to San Pedro, instead of east by Carson's Valley to Salt Lake, and that he should be paid also for carrying the Independence mail that way, when the records and correspondence of the department show that the change in the route was permitted at the claimant's own instance and request, and not forced upon him by an order or wish even of the department. The pro rate allowance for this change alone, it will be observed, is \$21,794 62. The act further directed that he should be paid pro rata for carrying the eastern mail for Salt Lake, sent round by the isthmus to California; whereas, by the contract itself, and the usage of the department in all such cases,

he was bound, as a contractor, to carry the mails of the United States, from whatever quarter they might be sent to his line. The principal difficulty in the case, however, was in deciding on the true intent and meaning of the act in requiring him to be paid pro rats. Pro rats, or in proportion, to what? The first contract was to carry the mail at \$14,000, and the second at \$12,500 per annum. Congress, however, in the very act which granted him this pro rats relief, raised these prices up to \$30,000 per annum. Now, in making the estimate required by Corgress, should the basis of calculation be a pro rats on the \$14,000 and the \$12,500 contracts, or on the \$30,000? The department could find nothing in the act throwing light on this subject, and therefore made the calculation on the contract or lowest basis, instead of the \$30,000 basis. In doing so, the department has gone on the principle that, in every case of doubt in a matter of this kind, the government was entitled to the benefit of that doubt, until Congress, by some new enactment, should remove it.

OVERLAND MAIL SERVICE TO CALIFORNIA.

In order to carry into effect the act of Congress approved the third of March, 1857, relative to the overland mail to California, the department issued the following notice, and caused the same to be regularly advertised according to law:

> "Post Office Department, "April 20, 1857.

"An act of Congress, approved 3d March, 1857, making appropriations for the service of the Post Office Department for the fiscal year

ending 30th June, 1858, provides:

"'SEC. 10. That the Postmaster General be, and he is hereby, authorized to contract for the conveyance of the entire letter mail from such point on the Mississippi river as the contractors may select to San Francisco, in the State of California, for six years, at a cost not exceeding three hundred thousand dollars per annum for semi-monthly, four hundred and fifty thousand dollars for weekly, or six hundred thousand dollars for semi-weekly service, to be performed semi-monthly, weekly, or semi-weekly, at the option of the Postmaster General.

"'SEC. 11. That the contract shall require the service to be performed with good four-horse coaches or spring wagons, suitable for the conveyance of passengers as well as the safety and security of the mails.

"'SEC. 12. That the contractor shall have the right of pre-emption to three hundred and twenty acres of any land not then disposed of or reserved, at each point necessary for a station, not to be nearer than ten miles from each other; and provided that no mineral land shall be thus pre-empted.

"'SEC. 13. That the said service shall be performed within twentyfive days for each trip; and that, before entering into such contract, the Postmaster General shall be satisfied of the ability and disposition of the parties bona jule and in good faith to perform the said contract, and shall require good and sufficient security for the performance of the same—the service to commence within twelve months

after the signing the contract.'

"Proposals will accordingly be received at the Contract Office of the Post Office Department until 3 p. m. of the 1st day of June, 1857, for conveying mails under the provisions of the above act.

"Besides the starting point on the Mississippi river, bidders will name intermediate points proposed to be embraced in the route, and

otherwise designate its course as nearly as practicable.

"Separate proposals are invited for semi-monthly, weekly, and semi-

weekly trips each way.

"The decision upon the proposals offered will be made after the Postmaster eneral shall be satisfied of the ability and disposition of the

parties in good faith to perform the contract.

"A guarantee is to be executed, with good and sufficient sureties, that the contract shall be executed with like good security, whenever the contractor or contractors shall be required to do so by the Postmaster General, and the service must commence within twelve months after the date of such contract."

In pursuance of the said advertisement, the Postmaster General and his three assistants assembled in the Contract Office and opened the respective bids, making the following abstract of them, and causing said abstract to be copied into a separate book, and also in the route book for California.

ABSTRACT OF THE BIDS.

John Butterfield, William B. Dinsmore, William G. Fargo, James V. P. Gardner, Marcus L. Kinyon, Hamilton Spencer, and Alexander Holland: From St. Louis, by Springfield, and from Memphis, by Little Rock, connecting at a common point at or eastward of Albuquerque; thence west, to and along the military road to Colorado river; thence up the valley of the Mohahoc river, to and through the Tejon passes of the Sierra Nevada; and thence along the best route to San Francisco; weekly, \$450,000; semi-weekly, \$600,000.

John Butterfield and others: From Memphis, by Little Rock, Albuquerque, mouth of Mohahoc, on the Colorado river, and one of the Teion pusses of the Sierra Nevada, to San Francisco; semi-monthly,

\$300,000; weekly, \$450,000; semi-weekly, \$595,000.

John Butterfield and others: From St. Louis, by Springfield, to Albuquerque; thence, as above, to San Francisco; semi-monthly, \$300,000; weekly, \$450,000; semi-weekly, \$585,000.

James E. Birch: From Memphis, by Little Rock, Washington, Fulton, Clarksville, Gainesville, Fort Chadbourne, head spring of Conche river, to Pecce river, nearly due west; thence, along Pecces river, Delaware creek, through the Guadalupe and Hucco mountains. to the Rio Grande river; theace, over the emigrant road, to Fort Yuma; thence, by San Gorgona pass, San Bernardino, Tejon, Tulare, or Salinas valleys, to San Francisco; semi-weekly, \$600,000.

James Glover: From Memphis, by Helens, Little Rock, across Texas, to El Paso, Fort Yuma, San Bernardino, Los Angeles; thence, between the coast range and Sierra Nevada mountains, to San Francisco; or, from Vicksburg, by Shrevesport, to El Paso, &c., dro., (as above;) semi-monthly, \$300,000; seesily, \$450,000; semi-seesily, \$600,000.

B. Howell and A. E. Pace: From Gaines' Landing, on the Mississippi, to San Francisco; term of four years; commence at Vicksburg, if preferred; weekly, \$1,000,000 for the first year, \$800,000 for the second year, \$700,000 for the third year, \$600,000 for the fourth

David D. Mitchell, Samuel B. Churchill, Robert Campbell, William Gilpin, and others: From St. Louis to San Francisco; semi-weekly,

James Johnston, jr., and Joseph Clark: From St. Louis, by Fort Independence, Fort Laramie, Salt Lake City, or any other point named by the department, to San Francisco; semi-monthly, \$260,000;

secekly, \$390,000; semi-weekly, \$520,000. Irregular (after time) bid. William Hollinshead, president Minnesota, Nebraska, and Pacific Mail Transportation Company: From St. Paul, by Fort Ridgely, South Pass, Soda Springs, Humboldt river, Honey Lake valley, Noble's pass, Shasta City, to San Francisco; semi-weekly, \$550,000.

On the second day of July, 1857, the department, after full and mature consideration, made the following order in relation to the

route selected and the bid accepted :

"12,578. From St. Louis, Missouri, and from Memphis, Tennessee, converging at Little Rock, Arkansas; thence, via Preston, Texas, or as nearly so as may be found advisable, to the best point of crossing the Rio Grande, above El Paso, and not far from Fort Fillmore: thence, along the new road being opened and constructed under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, to Fort Yuma, California; thence, through the best passes, and along the best valleys for safe and expeditious staging, to San Francisco.

"The foregoing route is selected for the overland mail service to California, as combining, in my judgment, more advantages and fewer

disadvantages than any other.

"No bid having been made for this particular route, and all the bidders (whose bids were considered regular under the advertisement and the act of Congress) having consented that their bids may be held

and considered as extending and applying to said route;

"Therefore, looking at the respective bidders, both as to the amount proposed and the ability, qualifications, and experience of the bidders to carry out a great mail service like this, I hereby order that the proposal of John Butterfield, of Utica, New York, William B. Dinamore, of New York city, William G. Fargo, of Buffalo, New York, James V. P. Gardner, of Ution, New York, Marcus L. Kinyon, of Rome, New York, Alexander Holland, of New York city, and Hamilton Spencer, of Bloomington, Illinois, at the sum of \$595,000 (five hundred and ninety-five thousand dollars) per annum for semiweekly service, be accepted. The contractors, however, to have the privilege of selecting lands, under the act of Congress, on only one of he roads, or branches, between Little Rock and the Mississippi riverthe one selected by them to be made known and inserted in the contract at the time of its execution."

Subsequently, on re-examining the proposal, the above acceptance was modified so as to fix the pay at \$600,000 per annum, that being

the true amount of the bid.

Under strong representations that a better junction of the two branches of said road could be made at Preston than at Little Rock, on the eleventh day of September, 1857, the following order was made:

"That whenever the contractors and their sureties shall file in the Post Office Department a request, in writing, that they desire to make the junction of the two branches of said road at Preston, instead of Little Rock, the department will permit the same to be done by some route not further west than to Springfield, Missouri, thence by Fayetteville, Van Buren, and Fort Smith, in the State of Arkansas, to the said junction, at or near the town of Preston, in Texas; but said new line will be adopted on the express condition that the said contractors shall not claim or demand from the department, or from Congress, any increased compensation for or on account of such change in the route from St. Louis, or of the point of junction of the two routes from Little Rock to Preston; and on the further express condition that whilst the amount of lands to which the contractors may be entitled under the act of Congress may be estimated on either of said branches from Preston to St. Louis or Memphis, at their option, yet the said contractors shall take one-half of that amount on each of said branches, so that neither shall have an advantage in the way of stations and settlement over the other; and in case said contractors. in selecting and locating their lands, shall disregard this condition, or give undue advantage to one of said branches over the other, the department reserves the power of discontinuing said new route from St. Louis to Preston, and to hold said contractors and their sureties to the original route and terms expressed and set forth in the body of this contract."

In pursuance of the above orders and proceedings, on the 16th day of September, 1857, the following contract was entered into between the department and the contractors whose bid had been accepted:

No. 12,578.-\$600,000 per annum.

This article of contract, made the sixteenth day of September, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, between the United States (acting in this behalf by their Postmaster General) and John Butterfield, of Utica, New York, William B. Dinsmore, of New York city, William G. Fargo, of Buffslo, New York, James V. P. Gardner, of Utica, New York, Marous L. Kinyon, of Rome, New York, Alexander Holland, of New York city, and Hamilton Spencer, of Bloomington, Illinois, and Danford N. Barney, of the city of New York, Johnston Livingston, of Livingston, New York, David Moulton, of Floyd, New York, and Elijah P. Williams, of Buffalo, New York, witnesseth:

That whereas John Butterfield, William B. Dinsmore, William G. Fargo, James V. P. Gardner, Mascus L. Kinyon, Alex-

ander Holland, and Hamilton Spencer, have been accepted, according to law, as contractors for transporting the entire letter mail. agreeably to the provisions of the 11th, 12th, and 13th sections of an act of Congress approved March 3, 1857, (making appropriations for the service of the Post Office Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1858,) from the Mississippi river to San Francisco, California. as follows, viz: from St. Louis, Missouri, and from Memphis, Tennessee, converging at Little Rock, Arkansas; thence, via Preston, Texas, or as near so as may be found advisable, to the best point of crossing the Rio Grande above El Paso, and not far from Fort Fillmore; thence, along the new road being opened and constructed under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, to or near Fort Yuma, California; thence, through the best passes and along the best valleys for safe and expeditious staging, to San Francisco, California, and back, twice a week, in good four-horse post coaches or spring wagons suitable for the conveyance of passengers as well as the safety and security of the mails, at six hundred thousand dollars a year, for and during the term of six years, commencing the sixteenth day of September, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight, and ending with the fifteenth day of September, in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four: Now, therefore, the said John Butterfield, William B. Dinsmore, William G. Fargo, James V. P. Gardner, Marcus L. Kinyon, Alexander Holland, and Hamilton Spencer, contractors, and Danford N. Barney, Johnston Livingston. David Moulton, and Elijah P. Williams, their sureties, do jointly and severally undertake, covenant, and agree with the United States, and do bind themselves: 1st. To carry said letter mail within the time fixed by the law above referred to—that is, within twenty-five days for each trip, and according to the annexed schedule of departures and arrivals; 2d. To carry said letter mail in a safe and secure manner, free from wet or other injury, in a boot, under the driver's seat, or other secure place, and in preference to passengers, and to their entire exclusion, if its weight and bulk require it; 3d. To take the said letter mail and every part of it from, and deliver it and every part of it at, each post office on the route, or that may hereafter be established on the route, and into the post office at each end of the rouse, and into the post office at the place at which the carrier stops at night, if one is there kept; and if no office is there kept, to lock it up in some secure place, at the risk of the contractors.

They also undertake, covenant, and agree with the United States, and do bind themselves, jointly and severally, as aforeasid, to be answerable for the persons to whom the said contractors shall commit the care and transportation of the mail, and accountable to the United States for any damages which may be sustained by the United States through their unfaithfulness or want of care; and that the said contractors will discharge any carrier of said mail when required to do so by the Postmaster General; also, that they will not transmit, by themselves or their agent, or be concerned in transmitting, commercial intelligence more rapidly than by mail, other than by telegraph, and that they will not carry out of the mail letters or

newspapers which should go by post; and further, the said contractors will convey, without additional charge, the special agents of the de-

partment, on the exhibition of their credentials.

They further undertake, covenant, and agree with the United States, that the said contractors will collect quarterly, if required by the Postmaster General, of postmasters on said route, the balances due from thom to the General Post Office, and faithfully render an account thereof to the Postmaster General in the settlement of quarterly accounts, and will pay over to the General Post Office all balances remaining in their hands.

For which services, when performed, the said John Butterfield, William B. Dinsmore, William G. Fargo, James V. P. Gardner, Marcus L. Kinyon, Alexander Holland, and Hamilton Spencer, contractors, are to be paid by the United States the sum of six hundred thousand dollars a year, to wit, quarterly, in the months of May, August, November, and February, through the postmasters on the route, or otherwise, at the option of the Postmaster General of the United States; said pay to be subject, however, to be reduced or discontinued by the Postmaster General, as hereinafter stipulated, or to

be suspended in case of delinquency.

It is hereby also stipulated and agreed by the said contractors and their sureties, that in all cases there is to be a forfeiture of the pay of a trip when the trip is not run; and of not more than three times the pay of the trip when the trip is not run and no sufficient excuse for the failure is furnished; and a forfeiture of a due proportion of it when a grade of service is rendered inferior to the mode of conveyance above stipulated; and that these forfeitures may be increased into penalties of higher amount, according to the nature or frequency of the failure and the importance of the mail; also, that fines may be imposed upon the contractors, unless the delinquency be satisfactorily explained to the Postmaster General in due time, for failing to take from or deliver at a post office the said letter mail or any part of it; for suffering it to be wet, injured, lost, or destroyed; for carrying it in a place or manner that exposes it to depredation, loss, or injury, by being wet or otherwise; for refusing, after demand, to convey a letter mail by any coach or wagon which the contractors regularly run or are concerned in running on the route beyond the number of trips above specified; or for not arriving at the time set in the schedule. And for setting up or running an express to transmit letters or commercial intelligence in advance of the mail, or for transmitting knowingly, or after being informed, any one engaged in transporting letters or mail matter in violation of the laws of the United States, a penalty may be exacted of the contractors equal to a quarter's pay; but in all other cases no fine shall exceed three times the price of the trip. And whenever it is satisfactorily shown that the contractors, their carrier or agent, have left or put aside the said letter mail, or any portion of it, for the accommodation of passengers. they shall forfeit not exceeding a quarter's pay.

And it is hereby further stipulated and agreed by the said contractors and their sureties, that the Postmaste (keneral may annut the contract for repeated failures; for violating the post office laws; for disobeying the instructions of the department; for refusing to ischarge a carrier when required by the department; for assign ag the contract, or any part of it, without the consent of the Postmaster General; for setting up or running an express as aforesaid; or for transporting persons conveying mail matter out of the mail as aforesaid; or whenever either of the contractors shall become a postmaster, assistant postmaster, or member of Congress; and this contract shall in all its parts be subject to the terms and requirements of an act of Congress passed on the twenty-first day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eight, entitled "An act concerning public contracts."

And the Postmaster General may also annul the contract whenever he shall discover that the same, or any part of it, is offered for sale in

the market for the purpose of speculation.

It is hereby further stipulated and agreed, that if obstacles, such as the want of water or feed, or physical obstructions, should be found between the points herein designated, so that time cannot be made, and a better line can be found between those points, the Postmaster

General may vary the route to such better line.

And it is also further understood and agreed, that the contractors shall have all the rights of pre-emption, whatever they may be, secured by the 12th section of the act of Congress aforesaid, approved March 3, 1857, on either of the lines from the Mississippi river to the point of their junction with the main stem, but not on both—the election to be made by them at any time within twelve months after the date of the execution of this contract.

In witness whereof, the said Postmaster General has caused the seal of the Post Office Department to be hereto affixed, and has attested the same by his signature, and the said contractors and their sureties have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year set opposite

their names respectively.

AARON V. BROWN, [L. s.]

Postmaster General.

JOHN BUTTERFIELD,	[L. s.]	Sept. 16.
W. B. DINSMORE,	L. 8.1	* "
WM. G. FARGO,	L. S.	"
J. V. P. GARDNER,	L. s.1	"
M. L. KINYON.	L. 8.	**
ALEX. HOLLAND,	L. S.	"
H. SPENCER,	L. S.	"
D. N. BARNEY,	L. S.	"
JOHNSTON LIVINGSTON,	L. S.	"
DAVID MOULTON,	L. S.	"
ELIJAH P. WILLIAMS.	L. 8.	"

Signed, scaled, and delivered by the Postmaster General in the presence of—

WM. H. DUNDAS.

And by the other parties hereto in the presence of— REVERDY JOHNSON. ISAAC V. FOWLER.

I hereby certify that I am well acquainted with Danford N. Barney,

Johnston Livingston, David Moulton, and Elijah P. Williams, and the condition of their property, and that, after full investigation and inquiry, I am well satisfied that they are good and sufficient sureties for the amount in the foregoing contract.

ISAAC V. FOWLER,

Postmaster at New York, N. Y.

[Endorsement.]

Ordered: That whenever the contractors and their securities shall fi' in the Post Office Department a request in writing that they desire to make the junction of the two branches of said road at Preston, instead of Little Rock, the department will permit the same to be done by some route not further west than to Springfield, in Missouri, thence by Fayetteville, Van Buren, and Fort Smith, in the State of Arkansas to the said junction at or near the town of Preston. in Texas; but said new line will be adopted on the express condition that the said contractors shall not claim or demand from the department or from Congress any increased compensation for or on account of such change in the route from St. Louis, or of the point of junction of the two routes :rom Little Rock to Preston; and on the further express condition, that whilst the amount of lands to which the contractors may be entitled under the act of Congress may be estimated on either of said branches from Preston to St. Louis, or Memphis, at their option, yet the said contractors shall take one-half of that amount on each of said branches, so that neither shall have an advantage in the way of stations and settlement over the other; and in case said contractors, in selecting and locating their lands, shall disregard this condition, or give undue advantage to one of said branches over the other, the department reserves the power of discontinuing said new route from St. Louis to Preston, and to hold said contractors and their securities to the original route and terms expressed and set forth in the body of this contract.

AARON V. BROWN,

Postmaster General.

SEPTEMBER 11, 1857.

He ing furnished the above detail of facts, the department does not consider it improper to submit a few observations in relation to

the reasons which induced a preference for the route selected.

The law of Congress not being mandatory, the department did not feel at liberty, in the exercise of a sound discretion, to select any route over which it was considered physically impossible to obtain the service within the time and by the mode of conveyance specified in the act. The trip was to be made within twenty-five days, in four-horse conches, suitable for the conveyance of passengers as well as the safety and security of the mails. Applying these requirements to the extreme northern route proposed, from St. Louis by Fort Independence. Fort Darennie, Salt Lake, sec., the department had the recorded experience of many years against the practicability of procuring anything like a regular and certain service on that route, and the United States had had a mell carried to years on that route, and the

returns in the department showed the most conclusive facts against its selection. The mails for November, December, and January, 1850-'51, did not arrive until March, 1851. The winter mouths of 1851-'52 were very severe. The carrier and postmaster reported that they started in time, but had to turn back. The mails of February, March, and Decymber, of 1853, were impeded by deep snow. Those of January and Cebruary, 1854, on account of deep snow, did not arrive until the month of April. There was no improvement in the vervice even down to the November mail of 1856, which left Independence on the first of November, and, on account of deep snow, was obliged to winter in the mountains. The snow caused almost an entire failure for four months of the year. These actual experiments, made from the year 1850 to the present time, without referring to the concurring testimony of explorers and travellers, put this route entirely out of the question.

The next route to be considered was the one by Albuquerque-whether the same might start from Memphis or St. Louis. Is this route sufficiently level and exempt from snow, ice, and extremely cold weather, to give the promise that the required service can be performed with regularity and certainty throughout the entire year? and if it can be so performed, can it be done with reasonable safety and comfort to the passengers who are to be transported over it? The mere transmission of the "letter mail" was certainly not the sole object of the law. It looks expressly to the comfort of travellers in the stage, and doubtless to the millions of emigrants and others who.

for ages, might pass to and from our Pacific States.

By an inspection of the general profile sheets accompanying the Pacific Railroad Reports, it will be seen that the mean elevation of the plateau of the Sierra Madre and Rocky mountains is about 7,000 feet above the level of the sea near the 35th parallel, (Albuquerque route,) and near the 32d parallel (El Paso route) it is about 4,000 or 4,200 feet, (Lieut. Parke,) giving a difference of 2,800 or 3,000 feet. difference in elevation, in a climatological point of view, is very important, as will be shown by comparison of extremes of climate on

their routes.

Next, with regard to the climate of winter, particularly along these

routes, we present the following facts:

Albuquerque route. - At Albuquerque, according to the meteorological report of the medical department of the United States army, the maximum and minimum temperatures, respectively, were, for the winter months of 1849 and 1850: in December, 530, 50; January, 49°, minus 12°; February, 57°, 17°. For 1850 and 1851: in December, 52°, minus 5°; January, 57°, 8°; February, 59°, 7°. For 1852 and 1853: in December, 65°, 21°; January, 65°, 19°; February, 66°, 13°. For 1853 and 1854: in December, 66°, 20°; January, 63°, 5°; February, 67°, 15°; and in December, 1854, 58°, 19°,

At Fort Defiance, about twenty miles north of Campbell's Pass in latitude, and from 300 to 500 feet higher, the maximum and minimum temperatures, respectively, were: for the month of December, 1851, 62°, 4°; 18 inches snow, For 1852 and 1853; in December,

50°, 2°; January, 55°, 7°; February, 56°, 6°. For 1853 and 1854: in December, 57°, 6°; January, 49°, minus 20°; February, 54°, 2°. For 1854 and 1855: December, 65°, 10°; January, 59°, minus 17°; February, 61°, 13°. For 1855 and 1856: December, 56°, minus 25°; January, 54°, minus 8°; February, 51°, minus 3°.

At Albuquerque, December, 1856, the maximum was 65°, minimum 5°; Rio Grande frozen over, so as to be passable from 7th to 25th January, 1857; maximum 66°, minimum 4°; on the 9th, 10th and 11th the thermometer stood, respectively, minus 3°, minus 2°.

minus 4°. February, 1857, maximum 72°, minimum 10°.

At Fort Defiance, December, 1856, the maximum was 50°, minimum minus 11°. On the 2d the thermometer stood, at 9 p. m., minus 2°; on the 3d, at 7 a. m. and 9 p. m., minus 2°; on the 4th, at 7 a. m., minus 10°; on the 5th, at 7 a. m., minus 6°; on the 3th, at 7 a. m., minus 11°; on the 7th, at 7 a. m., minus 7°; on the 8th, at 7 a. m., minus 1°; on the 10th, at 7 a. m., zero; on the 13th, at 7 a. m., minus 9°, and at 9 p. m., minus 7°.

For January, maximum 54°, minimum minus 11°. On the 9th, 10th, and 11th, the thermometer stood, at 7 a. m., respectively, minus 7°, minus 11°, minus 11°; on the 10th, at 9 p. m., minus 4°.

For February, maximum was 60°, minimum minus 12°.

"On December 25, 1855, the thermometer at the hospital at Fort Defiance gave a reading of thirty-two degrees (32°) below zero, at 6½ a.m. The hospital is not by any means in the coldest portion of the garrison. Two hundred yards distant the mercury, in January, 1856, ranged from four to eight degrees below that at the hospital, and there is not the slightest doubt of the freezing of the mercury had the instrument been placed in the more exposed situation on the morning of December 25, 1855. A number of men on detached service had their hands and feet frozen, and some badly. The mercury was below zero four mornings in December, 1855; six mornings in January, 1856; three mornings in February, and on the mornings of the 1st and 2d of March, it was below zero.

"The table above will give a fair idea of the climate of the country. The winter of 1855 and 1856 was more severe than any one known for many years. The wintry weather commenced on the 1st of November, 1855, and has continued up to the present time, March 14, 1856. The Rio Grande, at Albuquerque, was frozen over, and with ice sufficiently strong to bear a horse and carrets. Those Indians who live habitually to the north of Fort Defiance were obliged to abandon that portion of the country and move south, with their flocks and herds, in quest of grazing, on account of the depth of snow, which, in the mountains, at whose base the fort is situated, was over two feet in depth in March, 1850."—(Correspondence, J. Letherman, Assistant Surgeon, U. S. A.; Smithsonian Report, 1855, page 287.)

On the 24th of December, 1853, Captain Whipple experienced snow storms and weather sufficiently cold to contract the mercury 31 degrees below zero, near the San Francisco mountains, and still further west, in the Aztec Pass, to 21 degrees below zero, when he experienced another severe snow storm. So much for the climate of

winter on the Albuquerque route.

Let us compare this account of the climate, extracted from undoubted sources, with that along the more southern route selected.

At Fort Fillmore, on the El Paso route, the meteorological report above referred to shows the minimum temperature at this place, up to

1854, to be but 10 degrees.

At Tucson, February, 1854, Lieutenant Parke reports the minimum temperature 32 degrees, and on one occasion, on the San Pedro, to be 12 degrees at sunrise. We have searched in vain every source of information, and have yet to learn that snow ever lies upon the plains near the El Paso route, or that the thermometer ever descended below zero. The mean temperature of winter at Fort Fillmore is about 46.6 degrees. The mean temperature of winter at Fort Webster, (Copper Mines,) north of Ojo de la Vaca, and 6,350 feet above the sea level, is but 41.3 degrees, while at Fort Defiance, a corresponding position, with reference to the Albuquerque route, it is 28.7 degrees, and at Albuquerque it is 37 degrees. At Fort Yuma, (mouth of the Gila,) on the El Paso route, the mean temperature of winter is 56.8 degrees.

Although this superiority of climate on the El Paso route must be admitted, still it has been and may be argued that the degree of cold on the Albuquerque route is not greater than on many of the stage routes of the Atlantic States.—not greater, perhaps, than between Philadelphia and Pittaburg, or between Baltimore and Wheeling. Without admitting the fact, at all events so far as the latter route is concerned, it requires but little effort to remember how uncertain during the winter season was the transportation of the mails when the roads were in their natural state, and with what extreme suffering from the cold staging used to be performed between those cities, with all the advantages of short and well-appointed stations for recruiting the energies

of the benumbed and exhausted passengers.

But would Congress or the public be content with a route to California no better in point of climate than those by Harrisburg and Cumberland, when a more mild and favorable one could be easily procured? Imagine four stages to start out from St. Louis on the Albuquerque route with eight passengers in each, thirty-two in number. At the starting point the snow is eight or ten inches deep, which it often is for weeks together. They are to go day and night, the thermometer ten or fifteen degrees above, not below zero. They progress westward, ascending every mile higher and higher, the cold increasing with every mile, for an entire week. At last they reach Albuquerque, an elevation of 6,000 feet, the mercury standing four or five degrees below zero. Benumbed by the cold for more than a week, overcome by the loss of sleep, they begin another ascent to Campbell's Pass, the best on the route, about 7,000 feet in height, in the wichtity of which the thermometer is standing, by authentic and andoubted observations, from 2° to 32° below zero.

How can thirty-odd passengers, men, women, and children, some feeble it health or delicate in constitution, be otherwise than in almost a dying condition? This is no picture of the imagination; it is one of those practical views which common sense will always suggest as to the sufferings and exposures of stage travelling under

circumstances so inauspicious. But a truer picture of more intense suffering may be found in the groups of emigrants camped out amid the snows, or struggling to get on, when the mercury, as it very often happens, is down at or below zero-whether a new degrees above or below makes no difference, for a long continued stage or emigrant travel, under circumstances of so much severe exposure, would, in a few years, mark every station with the fresh graves of its victims. Most emigrants are compelled to be en route in some portion of the winter months. Most families cannot well start from the Atlantic to the Pacific or interior States until they have first finished and disposed of the crop of the preceding season; at all events, it must be so far matured before they start that something approaching its value can be realized from it, in order to help in defraying the expenses of removal. Nor can emigrants linger too long on the way. They must go on, however much exposed to hardships, in order to reach their new homes in time to make a crop the next season. The poor cannot lose two crops in succession without being ruined. The southern or El Paso route is eminently comfortable and desirable for winter emigration, which the Albuquerque one cannot be, whatever might be said in its favor as a route in the summer season. The department supposed Congress to be in search of a route that could be found safe, comfortable, and certain during every season of the year, as well for the transportation of the mails as for the accommodation of emigrants and the future location of a railroad to the Pacific.

In relation to the relative facility with which four-horse stage coaches can be run over the Albuquerque and the El Paso routes, it must be remembered that this service was to commence within twelve months. The distance was more than two thousand miles, over many ranges of mountains, and nearly the whole distance uninhabited. There were no roads yet opened, and even the foot of the white man had not yet trodden many portions of the way which might finally he selected. Still, the stages must be running within twelve months. To do so it was evident that some route must be selected which was naturally a good one-such a one that, by cutting down some trees and blazing others, as mere guide posts, digging down occasional hillsides, and building slight and temporary bridges, the work of transportation might begin within the brief period required by the law. It was not enough that, by great labor of years and by large expenditure of money, a graded turnpike could be made, or a railway constructed, at the end of some half dozen years, or even a longer period, but it must be over a surface of country naturally so favorable that stage coaches, with their mails and passengers, could be running within twelve months with a rapidity scarcely equalled on the best routes of the older States. To make the trip in twenty-five days they must goday and night, averaging about eighty miles each day. Now. which of these two routes presented the greatest probability of affording such a service? Captain Marcy explored both routes as far as the Rio Grande, and, after having examined both, he gave a decided preference to the southern or El Paso route. He says, on page 228 of his report, after a favorable description of the route from the Rio Grande to the Pecos:

"Our road from here runs across the Llano Estacado for seventyeight miles, upon a perfectly level prairie as firm and smooth as
marble. It then descends from the high table land, about fifty feet,
into a rolling prairie country, where the Colorado of Texas has its
source. Thus far there is but little timber or water on our route,
except at certain points noted upon the map; but these points can be
made from day to day with loaded teams. As if, however, in compensation for the absence of other favors, nature, in her wise economy,
has adorned the entire face of the country with a luxuriant verdure of
different kinds of grama grass, affording the most nutritious sustenance
for animals, and rendering it one of the best countries for grazing
large flocks and herds that can be conceived of.

"Immediately after we descended from the high table lands, we struck upon an entirely different country from the one we had been passing over before. By a reference to the map it will be seen we kept near the plain upon the head branches of the Colorado and the Clear Fork of the Brazos. Here we found a smooth road over a gently undulating country of prairies and timber, and abounding with numerous clear spring branches for two hundred miles, and in many

places covered with large groves of mezquite timber, which makes the very best of fuel. The soil cannot be surpassed for fertility. The grass remains green during the entire winter, and the climate is salubrious and healthy. Indeed, it possesses all the requisites that can be desired for making a fine agricultural country; and I venture to predict that at no very distant period it will contain a very dense population. It is only necessary for our practical farmers to see it, and have protection from the incursions of the Indians, to settle it at once.

"Soon after crossing the Rio Brazos, our road strikes out upon the high ridge lying between the waters of the Trinity and Red rivers; and it appears as if nature had formed this expressly for a road, as it runs for a hundred miles through a country which is frequently much broken up on each side with hills and deep ravines, and the only place where wagons can pass is directly upon the crest of this natural defile. It is as firm and smooth as a turnpike, with no streams of magnitude or other obstruction through the entire distance to near Preston, where we left it and crossed the Red river-from Preston o Fort Washita, and thence to our outward route upon Gaines' creek. the road passing through the Chickasaw country, which is rolling, and in many places covered with a great variety of large timber and well watered, with no mountains or high hills to pass over. Hence you will perceive that from Dona Ana to Fort Smith, a distance of 994 miles, our road passes over smooth and very uniformly level ground, crossing no mountains or deep valleys, and for five hundred miles, upon the eastern extremity, runs through the heart of a country possessing great natural advantages. I conceive this to be decidedly the best overland wagon route to California, for several reasons."

We will now call attention to the evidence of Captain John Pope, Topographical Engineers, who has been stationed a long time in New Mexico, andhas seen a great portion of the plains between the 32d and 39th parallels. In chapter XI, Pacific Railroad Reports, vol. 2, speaking of the general character of the country along the 32d parallel

route, he says:

"In glancing at the topographical features of the immense plains which extend westward from the frontiers of Arkansas and Missouri. the first great peculiarity which strikes the attention is the remarkable interruption to their wast monotony presented by the belt of country between the 32d and 34th parallels of latitude. The great deserte, commencing about the 97th meridian, extend over a distance of six hundred miles to the eastern base of the Bocky mountains. this whole extent they are badly watered by a few sluggish streams which intersect them, many of which disappear altogether in the dry season, and are destitute absolutely of timber, except a sparse growth of dwarf cotton along the streams. From the northern part of the United States, at the parallel of 40°, this immense region of desert country extends without interruption as far to the south as the parallel of 34°. At this parallel its continuity is suddenly and remarkably Between the 32d and 34th parallels of latitude a broad interrupted. belt of well-watered, well-timbered country, adapted in a high degree to agricultural purposes, projects for three hundred and twelve miles. like a vast peninsula, into the parched and treeless waste of the plains, and at its western limit approaches to within less than three hundred

miles of the Rio Grande at El Paso."

The same distinctive preference to the El Paso route (the one selected) over the Albuquerque route is given by Commissioners Emory and Bartlett, Lieutenant Parke, and A. H. Campbell, at the head of the Pacific Wagon Road Office, Interior Department, who accompaned Captain Whipple over the Albuquerque route, and Lieutenant Parke over the El Paso, as privcipal engineer, in 1853, '54, and '55. comparison of the two routes west of the Rio Grande the department considered equally favorable to the one selected. Beside the fact of its being over a country about 3,000 feet lower than the Albuquerque route, Congress had appropriated \$200,000 on this route to be expended in the construction of a wagon road between the Rio Grande and Fort Yuma, on the Colorado. So large a sum expended on a surface so favorable by nature will, doubtless, prove of an immense advantage in expediting the proposed service, both as to regularity and speed. Before this appropriation was made by Congress, Mr. Secretary Davis, who collected a larger amount of reliable information on this subject than any other person, reported to Congress that the most practicable and economical route for a railroad from the Mississippi river to the Pacific ocean was the one which the department has selected. Lieut. Mowry, writing on this subject, since the route was established, says: "For years, a mail has been regularly carried from San Antonio to El Paso without difficulty or danger, except from Indians. At premail is carried from El Paso to Tucson, 240 miles sent a m west, by government express, for the benefit of the troops in Arizona. This express has a military escert. Fort Yuma and San Diego, California, have for five years been connected by a semi-monthly mail, (government express,) which, during my two years' service at Fort Yuma, was as regular in ... arrival as the steamer from the east at Sau Francisco.

"The only part of the newly selected route not now opened by a mail is that from Fort Yuma to Tucson, 260 miles; and this is almost daily travelled by the people of the Territory, by emigrants, and by Mexicans. Tucson is a growing town, and will afford all the grain needed for the road to El Paso. The Pimas villages, on the Gila river, will supply grain for the route to Fort Yuma, besides any quan-

tity to transport to any desired point, or a depot of supply.

"At Fort Yuma, last year, a large quantity of corn was allowed to rot for want of a market, and there is grazing for ten thousand animals on the river banks. A few military posts, which would be necessary on either of the other routes, will make the southern route perfectly safe; and the immense mineral wealth, in silver and copper, will at once draw to Arizona a large population. It is the only available route at all seasons of the year. The route through the South Pass is as much closed by snow from four to six months in the year as if barred by a gate of adamant. During the winter of 1854-'55, I was in the Salt Lake valley, and no mail from the east reached us from November to April. The mail was at that time transported on pack mules, and was in the charge of experienced men, who had

spent their lives on the plains.

"If they could not get the mail through either way, how much less the chance is there for Concord coaches? The central route is no better. I refer to Colonel Frémont or Lieutenant Beale to state, upon their reputation as travellers and 'mountain men,' how much dependence can be placed upon the regular transmission of a semiweekly mail through the Cochectopee Pass in December, January, February, or March. The route by El Paso and Fort Yuma is open the entire year. On both the other routes artesian wells are necessary to get water at convenient distances, and this necessity upon the southern route is therefore no extraordinary argument against it. I may be allowed to remark that the impression so generally diffused in the eastern States, that Arizona Territory is a desert and a God-forsaken country, is entirely erroneous. It will be recollected that California, now celebrated as an agricultural State, was stigmatized with the same epithets, and said to produce nothing but gold. Arizona promises to convince the world that she is able to produce silver enough to supply all the demands of commerce, and to show to the emigrant in search of a quiet and fruitful homestead beautiful valleys and clear running streams, where he may cultivate his crops with a fullness of fruition only known to the virgin soil of our western possessions."

The scarcity of water has been often urged against the southern or El Paso route. There is no route between the Mississippi river and California against which the same objection may not be made. After much examination, we believe that the route selected is freer from this objection than almost any other. The statements of Licentenant Mowry and Mr. Campbell are fully sustained by other authorities. The former, in a published statement, says:

"The country from El Paso to Tucson, three hundred and forty miles, is susceptible of early settlement, and is, moreover, one of the finest routes ever opened towards our western possessions. In no

part of it is there a distance of over thirty miles without water, and it is often found at distances of ten and fifteen, with plenty of good

grazing throughout the entire distance.

"From Tucson, the principal town of the Territory of Arizona, (throughout the whole length of which the route runs,) to the Gila river, ninety miles, there is no water in the dry season, and two artesian wells will be necessary. In the wet season there is plenty of water. This distance is travelled at all seasons with mule teams and oxen, without difficulty. Down the Gila to Fort Yuma, one hundred and seventy-five miles, there is plenty of water and grass. From Fort Yuma, on the Colorado river, to Carissa creek and San Diego county, California, about one hundred miles, the route is heavy with sand, and water is found in but three places at all seasons of the year. In the wet season water is found every few miles. Twentyfour miles from Fort Yuma, or Colorado City, are Cook's wells, which, at an expense of \$1,000, can be made to furnish an ample supply. Twenty-six miles beyond are the Alamo Mucho wells, which can be enlarged, at the same cost, to any quantity desired. miles further on are the Indian wells, which will also yield an ample supply. Twenty miles further are the Sackett's wells, which are fed by a subterranean stream, and can also be made to supply any quantity of water.

"These two distances, from Tucson to the Gila and from Fort Yuma to Carissa, present the only difficulties on the route. United, the distance is but one hundred and ninety miles, and it is travelled at all

seasons of the year by heavily loaded teams.

"From Carissa creek into San Diego the route is well watered and affords excellent grazing. The distance is one hundred and twenty-five miles; but the supervisors of San Diego county are now engaged in laying out a new road, which will much shorten the distance."

Mr. Campbell, who, as we have before stated, travelled over both routes, has borne the most ample testimony "that between the Rio Grande and the San Pedro river there are thirteen permunent water stations in about two hundred and twenty-four miles, giving an average of one in seventeen miles, and eighteen, including several fine rain-water stations, where water can be preserved, which will give an

average of one in twelve miles."

We have submitted this letter of Lieutenant Mowry to Mr. Campbell. He confirms the statements of Lieutenant Mowry in every important parsicular, and further informs us "that the ninety miles jornada from the Tucson to the Gila is avoided entirely by following down the San Pedro and Gila rivers to the Pimas villages. The distance from the San Pedro, by either route, to the Gila, is about the same; and it is probable that, by following down the Aravaypa, a tributary of the Gila, discovered by Lieutenant Parke's party, a distance of many miles can be saved; and in the Calitro mountains, along this route, there is an abundance of pure water in living streams, fine grazing, and oak, ash, walnut, and some pine timber. Deer, antelope, bear, and grouse abound there also, and many indications of gold were observed, and gold was found near the San Pedro river."

Captain Humphreys, in his report to the Secretary of War, and Lieutenant Parke, both testify that a sufficient supply of water can be had on the route for either a railroad or stage line.

In relation to the relative distance on the two routes, an examination of the map will exhibit the fact that the distance from Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington, to San Francisco, is about the same upon both routes.

Albuquerque route.

Distance from San Francisco to Fort Smith, on the Albuquerque route, (see Captain Whipple's report, vol. 2, p. 76)	1,952	miles	
report, Pacific Railroad Report, vol. 1, p. 108)	1,345	"	
Total	3,297	"	
El Paso route.			
From San Francisco Bay (San José) to Fulton, (Lieut. Parke's report, 1855, unpublished,) From San Francisco Bay (San José) to San Francisco From Fulton to New York, (Humphreys' report, in Pacific	1,972 44	miles	
Railroad Report, vol. 1, p. 108)	1,335	""	
Total	3,351	"	

Making a difference of only fifty-four miles in favor of the Albuquerqe route, as shown by the Pacific railroad surveys—a difference too small to be a matter of grave objection. These and other estimates of distance cannot be expected to be entirely correct; but they approximate the precise distances as nearly as published surveys and explorations will allow of. The above difference of fifty-four miles, however, is reduced to four miles, if we estimate the distance from San Bernardino to San Francisco, via the Cajen Pass, Cañada de los Uvas, and Estero Plain,* as in the following table, thereby avoiding the detour of Lieutenant Parke's route via Santa Barbara and the Gaylote Pass.

From the latest authorities, for the respective routes from the Mississippi river, at St. Louis, via Albuquerque, and at Memphis, via El Paso and Fort Yuma, to San Francisco, California, I find the most direct distances over which the mail should travel as follows:

Route from Memphis, via El Paso, &c.

From Memphis to Preston (a)		miles
From Preston to Waco Tanks (b)	615	"
From Waw Tanks to Fort Fillmore (c)	40	"
From Fort Fillmore to Pimas villages (d)	306	"
From Pimas villages to Fort Yuma (e)	167	"
From Fort Yuma to Sau Bernardino (/)	180	"
Cañada de los Uvas, and Estero Plain (g)	420	"
	2,103	
Route from St. Louis, via Springfield, Antelope Hills, river, Albuquerque, &c., to San Francisco.	or Ca	nadiar
river, Albuquerque, &c., to San Francisco. From St. Louis to head of Pajarito creek (h)	•	nadiar miles
river, Albuquerque, &c., to San Francisco. From St. Louis to head of Pajarito creek (h) From head of Pajarito creek to San Francisco (via	•	
river, Albuquerque, &c., to San Francisco. From St. Louis to head of Pajarito creek (h)	•	
river, Albuquerque, &c., to San Francisco. From St. Louis to head of Pajarito creek (h) From head of Pajarito creek to San Francisco (via Cañon Carnuel or San Antonio, New Mexico,) and	860	miles
river, Albuquerque, &c., to San Francisco. From St. Louis to head of Pajarito creek (h) From head of Pajarito creek to San Francisco (via Cañon Carnuel or San Antonio, New Mexico,) and via Tah-ee-chay-pah Pass, California	860 1,246 2,106	miles
river, Albuquerque, &c., to San Francisco. From St. Louis to head of Pajarito creek (h) From head of Pajarito creek to San Francisco (via Cañon Carnuel or San Antonio, New Mexico,) and	860	miles.
river, Albuquerque, &c., to San Francisco. From St. Louis to head of Pajarito creek (h) From head of Pajarito creek to San Francisco (via Cañon Carnuel or San Antonio, New Mexico,) and via Tah-ee-chay-pah Pass, California From St. Louis to Campbell's Pass, via Galisteo (i)	860 1,246 2,106 1,080	miles

Note.—As an interesting comparison between these two routes, take Captain Whipple's modified distance—1,952 miles—from Fort Smith to San Francisco, and add 250 miles in a direct line from Fort Smith to Memphis, from the General Railroad Map above referred to, and we have from the same initial point—Memphis—a distance to San Francisco of 2,202 miles.

Thus the difference in the distances of the two routes between the Mississippi river and San Francisco is too inconsiderable to become material.

^{(&}quot;) See General Pacific Railroad Map, in hands of engraver.

⁽b) See Captain J. Pope's report, 1864, Ho. Doc. 129, page 61.

⁽c) General Pacific Railroad Map

⁽d) Lieut. Parke's report, unpublished.

⁽e) Major Emory's reconnaissance, 1846, and Pacific Railroad profile, 32d parallel route.

^(/) Lieut. Williamson's surveys. Ho. Doc. 123, &c. &c. (g) Dieut. Williamson, 1832-54, and Lleut. Parke, 54-55, unpublished map and report. (b) General Pacific Railroad Map, &c.

⁽¹⁾ General Pacific Railroad Map and Captain Whipple's undistributed report.

⁽i) Captain Whippie's report and General l'acific Hallroad Map, A.c., &c.

As a pioneer route for the first great railroad that may be constructed to the Pacific, the Postmaster General has bestowed upon it all the labor and examination which the multiplied business of his department would allow of. If all or a greater portion of the railroads from the large cities and the States east of the Mississippi had concentrated at any one point on that river, such point would have been selected for the overland route to California. But such is not the fact. They concentrate chiefly at St. Louis, Cairo, and Memphis. Cairo is mentioned in this connexion because, through the Illinois Central, nearly all the railroads constructed for St. Louis may be said also to connect with the Mississippi at Cairo. Finding, therefore, no common centre on the Mississippi, the next desirable object was to find some common point west of that river from which a main stem could be projected passing westward to California. If you started out from St. Louis west you must lose all the connexious with the Cairo and Memphis railroads; but by starting out from St. Louis, and diverging south with her railroad now making to her Iron Mountain, you will presently receive the great railroad coming out from Cairo, so richly endowed that it is sure to be made at no distant day. Still bearing southwestward, we presently receive, at Little Rock, the other branch of the road from Memphis, connecting the line with all the great railroads of Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, and Kentucky. Not far from Little Rock the Vicksburg and New Orleans and Texas railroads fall in, bringing in, from almost every portion of the great river, all the connexions which all the Atlantic States north and south can make to that great highway which we are trying to establish. Thus it is that we have found west of the Mississippi what we could not obtain on it-a common concentration of railroads to a single point from which the future railroad may commence, swollen and enlarged in its common stem by the contributions of the railways coming in from nearly every State of the Union.

This diversion of the route to a southern direction by Little Rock or Preston has, however, other advantages than any to which we have

as vet adverted.

"By starting from St. Louis, the great western mart, and connecting at Little Rock or Preston with the line from Memphis, the two great

sections of the country are accommodated.

"Instead of projecting this mail, and its attendant benefits, into the wilderness, from the frontier of Missouri, to buffet with north winds and snows upon the plains of Kansas in winter, and drag over monotonous, waterless, treeless westes in summer, it was located through the centre of Missouri, of Arkansas, and throughout the western frontier of Texas. It will thus develop hitherto unknown resources in those States. It will open a vast agricultural and mineral region in Missouri; lend a helping hand to the young, growing, and unappreciated State of Arkansas; and conduct the hardy pioneer to the delightful woodlands and prairies of Texas. For nearly a thousand miles the traveller will be traversing a country abounding in beauty and in healthfulness, possessing a salubrious climate and a fruitful soil."

Nor should it be forgotten that the southern location of the route,

especially if it shall be followed by the construction of a railroad, may serve a valuable purpose in reference to the neighboring republic of Mexico. In time of peace it will shed its blessings on both nations, whilst in time of war it will furnish a highway for troops and munitions of war, which might enable us to vindicate our rights, and preserve untarnished our national honor.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
AARON V. BROWN.

Note.—Since the action of the department on this important subject, a publication has appeared; the public journals, from the pen of Mr. Bartlett, late of the Boun. Commission, so full of valuable and reliable information, that ti Postmaster General respectfully begs leave to subjoin it to this report, as follows:

THE OVERLAND MAIL TO CALIFORNIA.

[From the Providence Journal of August 18.]

Communication from Mr. John R. Bartlett.

The recent decision of the Postmaster General, in adopting the southern route at the one over which the United States mail shall be carried between the valie; of the Mississippi river and San Francisco, in California, having attracted much attention, I have deemed it a duty to submit a few remarks on the subject. In doing this, I do not propose to discuss the geographical question of a northern, a central, or a southern route, or the advantages or disadvantages which may accrue to any particular section of the country from the selection of a route, but simply to speak of the advantages which I believe the route adopted to possess, and of the facility with which a wagon road may be constructed over it. My conclusions are based, not upon the reports or explorations of others, but from my own observations while employed upon the survey of the Mexican boundary line.

The government has doubtless made its choice from the reports of the examinations made by the several parties which crossed the country with a view to collect such facts as would enable it to decide upon a route for a railroad to connect the Atlantic with the Pacific ocean.

It is well known that the surveys and explorations of the United States Boundary Commission, with which I was connected from the year 1850 to 1853, were near the parallel of 32 degrees, both east and west of the Rio Grande. Our journeys in Texas commenced near the 97th meridian of longitude, whence we passed to the table lands at the north, and traversed the country a distance of nearly rix hundred miles between the 31st and 32d parallels. From the woodless nature of the country here, one is enabled from any hill or eminence to cast his eye over a vast surface, as though lo king at a map, and notice all mountains, elevations, and depressions; the rivers and small water-courses, the water-sheds, and the timbered lands; in fact, over so open a district as here exists, an observer may obtain a most exact idea of the face of the country for fifty or a hundred miles from his point

of observation, particularly if that point is on the summit of an isolated

hill, of which there are many in the district in question.

For a large portion of this journey we travelled, with seven loaded wagons, where no travellers had been before, following no track and directed by no guide. Water was found in the various tributaries of the Colorado, which river was in sight at the north, and until we reached the sources of the Concho. Here came the first desert, and here begins the vast desert region which extends to the Rio Grande. This line of desert reaches far to the north, and includes the well known Llano Estacado, which was crossed by our party at its shortest angle, about sixty-five miles across. This plain is level and hard the entire distance, and would require no labor to make a road across it available. It is without wood and water, yet in several depressions ; water is often found, and there is little doubt that by sinking wells it might be procured at all times. In the passes of Castle mountain, ten miles east of the Pecos, there were traces of water, where it might be found by digging. We followed the Pecos and its tributary. Delaware creek, for more than a hundred miles, the country leing quite level the entire distance to the Guadalupe mountains and pass. From this the country is comparatively level to the Rio Grande. There are no mountains to cross, except the Hueco range, twenty-eight miles from El Paso, and these are attended with trifling difficulties. water there is the greatest deficiency, there been no running streams between the Guadalupe mountains and El Paso, a distance of about one hundred and ten miles. The first water is a spring called Ojo del Cuerpo, about fifteen miles northwest of the pass, and ten miles further a pond where there is water and grass at all times; next, at the Cornudos del Alamo, and again at the Sierra Hueco, where there are springs and natural water tanks or basins. These, by being dug out and properly opened, could be made to furnish the necessary water for the stations. This district, between the Guadulupe mountains and the Rio Grande, is the longest and most difficult to cross of any east of that river, on account of the deficiency of water; yet, reckoning two springs at the Cornudos del Alamo, ten miles apart, and there are five watering-places in the one hundred and ten miles. Of this distance, eighty-two miles is over a hard rolling country, where we ran our teems without danger; the remaining twenty-eight miles, from the Hueco mountains, is sandy. At the several watering-places there is an abundance of grama grass.

The route thus far described lies a little to the south of that selected by the Postmaster General for the California mail, though the western portion of it for nearly three hundred miles (presuming that of Captain Marcy to be followed) will be the same. From this point, on the Pecos, to the 99th meridian, the character of the country is much the same. The Llano Estacado is crossed further north, after which the route is intersected by the northern tributaries of the Colorado, while the Boundary Commission crossed the southern ones. Thence he follows the Brazos and Washita rivers. The country here, from the Pecos to the Red river, except across the plain referred to, is well watered, with timber bordering most of the streams, many of which have valleys or bottoms well adapted for cultivation. This

belt of country, which is watered by the Colorado, the upper Brasos, and the Red river, projects three hundred miles or more beyond the generally acknowledged limit of population west of the Mississippi, thereby lessening the distance of desert to be crossed in order to reach the Rio Grande. For this reason, therefore, the southern route along the line traced has advantages over the central one in having a much narrower belt of woodless and waterless country to

pass over, while the whole distance is about the same.

The next advantage of the southern line, and a most important one, is, that the summit level at El Paso is from 3,800 to 4,000 feet above the level of the sea, while that of the central or Albuquerque route, near the 35th parallel, is, according to the Pacific Railroad Reports, not far from 7,000 feet. The temperature at these two points corresponds with the difference in elevation. At Albuquerque the mercury sinks below sero, and the Rio Grande is sometimes frozen over so that persons may cross on the ice. At El Paso it has never been known to sink as low as zero. The Boundary Commission wintered there in 1850 -51, which was pronounced the coldest ever known there. Snow fell once or twice at night, but disappeared the day following before noon, and the mercury sank on a single occasion to 10°.

These conclusions are not new, as the same opinion was expressed in my "Personal Narrative"—a report of explorations connected with the Boundary Commission, published immediately on the return of that body from the survey of the line. In volume one of that work, page 139, in speaking of the district east of the Rio Grande, it is

tated that-

"The country is well adapted for a wagon road, and equally so for a railway. From Fredericksburg, in Texas, all the way to the Rio Grande, there is a natural road, which, as a whole, is better than one-half the roads in the United States west of the Mississippi. Very little has been done to this road of nearly 600 miles to render it what it is; and a little labor where the streams are crossed, with a bridge across the Pecos, which could be constructed with ease and at a small expense, would make the whole of it equal to our best turnpikes."

In continuation of my remarks on the practicability of constructing a great wagon road near the parallel of 32°, I suggested the necessity of sinking wells at certain places, and further stated as my belief, from what I had heard from Mexicans who had travelled the country between the Pecos and the Rio Grande, that water could be found in other places not then known to travellers, thereby removing one of

the greatest obstacles in crossing this arid region.

The district of country bordering on the Rio Grande at El Paso is the widest and richest portion of the bottom lands along that stream, and hence capable of sustaining a larger population that at any other point. The strip of bottom land known as the "Mesilla Valley," though not one-half the extent of that south of El Paso, is also valuable; and at Doña Ana, as well as a few miles to the north, the bottom lands again expand into a broad plain, admirably adapted to artificial irrigation and agriculture, and consequently to the sustaining of a larger population than is clsewhere to be found in that vicinity. Indeed, it may with truth be asserted that the richest portion of the

valley of the Rio Grande lies between the parallels of 31° 30' and 33 degrees. El Paso lies in 31° 45'. Of the extent of the culturable valley near the parallel of 35° I am not prepared to speak with confidence.

I will now speak of the country west of the Rio Grande near the parallel of 32 degrees, near which the contemplated mail route is to run. Phis district was frequently crossed and recrossed by myself personally, as well as by various engineering parties of the Boundary Commission. To avail ourselves of the few watering-places then known, we followed the Rio Grande to Santa Barbara, thence westwardly to Cooke's spring. Our surveying parties, which followed the line of 32° 22', found springs at several places between Poña Ana and Cooke's spring, and in their various reconnaissances discovered water in many places not marked on the maps or known to travellers. Proceeding west, the Rio Mimbres and a copious spring called Ojo de

Vaca followed at intervals of ten and twelve miles.

Westward from Ojo de Vaca the vast region extending to Tucson was entirely unknown, and I am not aware was ever traversed by any party of white men previous to 1851, when it became necessary that our Commission should penetrate it. When Col. Cooke was here in 1847 with his battalion, on his march to California, his guide, Leroux, was afraid to cross it, not knowing of the existence of water there. He therefore advised the Colonel to take a southwesterly course to the Guadalupe Pass, in Sonora, thence to San Pedro river, Tucson, and the Gila. Col. Cooke took this route and opened a way, which has since been laid down on the mans as Cooke's road, while the district avoided by him is designated "as an open prairie and a good route, if water can be found. Such was simply the "belief" of Leroux. In entering upon this unknown district we had many fears; yet, with a train of both heavily laden wagons and pack mules, we took a course due west from Ojo de Vaca, and found in the Burro mountains, fifteen miles distant, an abundance of water and a small stream, which I think extended to the Gila. We had followed a ravine for five miles through the mountains, and supposed we should be obliged to retrace our steps; yet, after searching an hour or two, we found a passage through the mountains for our wagons without using a spade or encountering any steep ascent or descent.

Thus the whole party for the survey of the line to its western extremity, and that for the survey of the Gila, as well as one of the Rio Grande divisions, with their loaded wagons, pack mules, a herd of twenty-five oxen and one hundred and fifty sheep, traversed this unknown region, crossing mountains, ridges, open plains, and desert wastes, without losing or crippling a wagon; without suffering for the want of water, which was always found at convenient distances until the rivers San Pedro and Gila were reached. In some cases where no water was seen we dug for it, and in every instance found it near the surface. In every mountain range defiles easy of access, with gradual ascents and descents, were everywhere found by diverging a little to the right or left. Grass, too, for our large train of mules, horses, cattle, and sheep, was always found in abundance. When encamping on the woodless plains there was a deficiency in fire-wood, but when

mear the mountains or streams there was plenty. Sometimes we were put to a little inconvenience to find wood, water, and grass at once; but I saw enough to satisfy me that a party exploring for the purpose, and not confined to a particular line, could find all these necessaries in abundance and at convenient distances from the Rio Grande to the

valley of the Santa Crus.

The valley of the Santa Cruz is the richest, and, though quite limited in breadth, contains more land suitable for agricultural purposes than any between the Rio Grande and the Pacific within the belt between the 31st parallel and the Gila. Here, too, near Santa Cruz, Tubac, Tumacacovi and Tucsou, are forests of mesquit, and the only considerable tracts of woodland (the mountains excepted) in this large district. In this valley are some of the oldest missionary establishments in America, Marco de Niza and Coronado having traversed this valley and made known its advantages before the year 1550. Such is the superior excellence of this valley, as compared with the other portions of the so-called "Gadsden Purchase," lying west of the Rio Grande valley, that it should be made available for as many stations as possible on the contemplated mail route. It contains the chief population of the district; is traversed by an excellent road; it opens the most direct and best route to Sonora, and is bounded on the east by the Santa Rita and other mountains known to abound in iron as well as the precious metals. The valley of San Pedro is admirably adapted for grazing, but not for agricultural purposes.

That my ideas with regard to this route are not now stated for the first time, but were made known to the government six years ago, I will quote from my despatch from Santa Cruz to the Hon. Alexander H. H. Stuart, Secretary of the Interior, dated September 27, 1851.

"Being the first party of which we have knowledge which has crossed the unknown region lying east of the San Pedro and south of the Gila, * I am now enabled to state, with great satisfaction, that the direct route travelled by the commission, nearly west from Ojo de Vaca, is a reute far more practicable for a road or railway than Cooke's route; that the distance from water to water is less; that the hills and mountains to be crossed are infinitely less in height and easier to bass; and, lastly, that there is a saving in the distance, between this and Cooke's, of more than 100 miles."

A more extended view was given by me of the adaptation of this route for a wagon road of railway in a communication to the president of the Atlantic and Pacific Railway Company, in reply to a note from him asking my opinion on the subject. My letter was dated December 21, 1853, and appeared in several New York and other

papers. I make a few extracts:

"Until recently, the maps of the interior portions of our continent have exhibited a great chain, known as the Rocky mountains, as continuous from a high northern latitude to the Isomus of Panama, thereby presenting a barrier to the construction of a great public highway; but such does not convey an accurate idea of the geographical features of this region.

"About the parallel of 32" 32' the Rocky mountains suddenly drop off, eight miles south of Fort Webster, and, with the exception of a few

spurs, seem to disappear entirely for about 100 miles. Here we emerge into the great plateau, elevated from 4,000 to 5,000 feet above the level of the sea, which is crossed by no continuous range of mountains for the distance stated. Short, isolated mountains and conical hills alone appear at intervals, and these are sometimes separated by fifty miles of plain. Through the State of Chihuahua this plateau is limited on the west by the Sierra Madre, but on the east it crosses the Rio Grando and extends across the northern portion of Texas.

"The belt of country here noted may safely be set down at from 80 to 100 miles in width, and extends from the Rio Grande to the Coast range of mountains on the Pacific. The mountains present no barrier to the construction of a railway, being in short ridges from five to ten miles in length, overlapping each other, with broad defiles or open spaces between, affording easy passages torough. * * * We travelled, with loaded wagons, more than thirty miles a day across this district, without once locking their wheels, and this too where there was no road. Every mountain range was passed through without difficulty; and, in some instances, so gradual was the ascent and descent as to be scarcely perceptible."

It will thus appear that this entire district, from the Rio Grande to the Colorado, with its broad, open, gravelly plains, is admirably adapted for either a great wagon road or a railway. From Tucson to the Gila is a desert of ninety miles without water. This desert is as hard as marble and perfectly level. Midway, at the Picacho, is a depression where water is often found, and where it would be advisable to sink

wells. Twelve miles south of the Gila are similar cavities.

At the Pimo villages, on the Gila, is a fine agricultural district, consisting of a plain more than twenty miles in length by four in width, which for ages has been cultivated by the semi-civilized Indians. Immediately to the north of this is another large and excellent agricultural district, bordering on the Salinas, which enters the Gila seven miles below the Pimo villages. This river is much larger than the Gila. I traced its course for about forty miles, and found its bottom lands intersected in all directions by ancient irrigating canals; while the numerous tumuli, mounds, and crumbling edifices of a race now passed away show that it once sustained a large population.

The Gila would be followed by a road for about one hundred and eighty miles to Fort Yuma, at the junction with the Colorado, chiefly on the adjacent plateau, which is hard and level. The bottom varies in width, and in many places bears a heavy growth of cotton-wood. The Colorado, which is crossed by ferries, might easily be bridged. Here, again, is a wide valley or bottom succeptible of a high degree of cultivation. This, too, is marked by the remains of irrigating canals, first dug by the aboriginal tribes, and subsequently by the old Span-

ards, who had a mission here.

We new reach the California desert, about one hundred miles across. This is very hard and level, with occasional spots of sand. It is entirely destitute of wood, and nearly so of grass. Water in the dry season is only to be obtained by digging. This is found at Cooke's wells, Alamo Mucho, and Sackett's wells. By sinking large wells it could doubtless be found in any quantity desirable. In seasons

when the Colorado overflows its banks, its waters fill large basins in the desert, where it sometimes remains two or three years before it is entirely absorbed by the sands or evaporated by the sun. Carissa creek, a small stream, which, after flowing a few miles, is lost in the sands, furnished water in the driest seasons. From this point to San Diego there is not only water at convenient distances, but an abundance of

The route here described from eastern Texas is taken by numbers of emigrant trains, except that portion of it from the Rio Grande to the Santa Cruz valley, which, until the Boundary Commission followed it, was unknown. The emigrants took Cooke's road, which was a hundred miles longer. On my return from California we met emigrant parties every day after leaving the Gila, and in one instance a drove of 17,000 sheep, all bound for San Francisco.

As these remarks have already been too much extended, I forbear mentioning other and more minute particulars of the advantages which may be claimed for the southern route. From what has been stated, it is evident that the region over which it is to pass is not the paradise which some have claimed for it; but, poor as it is in many respects, it is infinitely better and presents more advantages for a great national highway than any yet discovered to California.

APPENDIX A.

Route No. 7,809—New Orleans to Cairo; compensation, \$329,000; half trip, \$449 50.

In pursuance of the seventh section of the act of Congress, passed on the 3d March, 1857, and by direction of the Postmaster General, the undersigned have re-examined all questions arising out of fines imposed upon the contractors for carrying the mails on route No. 7,809, New Orleans to Cairo, on the Mississippi river; and having compared the same with the evidence produced, respectfully submit the following adjustment, and recommend its adoption:

First quarter of 1856.

Remit the fines and deductions imposed for failures, for failures to arrive in schedule time, for failures to connect, for failures at intermediate offices, and for inferior service during the months of January and February, 1856, amounting to \$48,504 73; and let the fines and deductions imposed for failures, for failures to arrive in schedule time, and for inferior service in the month of March, 1856, amounting to \$7,619 95, remain as settled, upon the following evidence, viz:

No. 1. William M. Murphy, special agent, reports from New Orleans, on the 6th February, 1856, "That the interruptions in the service, on route 7,809, still continue; the almost unprecedented state of the navigation, and the continued cold weather, promise but little improvement for some time to come. I have refrained from giving you frequent reports, which could have been but reiterations of the same thing, from time to time; no company, whicher they owned boats or not, could improve the service until the ice shall disappear."

No. 2. William J. Brown, special agent, reports from Cairo, on the 16th January, 1856: "Failures have been quite frequent in consequence of the intensely cold weather. In many instances engines were frozen up on the road. From Cincinnati to Louisville ice has so obstructed the navigation that the mail line of boats have ceased their regular trips. The ice is running very heavily on the Mississippi river from Cairo to Vicksburg, an occurrence scarcely over known before. This detains and impedes the operation of the mails between Cairo and New Orleans, which are now very heavy; but the company are making every exertion, and receiving mails with much more regularity than could be expected from the present condition of the river."

No. 3. Postmaster at Cairo, reports from Cairo, on the 30th January, 1856, in regard to performance of service on route 7,809, and states: "That the contractors have done everything in their power, sparing neither labor nor expense in the prosecution of their contract; but, owing to the heavy running ice in the river below here, and the low stage of the water, there have been but few boats for the past month that would hazard a trip, or up to this point. Reliable citizens of this vicinity, who have resided in this country from fifteen to twenty years, all concur in the statement that they have never wit-

nessed such formidable impediments to navigation on the Mississippi river, below here, of so long continuance. All the old boatmen whom I have heard speak of it, and it is a subject of daily and almost hourly remark here, make the same statement. There have been from twenty to thirty-five boats lying here ever since the 25th of December. Most of them retaining their officers and crews, resting under the probability, justified by this latitude and the experience of all past seasons, that a day or two later would witness a change of weather and the condition of the river, but up to this present moment there has been no indication of improvement in either. I make his statement from a sense of justice to the contractors, who are, app rently, and, I believe, really, doing all that can be done to carry on their contract."

No. 4. Postmaster at Cairo, on the 1st February 1856, reports: "The river is still obstructed by heavy running ice, an' but few boats are leaving or arriving. Those arriving for the past month have been from eight to twenty days from New Orleans, and the prospect

is still unfavorable to improvement."

No. 5. Postmaster at Cairo reports from Cairo, on the .'d March, 1856: "I have permitted the mails to be carried, in some instances, on boats that, under ordinary circumstances, would have been refused. I had no other alternative but to ship on them or retain the mails, as it has been impossible to make any calculation since the first of January when a boat would leave."

No. 6. The postmaster at Natchez, on 16th February, 1856, reports: "This office has been without a mail from Cairo, and all offices between there, for from three to six days, at various times; they are now beginning to arrive more regularly as navigation is opening. The cortractors have no boats; they wait for the first that comes."

No. 7. A memorial, signed by twenty-three merchants and business men of New Orleans, and by the captains of twenty-seven steamboats running on the Mississippi river, recommending that the contractors on 7,809 be indemnified for all fines and forfeitures imposed by the Postmaster General in consequence of failure on their part to make schedule time during the first and third quarters of 1856. The captains of steamboats state that they know from their personal knowledge, having had long experience in navigating the Mississippi river, that the ice during the first, and low water and fogs during the third quarter, rendered it impossible to perform the service any better than it was done, the difficulties from ice and low water having been worse than ever known; "and we believe that every effort was made, regardless of expense, to perform the service in good faith." The twenty-three merchants and business men of New Orleans urge the department to a favorable consideration of the foregoing.

No. 8. G. A. Philips makes oath on the 17th January, 1857:

"I have been in the employ as agent of the conductors on route 7,809, New Orleans to Cairo, since March 1, 1856, and have been during the whole time familiar with their business. Most of the money they have expended has been paid out either by myself, under my supervision, or on drafts drawn by me. I have charge of the books. I know of my own personal knowledge no pains or expense have been spared to overcome the natural or other obstacles which have presented

themselves, for the purpose of carrying the mails according to the spirit and letter of the contract, having myself transacted the business under such instructions from the contractors. The expense incurred for the first and third quarters far exceeded the pay received from the department. It is a fact generally known that the ice almost entirely suspended navigation during he months of January and February, and it was during this time that the heaviest outlay of the first quarter was incurred, having to pay large sums to get the mail forwarded at all. The expenses exceeded the receipts about \$30,000."

No. 9. Postmaster General Campbell, in obedience to a resolution of the 4th of February, 1856, calling for information relative to the mail communication between New Orleans and Cairo, reported on the

9th February, 1856, to the Senate, viz:

"The short time allowed would alone have rendered it difficult to perfect all necessary preparations for commencing on the lat of January, and regularly continuing daily mail service, as required; but an additional and entirely unforeseen difficulty arose, from the severity of the weather, which caused, to some extent, a suspension of the navigation of the Mississippi river. A special agent of this department, writing from New Orleans on the 28th January, 1856, says, "that owing to the condition of the river, which is filled with floating ice, from Cairo to the mouth of Red river, a distance of 750 miles, no line of boats could perform the service with any degree of regularity." He also states that there is a combination of steamboat interests aiming to break down the mail contractors and force the department to accept the enormous and combined bid of \$600.000."

"Another agent under date of 30th January, 1856, reports as follows: 'The uncommon severity of the winter, and unheard of obstructions from ice on the lower Mississippi, have prevented the shipment of mails with any regularity. It has been beyond the power or capacity of any parties to have performed a regular service, even without the opposition against which the contractors have contended.'

"These formidable difficulties have thus far prevented the conveyance of the mails with due regularity. I have the most positive assurances that the contractors are using every effort to perform their duty, and that they will yet succeed to the satisfaction of this department and the public. In the present condition of the river they are clearly entitled to some indulgence; but so soon as the obstructions from ice are removed, they will be held to the strictest accountability. If then, after a reasonable time, the stipulated service is not rendered, and frequent irregularities occur. I shall proceed to exercise the power specially reserved to me, to annul the contract for repeated failures."

No. 10. Postmaster at Cairo reports from Cairo, on the 19th February, 1856: "I have not strictly observed the instructions of the department relative to the departure of the mails from this office, for the reason that it has been impossible to do so during the obstructions to navigation, occasioned by the ice. Boats have had to choose their own time of leaving port, and rather than detain the mails in this office, in the absence of any probability that they would be sent at the actual time required, I have thought it the interest of the department and the public to embrace, in every instance, the first opportunity

afforded, after a mail was made up in the morning, that it might be forwarded the same day, rather than to observe the schedule hour of departure, when it was certain by so doing it would not leave until

the next day, or, perhaps, in two or three days after."

William M. Murphy, on the 23d May, 1857, on his oath No. 11. deposes and says: "I was deputed as special agent of the Post Office Department to put in operation the mail service on the Mississippi river. route 7.809-New Orleans to Cairo-to commence on the 1st January, 1856. On the given day I was at Cairo, and the contractors commenced the service. After remaining at that point for several days, in conference with the mail company, they presented a list of boats, which being duly inspected and received, according to instructions, a copy was forwarded the department, and the postmasters of Cairo and New Orleans were directed by me to ship the mails on said

boats, or on such as were of equal class and speed.

"The weather had been extremely cold for some weeks, and ice was commencing to form very rapidly on the upper Mississippi and the On the night of the 3d, I started for Louisville on Ohio rivers. steamer 'David White,' but such were the interruptions that we were only able to reach Evansville, where the boat was compelled to In a few days the Ohio was entirely closed to its mouth, and the Mississippi was filled with floating ice. On the 17th, (January, 1856,) I had returned to Cairo, where I found a large number of boats laid up, and navigation almost entirely suspended. On that night I left for New Orleans, on board the 'Effie Afton,' with the mails of the 15th, 16th, and 17th. It was with great difficulty we made our way through the ice, being mostly to float with it, until below Memphis, and serious interruptions were experienced until we passed Vicksburg. These interruptions continued up to the 28th February. Navigation continued to be more or less obstructed until some time in March, to an extent which prevented boats from making good From the commencement of the service the contractors seemed to make every effort to perform it, regardless of expense or trouble, or sacrifice. I know that they have paid alone, for the transportation of the mails, five hundred dollars per day, besides heavy contingent expenses for agents, &c. It was an impossibility for boats to have made schedule time.'

Second quarter of 1856.

Let the fines and deductions imposed upon the contractors during the second quarter of 1856, amounting to \$9,287 38; and the fines for failures at intermediate offices during the said quarter, which were imposed upon the contractors in the settlement of the third quarter, amounting to the further sum of \$3,570, remain as settled upon the following evidence, viz:

George A. Phillips, the agent of the contractors, in his affidavit

made on the 17th January, 1857, states:

"During the second quarter (of 1856) the outlay was not so heavy, and the mails were carried with much greater regularity, the river being in good navigable condition."

William M. Murphy, in his affidavit made on the 23d May, 1857,

"The spring of 1856 opened with a good river, and, during the second quarter, the contractors had every opportunity to perform a satisfactory service. The long continued cold weather and interruptions to the navigation had caused large accumulations of freights on the coast, and the rivers were crowded with steamers."

I can see no reason for excusing any failures on their part, save those which might occasionally occur from the unavoidable accidents of navigation. They certainly, if ever, had now a fair opportunity to fulfil the promises made for a good and sufficient service. The records of the department show the character of the service performed, and the Postmaster General expressed satisfaction with it.

Third quarter of 1856.

Of the sum of \$36,112 26 deducted from the pay of the contractors in the third quarter of 1856, let the fines and deductions imposed for failing to depart, amounting to \$6,742 50; and the fines which were deducted from their pay this quarter for failures at intermediate offices during the second quarter of 1856, amounting to \$3,570, making together, the sum of \$10,312 50, remain as settled. And let there be remitted the fines imposed for failures to arrive in schedule time, for failures to connect, inferior service, and failures at intermediate offices, during this third quarter of 1856, amounting to \$25,824 76, upon the following evidence, viz:

William M. Murphy, in his affidavit made on the 23d May, 1857,

states:

"The commencement of the third quarter found the river falling very rapidly; the Ohio not navigable for large boats, and the Upper Mississippi scarcely so; the New Orleans boats had commenced to lay up for their usual repairing. The contractors immediately made arrangements for such control over boats as would enable them to be employed in the transportation of the mails, irrespective of the want of business. To do this, they had to charter them at from one to two thousand dollars per month, and run them at their own expense. During the third and fourth quarters they purchased, to my knowledge, the controlling interest in the T. C. Twitchell and St. Charles, and chartered the 'Antelope,' 'Empire,' 'R. W. McRae,' 'Lucy Robinson,' 'Republic,' 'J. E. Montgomery,' 'Wm. Garvin,' and 'High Flyer.''

"The water continued very low all the season, and winter approached with no improvement in the condition of the river. Of course but little business was doing, and, though a very healthy season, the travel was limited. The shipment of the mails seemed the principal object of the contractors, and I have known them to return one of their boats to New Orleans after only an hour or two, and that at a loss

of over a thousand dollars for the trip."

No. 8. G. A. Philips, in his affidavit made on the 17th day of January, 1857, states: "The expenses of the third quarter exceeded those of any other. The river, during the whole time, was so low

that none but the highest draught boats could run. Indeed, all river men concur in saying that the Mississippi was never so low and so dangerous to navigate as during this season. The statistics of disasters, during the time, being sufficient evidence of this, even without the evidence of the boatmen themselves.

Being determined to carry the mails in the best manner the condition of the river would permit, the contractors purchased and chartered boats at a heavy expense and run them at a heavy loss. The boats chartered, with three exceptions, were at two thousand dollars per month. All these boats, with but one exception, met with serious accidents. One of them, the "Empire," was sunk, and proved almost a total loss. The "B. W. McRae" was snagged and was saved but with the utmost exertion; her repairs and loss of time cost over ten thousand dollars. The "William Garvin" was also seriously injured by striking a rock, which compelled her to go in dock at a cost of over twelve hundred dollars. The "Antelope" was grounded and so strained and injured as to compel her to go in dock, and proving too heavy for the river, was not brought out again. The "St. Charles" was very seriously injured by grounding, so much so as to cause her to go in dock, being damaged to the amount of two thousand five hundred dollars. The "T. C. Twitchell" was hurt several times, but not seriously. The "Lucy Itobinson" was also snagged several times, at one time carrying away a part of her side house and wheel; her repairs amounted to about five hundred dollars.

Besides these boats, the "Belle Sheridan" and "High Flyer" were chartered, but neither could be brought out of the Ohio river in consequence of its falling so rapidly. Every possible exertion was made, and fifteen hundred dollars expended to get the "High Flyer" out, but all to no purpose. Besides these boats there were others, but they proved of too great draught to run all the season; other suitable

beats were sought for, but could not be procured.

The "Virginia" was purchased, but in making two trips was so much injured as to compel her to go in dock. In short, nothing in the power of the contractors was left undone to facilitate the prompt delivery of the mails. The expenses of this quarter were about sixty-

five thousand dollars.

No. 13. The postmaster at Cairo, on the 19th January, 1857, reports: "That at the request of G. A. Phillips, esq., agent for the Cairo and New Orleans Mail Company, I would beg leave to state the condition of the Mississipi river below this point during a portion of the past summer and the present winter. During the latter part of July and the whole of the months of August and September the rivers were both at a very low stage. The Ohio above and the Mississippi below being lower, according to the invariable statements of the oldest and most experienced captains and pilots, than at any previous corresponding season within the past twenty-five years, rendering navigation impracticable for loaded boats of largest size, and quite difficult for those of medium size."

The memorial, (No. 7,) signed by 23 merchants and business men of New Orleans, and by the captains of 27 steamboats running on the Mississippi river, (produced as evidence in the first quarter of 1856,)

recommends that the contractors on route 7,809 be indemnified for all fines and forfeitures imposed by the Postmaster General for failures on their part to make schedule time during the third quarter of 1856. That they know, from their own personal knowledge, that the lowwater and fogs during the third quarter rendered it impossible to perform the service any better than it was done.

Fourth quarter of 1856.

In the fourth quarter of 1856 it was found that the fines and deductions amounted to \$51,770 70, and that of this sum the fines for failing to arrive in schedule time and for inferior service during this quarter

had been doubled, and amounted to the sum of \$25,340 87.

Remit \$12,670 43, the excess amount of the doubled fines; and remit likewise the further sum of \$36,103 27, for fines and deductions imposed upon the contractors for failures to arrive in schedule time, for failures at intermediate offices, and for inferior service; and let the fine for inferior service in the month of December, 1856, here reduced to \$300, and the deductions for failing to depart during this quarter, amounting to \$2,697, remain as settled, upon the following

evidence, viz:

No. 8. G. A. Phillips, in his affidavit taken on the 17th January, 1857, states: "The fourth quarter (October and November) presented very much the same scenes and occurrences in the history of the mail on this route as the three previous months. The river may have at times, possibly, been in a little better condition; but the boats had the greater obstacles, fogs, (which at this season of the year occur almost nightly,) to contend against. During December the river has been in better navigable condition, but the fogs are still very prevalent in the lower part of the river. I am confident that the mails have been carried as promptly as the condition of navigation would permit, and that they could not have been delivered as promptly without this heavy outlay."

No. 13. Postmaster at Cairo, on the 19th January, 1857, reports from Cairo: "A rise occurred in October, affording a fair stage of water until about the middle of December, when the rivers again became quite low, and have continued receding to the present time."

William A. Murphy, on the 4th June, 1857, explains so much of his affidavit made on the 23d May, 1857, (No. 11,) as refers to the

service during the fourth quarter of 1856 as follows, viz:

"It is due to my statement, made and filed in the department 23d May last, and now under your investigation, in reference to the service performed by the Cairo and New Orleans mail company during the year 1856, that I should further state, in explanation of the river and other difficulties attending the navigation during the fourth quarter, that the season therein referred to embraced the entire fall and commencement of winter; that I intended to imply thereby that the usual rise in our rivers, which occur from the 1st September to 1st November, did not take place that year, and that the stage of the water was a very little improvement upon what it was during the third quarter, or summer season. The low state of water, and the usual trouble from fogs, which are the effect of those natural causes of a change of seasons, readered the navigation much more uncertain and unsafe than had the usual rise taken place, and the boats not have been compelled to be more careful in navigating the route. It is due, therefore, to the contractors to say that during the fourth quarter they had more than the usual natural difficulties to contend with, and that they spared neither trouble nor expense in performing the service in good faith.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WN. H. DUNDAS, JOHN OAKFORD.

Hon. AARON V. Brown,

Postmaster General.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, June 13, 1857.

Having, pursuant to the 7th section of the act making appropriations for the service of the Post Office Department during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1858, (acts 3d session 34th Congress, chap. 96, page 189,) re-examined and adjusted all questions arising out of fines imposed upon the contractors for carrying the mails upon the Missispipi river, on the route No. 7,809, New Orleans to Cairo, it is therefore—

Ordered, That of the sum of \$56,116 68, deducted from the pay of the contractors for failing, &c., in the first quarter of 1856, there be

remitted to them the sum of \$48,504 73.

That the fines for failures, &c., imposed in the second quarter of 1856 remain as settled. That of the sum of \$36,112 26, deducted from their pay in the third quarter of 1856, there be remitted to them

the sum of \$25,824 76.

And, finally, that of the sum of \$51,770 70, deducted in the fourth quarter of 1856, there be remitted the sum of \$48,773 70, making the aggregate amount of fines and deductions to be remitted and paid to said contractors under this order \$123,103 19, and leaving charged to them the sum of \$30,183 83.

Postmuster General.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, June 16, 1857.

For the purpose of correcting errors of statement in the order of the 13th of June, 1857, remitting fines imposed and deductions made from the pay of the contractor on route No. 7,809, New Orleans to

Cairo, it is now-

Ordered, That the sum of \$56,116 68, deducted from their pay in the first quarter, be stated at \$56,124 68, the correct amount; that the amount remitted in the third quarter of 1856 be stated at \$25,799 76, the true amount, instead of \$25,824 76; and that the amount of fines and deductions to stand charged to the contractors be stated at \$30,216 83, instead of \$30,183 83, as expressed in that order.

Postmaster General.

B.
United States mail service abroad, as in operation on September 30, 1857.

route.	Routes.	Distance.	Number of trips	Contractors	Annual pay.	Remarks.
1	New York, by Southampton, England, to Bremenhaven, Germany.	Miles. 3, 700	Thirteen trips a year.	Cornelius Vanderbilt	United States postages (sea and inland) on mails convey- ed.	Postmaster General.
2	Charleston, S. C., by Savannah, Ga., and Key West, Florida, to Havana, Cubs.	669	Twice a month	M. C. Mordecai	\$60,000 00	Under contract with the Postmaster General, agreeably to acts of Con- gress of March 3, 1847, and July 10, 1848.
3	New York to Aspinwall, New Granada, direct. New York, rid Havana, to New Or- leans. Havana to Aspinwall.	2,000) 2,000 } 1,200 J	Twice a m'th {	M. O. Roberts, B. R. McIlvain, and Moses Taylor.	290, 000 00	Under contract with the Secretary of the Navy, agreeably to acts of Congress of March 3, 1847, and March 3, 1851.
ı	Astoris, Oregon, by Port Orford and San Fr. neisco, to Panama, New Granada, supplying Monterey, San Diego, &c., by a separate coastwise steamer from San Francisco, in due connexion with main line.)	4, 200	Twice a month.	Pacific Mail Steamship Company, William H. Davidge, president.	348, 250 00	Under contract with the Secretary of the Navy and Postmaster General, agreeably to acts of Congress of March 3, 1847, and March 3, 1851.
5	New York to Liverpool, England	3, 100	Twenty trips a year.	E. K. Collins, James Brown, and Stewart Brown.	385,000 00	Under contract with the Secretary of the Navy, agreeably to act of Con- gress of March 3, 1847.

C	New York, by Cowes, England, to Havre, France.	3, 270	Thirteen trips a year.	New York and Havre Fteamship Company.	United States postages, (sea and inland) on mails convey- ed.	Under temporary contract with the Postmaster General.
7	Aspinwall to Panama, New Granada	48	Twice a month, or as frequent- ly as the mail service may re- quire.	Panama Railroad Company.	100,000 00	Under contract with the Postmaster General.
8	New Orleans to Vera Cruz, Mexico	900	Twice a month.	C. K. Garrison	29,062 32	Under temporary contract with the Postmaster General.

HORATIO KING,

Herst Assistant Postmaster General.

C.

Statement of the sums paid for the year ending June 30, 1857, on the New York and Liverpool line, the New York and Chagres line, and the Astoria and Panama line, exhibiting, in separate columns, the whole contract pay, the amount of the 10 per cent. deductions, the sums deducted as fines on the recommendation of the Postmaster General, and the actual amount paid over.

		de ducted	Amount paid over.	Amount of interest.
New York and Liverpool line, \$858,000 per annum to Feb- ruary 20, 1857, and after that time, at \$385,000 per annum.	****	00 2195 000	 \$462,756 89	\$9,993 11
New York and Chagres line, \$290,000 per annum			253, 224 14	6. 225 86
Astoria and I anama line, \$348,- 250 per annum	19,900 (0	 325, 271 78	3,078 22

A. J. O. BANNON, Acting Auditor.

Tayasury Department, Fourth Auditor's Office, November 25, 1857.

D.

POSTAL CONVENTION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND FRANCE.

Articles agreed upon between the General Post Office of the United States of America, by James Campbell, Postmaster General, in virtue of his constitutional powers, and the General Post Office of France, by Count de Sartiges, Minister of his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of the French, and invested with special powers to this effect, to wit:

ARTICLE I.

There shall be an exchange of correspondence between the French post office and the United States post office by the means of communication and of transportation hereinafter designated, to wit:

1st. By packets and other steam vessels performing regular service between the ports of France and the ports of the United States.

2d. By United States mail packets plying between the ports of the United States and the ports of Great Britain.

3d. And, finally, by British packets and other British steam vessels performing regular service between the ports of Great Britain and the ports of the United States.

ARTICLE II.

The French post office shall pay the expenses resulting from the transportation between the United States and France of all mails which shall be transported by packets and other steam vessels departing from or bound for France, except those which shall be brought to France or sent from France by the United States mail packets.

The French post office shall pay, besides, as follows:

1st. The expenses resulting from the transportation between France and England of all mails which shall be exchanged between the French and United States post offices by way of England.

2d. The transit charges due to the British post office for the said

mails.

3d. And, finally, the expenses of sea transportation due to the same office for mails exchanged between the French post office and the United States post office by means of British packets and other British vessels bound for or departing from the ports of Great Britain.

On its side, the United States post office shall pay as follows:

1st. The expenses resulting from the transportation between the United States and France of mails which shall be despatched from one of the two countries to the other by United States mail packets

plying between France and the United States.

2d. The expenses resulting from the transportation between the United States and Great Britain of mails which shall be exchanged between the French and United States post offices by means of United States mail packets plying between the ports of the United States and the ports of Great Britain.

ARTICLE III.

The exchange of correspondence between the French and United States Post Office Departments shall take place through the following post offices:

On the side of France.

1. Havre.

2. The travelling office from Paris to Calais.

On the side of the United States.

New York.

2. Boston.

3. Philadelphia.

4. San Francisco.

Independently of the above designated offices of exchange, others may be established by a mutual understanding between the respective post office departments at any other points in the territories of the two countries at which direct relations may hereafter be deemed necessary.

ARTICLE IV.

The relations between the French and the United States exchange post offices designated in the preceding article shall be established in

the following manner:

1st. The Havre office shall correspond with the New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and San Francisco offices, as well by the nackets and other steam vessels plying between Havre and New York as by the United States packets and the British packets and other British steam vessels plying between Southampton and New York, between Liverpool and New York, and between Liverpool and Boston.

2d. The travelling office from Paris to Calais shall correspond with the New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and San Francisco offices by the United States mail packets and the British packets and other British steam vessels plying between Southampton and New York, between Liverpool and New York, and between Liverpool and Boston.

ARTICLE V.

Correspondence of all kinds exchanged between the French post office and United States post office shall be directed conformably to Table A, annexed to the present articles.

ARTICLE VI.

Persons who shall wish to send ordinary letters-that is to say, unregistered letters, either from France and Algeria to the United States and their territories, or from the United States and their territories to France and Algeria, may, at their choice, leave the postage to be paid by the person addressed, or pay in advance the postage to the place of destination.

The postage to be levied in France and in Algeria on letters for the United States and their territories, paid to destination, as well as on unpaid letters coming from the United States and their territories. shall be established according to the weight of each letter, at the rate of eighty centimes per seven grammes and a half, or fraction of seven

grammes and a half.

Reciprocally, the postage to be levied in the United States and in the territories of the United States on letters for France and Algeria paid to destination, as well as on unpaid letters coming from France and Algeria, shall be established according to the weight of each letter, at the rate of fifteen cents per American quarter ounce, or fraction of American quarter ounce.

ARTICLE VII.

The rates of postage to be paid by the French post office to the United States post office, as well on prepaid letters sent from France and Algeria for the United States as on unpaid letters sent to France and Algeria from the United States, are fixed as follows, viz:

 At the sum of three cents per seven grammes and a half, or fraction of seven grammes and a half, on each letter transported between the French frontier and the American frontier at the expense or on account of the French post office.

 At the sum of nine cents per seven grammes and a half, or fraction of seven grammes and a half, for each letter transported between the American frontier and the British frontier, for or from France, at

the expense of the United States post office.

3. And at the sum of twelve cents per seven grammes and a half, or fraction of seven grammes and a half, for each letter transported between the American frontier and the French frontier direct, or when touching only at one intermediate English port without passing through England, at the expense of the United States.

As to the rates of postage to be paid by the United States post office to the French post office, as well for prepaid letters sent from the United State for France and Algeria as for unpaid letters sent from France and Algeria for the United States, they are fixed as follows:

At the sum of three cents per American quarter ounce, or fraction of American quarter ounce, for each letter transported between the American frontier and the French frontier direct, or when touching only at one intermediate English port without passing through England, at the expense of the United States.

2. At the sum of six cents per American quarter ounce, or fraction of American quarter ounce, for each letter transported between the American frontier and the British frontier, for or from France, at the

expense of the United States post office.

3. And at the sum of twelve cents per American quarter ounce, or fraction of American quarter ounce, for each letter transported between the French frontier and the American frontier at the expense or on account of the French post office.

ARTICLE VIII.

Ordinary letters sent by way of France either from the United States and their Territories for the countries mentioned in table B, annexed to the present articles, or from these same countries for the United States and their Territories, shall be exchanged between the French post office and the United States post office on the conditions stated in the said table.

Ordinary letters sent by way of the United States, either from France and Algeria, for the countries mentioned in table C, annexed to the present articles, or from those same countries for France and Algeria, shall be exchanged between the French post office and the United States post office on the conditions stated in said table C.

It is understood that, in case the conventions which regulate the relations of France with the foreign countries, designated in table B, should be modified in such manner as to affect the conditions of exchange, stated in that table; and reciprocally, that, in case the conventions which regulate the relations of the United States with the foreign countries, designated in table C, should in like manner be modified so as to affect the conditions of transmission, stated in that table, these

modifications shall be admitted on the one part and on the other, according to the information and evidence which the two poet offices of France and the United States shall reciprocally furnish one to the other.

ARTICLE IX.

Letters badly addressed or wally directed shall, without delay, he reciprocally returned, by weans of the respective exchange offices, for the sum which the office sending shall have allowed the other office on these letters.

Letters which shall have been addressed to persons who have changed their residence, shall be, respectively, delivered or returned, charged with the postage which should have been paid by the persons addressed.

ARTICLE X.

The rates which the two post offices of France and the United States shall mutually have to carry to each other's account, shall be marked on the letters at the exchange office from which they are sent, in ordinary figures, plainly and uniformly, on the right hand of the upper part of the address.

The rates of letters unpaid to be carried to the debit of the corresponding office by the sending office, shall be marked in black ink; those of prepaid letters to be carried to the credit of the correspond-

ing office shall be marked in red ink.

ARTICLE XI.

The United States post office shall cause to be placed on the address of the prepaid letters, which the United States offices of exchange shall deliver to the French offices of exchange, this impression (PAID), stamped in red ink.

On its side, the French post office shall cause the impression (PD), stamped in red ink, to be placed on the letters prepaid to destination, which shall be delivered by the French offices of exchange to the

United States of exchange.

ARTICLE XII.

The respective offices of exphange shall place upon the superscription of the correspondence of every kind contained in the mails, which they shall receive from the corresponding offices of exchange, a stamp, with the date, showing the way in which such mails shall have been forwarded.

The stamp to be placed upon the correspondence transported between the French frontier and the American frontier, at the expense of or on account of the post office of France, shall bear, independently of the name of the exchange office of destination, the characters Serv. Fr. or Br., (French or British service.) This stamp shall be placed in blue iak on the correspondence transmitted directly, and in red ink on the

correspondence transmitted by way of England.

The stamp to be placed on the correspondence transported between the American frontier and the French frontier, or the British frontier, at the expense of the United States post office, shall bear, independently of the name of the exchange office of destination, the characters Serv. Am. (American service.) This stamp shall be placed in blue ink, both on the correspondence transmitted direct and on that comprised in the mails of or for the office of Havre, which shall have been transported by the packets of the New York line to Bremen, and by the packets plying between Havre and Southampton, without touching the British territory. It shall be placed in red ink on the correspondence comprised in the mails, which shall have been transported by the aid of the British post office.

ARTICLE XIII.

Each of the mails exchanged between the exchange offices of the two countries shall be accompanied by a letter bill, or statement, showing the nature, the number, and the weight of the articles which the mail shall contain, as well as the amount of the rates mentioned in Article X.

The exchange office to which the mail shall be addressed shall acknowledge its receipt to the exchange office transmitting it by the

next conveyance.

The letter bills, or statements and the acknowledgments of receipt, of which the French offices of exchange shall make use, shall be con-

formable to the model D, annexed to the present articles.

The letter bills or statements and the acknowledgments of receipt, of which the United States exchange offices shall make use, shall be conformable to the model E, in like manner annexed to the present articles.

ABTICLE XIV.

In cases where, on the days fixed for sending the mails, an office of exchange shall have no letter to address to the corresponding exchange office, the office of transmission shall, nevertheless, send in the ordinary form, a mail, which shall contain a negative letter, bill, or statement.

ARTICLE XV.

Letters which cannot be delivered for any cause whatever, shall be returned on one part and the other, at the end of each month, and more frequently, if possible. Those of such letters which shall have been placed in the account shall be returned for the sum at which they have been originally counted by the sending office. Those which shall have been delivered prepaid to destination, or to the frontier of the corresponding office, shall be returned without charge or deduction.

The deduction resulting from charges on correspondence which can-

not be delivered shall be established in detailed memorandums, conformable to the model F, annexed to the present articles.

ARTICLE XVI.

There shall be prepared every three months, at the French General Post Office, precise accounts, recapitulating the facts relative to the transmission of correspondence between the respective offices of exchange. These accounts, which shall have for their base and for roughers the acknowledgments of receipt of mails sent and received during the period of three months, shall be recapitulated in a general account, intended to present the definitive results of the transmission of correspondence exchanged between the two departments.

After having been discussed and objections settled, the balance of the general account above mentioned shall be paid by the department which shall be found indebted to the other in the course of the quarter

which shall follow that to which the account relates.

The amount of the accounts shall be paid as follows:

1. In drafts on Washington when the payment shall be in favor of the United States post office.

2. In drafts on Paris when the payment shall be in favor of the

French post office.

In the latter case the amount of the account shall be paid in French money, at the rate of five francs thirty centimes per dollar.

ARTICLE XVII.

The present articles shall take effect on the first day of April, 1857, and they shall remain obligatory until one of the two post offices shall have informed the other, a year in advance, of its intention to abrogate them.

During this last year the before mentioned articles shall continue to be fully and entirely executed, without prejudice to the liquidation and payment of the amount of the accounts between the postal departments of the two countries after the expiration of the said term.

Made in duplicate original, and signed at Washington, the second day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven.

JAMES CAMPBELL, [SEAL.]

Postmaster General.

SARTIGES. [SEAL.]

TABLES

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS

THE UNITED STATES AND FRANCE.

A.

Table showing the direction to be given to correspondence of all kinds exchanged between the Post Office Department of France and the Post Office Department of the United States.

SCHEPOLE I MAILS FROM THE PRENCH POST OFFICE.						
Names of the exchange post offices of train- mission.	Names of the exchange post offices of desti- nation.	Designation of the trace of packet ships by means of which the mails are to be sent.	Ongin of the correspondence.	Desunation of the correspondence.		
	New York		All France, Algeria, and the foreign countries to which France serves as an intermediate point.	cept the cities of Boston		
Havrs	Breton	by Southampton. Liverpool to N. York Liverpool to Boston. Havre to New York* Bremen to N. York, by Southampton. Liverpool to N. York	All France, Algeria, and the foreign countries to which France serves as an intermediate point. The City of Havredo.	The City of New York		
	Philadelphia . <	Bremen to N. York, by Southampton, Laverpool to N. York		do		
	Ban Francisco	Havre to New York Bremen to N. York by Southampton. Liverpool to N. York	All France, Algeria, and the foreign countries to which France serves as an intermediate point. The City of Havredo	ton and the Handwich		

^{*} Except in cases where a contrary desire is stated on the address by the senders, correspondence exchanged between France and the United States is to be sent direct by the packets and other steam vessels plying between Havre and New Tork, in all instances in which there is room to suppose that by this means they will reach their destination more promptly than, or as promptly as, by way of England. They are, on the contrary, to be sent by way of England when there is room to suppose that they will reach their destination more promptly by that means than by the direct route.

A-Continued.

SCHEDOLD I .- MAILS FROM THE PRENCH POST OFFICE.

Names of the exchange post offices of transmission.	Names of the exchange post offices of desti- nation.	Designation of the lines of pactes ships by means of which the needs are to be sent.	Origin of the correspondence.	Desunation of the correspondence.
1	New York	Bremen to N York, by Bourhsapton.	All France, (except the city of Havre,) Algeria, and the foreign countries to which France serves as an intermediate point.	All the United States, (ex- cept the crites of Boston and Philadelphia, and State of California,) the Terriso- rice of the United State, (except Oregon and Wash- ington), and the foreign countries to which the United States serves as an intermediate point, except the Sandwich Islands.
	 	Bremen to N. York, by Southampton.	dododo	
Travelling office from Paris to Calais.	Boston	Liverpool to Boston.		All the United States, (except the cities of New York and Philadelphia, and State of California). He Territoria, of the United States, (stoopt Cregon and Washington), and the foreign countries to which the United States serves as an intermediate point, axopt the Sandwich Islands.
	Philadelphia,	by Southampton Liverpool to N. York	do,,	The City of Philadelphia
	San Francisco	by Southampton.		California and the Territo- ries of Oregon and Wash- ington, and the Handwich Islands.
		Liverpool to N. York Liverpool to Boston.	dodo	do

A-Continued.

SCHEMOLE II .- MAILS PROM THE UNITED STATES POST OFFICE.

Maltes of the exchange post offices of trans- mission.	Names of the exchange port offices of desti- nation.	Designation of the lines of packet ships by means of which the manis are to be send.	Origin of the correspond- ence.	Destination of the cor- respondence.
{	Havre	New York to Havre'	cept the cities of Boston and Philadelphia, and Biate of California.) the Territories of the United Biates, (except Oregon and Washington,) and the foreign countries to which the United States serves as an intermediate point, except the Sandwich Liands.	All France, Algeria, and the foreign countries to which France serves as an intermediate point.
		N. York to Bremen, by Southempton. N. York to Liverpool Boston to Liverpool.		do
New York	Travelling of See from Paris to Ca- lais.	N. York to Bremen, by Southampton.	cept the cities of Boston and Philadelphia, and State of Cahfornia, the Territories of the United Rates, except Oregon and Washington,) and the foreign countries to which the United States serves as an intermediate point, except the *kandwich islands.	tries to which France serves as an intermedi- ate point.
		Boston to Liverpool	The City of New York The City of Boston	All France, Algeria, and the foreign countries to which France serves as
Boston	Havre	N. York to Bremen, by SouthAmpton, N. Fork to Liverpool Boston to Liverpool	do	do
	Travelling of fice from Paris to Ca	N. York to Bremen, by SouthAmpton. N. York to Laverpool	The City of Boston	city of Havre,) Aigeria, and the foreign coun- tries to which France- serves as an intermedi- ate point.

^{*} Except in cases where a contrary desire is stated on the address by the senders, correspondence exchanged between France and the United States is to be sent direct by the packets and other aroam vessels plying between the sent of the Work, in all unstances in which there is room to suppose that by the means they will reach literate and the sent of the sent by the formats they will reach the sent by way of England when there is a suppose that by the formation more promptly by that means than by the direct roots.

For expendence intended to be to sent by the travelling office, during the passage from Calas to Paris, about the placed in a separate package, endered thus: "Twenting office from Calas to Paris—intermedia service." This correspondence is that intended for the Franch Departments de l'Atane, de Ardennes, du Root, de Pière, du Pas de Galass, de la Arien. Influence, and has intended for Belgiums of the Calasset of the Franch Duches of Reckinghing Schwerin and Mecklenburg Strotter, Oldenburg, the Darby of Busseties, Demonsk, Sweden, Norway, Sussis, and Poland. and Poland.

A—Continued.

SCHOOLS IS ... MAILS FROM THE CHITTED STATES POST OFFICE.

Names of the azohunge post offices of tran- mission.	Names of the az change post offices o. Assi- nation.	Designation of the lines of packet object by means of which the main are to be sent.	Origin of the correspondence.	Destination of the correspondence.
Boston	Travelling of fice from Paris to Calais.	Boston to Liverpool.	All the United States, (ex- opt the cities of N. York and Philadelphia, and State of California,) the Territories of the United States, (except Oregon and Washington), and the for- eign countries to which the United States serves as an intermediate point, ex- cept the Sandwich Islande.	All France, (except the city of Havre, Algeria, and the foreign com- tries to which France nerves as an intermedi- nis point.)
{	Havre	N. York to Bremen, by Southampton. N. York to Laverpool	The City of Philadelphia dodododo	the foreign countries to which France serves as an intermediate point. The City of Havre
Philadelphia	Travelling of- fice from Paris to Ca- lais.	by Southempton. N. York to Liverpool	dodododo	city of Havre,) Algeria, and the foreign coun- tries to which France serves as an intermedi- ate point.)
	Have	N. York to Bremen, by Southampton.	California and the Territo- ries of Oregon and Wash ington, and the Sandwich Islands. do.	the foreign countries to which France serves as an intermediate point. The City of Havrodo
San Francis co.	Travelling of free from Paris to Callais.	by Southampton.	dododo	city of Havre.) Algeria, and the foreign coun- tries to which France serves as an intermedi- ate point.†

⁴ Mee note on page 72.

B.—Table showing the conditions on which shall be emchanged, between the U. States, letters sent from the United States and their Territories to the

Designation of the countries where correspondence with the United States may be directed by way of France.	Condition of pro- payment.	Limit of prepayment.	A Manage of the second of the
•	<u> </u>		· · ·
Great Britain, Belgium, the Low Countries, the grand duchy of Luxemburg, the Swiss Cantons, the Sardinian States, and the German States, (except the empire of	Optional	To destination	Comts. 91
Austria.) Denmark, empire of Austria, Servia, Tuscany, States of the Church, and duchies of Parma and Modena.	Optional	To desunation	97
Russia, Poisnd, the Two Sicilies, Maits, kingdon of Greece, Alexandria, Taffa, Beyrout, Tripoli in Byria, Lattakia, Alex- andreita, Masina, Rhouse, flynran, Mij- jene, the Dardanelies, Qallipolis, Constan- tinople, Tunis, Tangiers, Pondicherry, Karikai, Yanson, Mah, and Chandernagor,	Optional	To destination	30
Kingdoms of Sweden and Norway			
Spain, Portugal, and Gibraltar		Pehobia	81
tonian Islands		Trieste	27
Aden, East Indies, Ceylon, Mauritius, Isle of Reunion, Penang, Singapore, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Chiua, Hatavia, and other countries whose correspondence can ad- vantageously be sent by Suez. Countries beyond sens other than those above designated.		Beaport of the Indies or of the sea of China to which the English packets ply.	30
Letters from the United States	Obligatory	Port of arrival in the coun-	30
Letters for the United States		country from which they are sent.	30
Moldavia, Wallachia, and Turkey in Eu- rope, by way of Austria.	(*)	······································	

[&]quot;The posinges on letters which the inhabitants of the United States shall exchange with the inhabitants inhabitants of Moldavia, Wallachia, and Turkey in Europe.

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	ost Office Department of France and the Post Office Department of the untries to which France serves as an intermediate point, and vice versa.	
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	•	£ :	<u>.</u>		ě	7	E	ž	<u>e</u>	ā	E Cent	Sum to be paid on each letter and per each quast- ter ounce, or fraction of American quarter ounce, for letters transported between the Ame- rican frontier and the British frontier, for or from France, at the expense of the United States post office.	144	Department o which France
		57	\$		*	2	Œ	æ	5	2	('ents. 18	Sum to be paid on each letter and per each quar- ter ounce, or fraction of American quarter ounce, for intern transported between the Ame- rican frontier and the French frontier, either direct or through England, at the expense or on account of the French post office.	reners of the tage of tage	of France or serves as
_	=			•				w	 Ŀ	w	Cont.	Sum to be paid on each letter and per each seven and a half grammer, or fraction of seven and a half grammer, for letters transported between the American frontier and the French Stouter, either direct or through England, at the expense or on account of the French post office.		and the Post an intermedi
	2		•					*	•	•	Conta.	Sum to be paid on each letter and per each seven and a half grammen, or fraction of seven and a half grammen, for letter transported between the American frestier and the British frontier, for or foce. France, at the expense of the United States post office.		Office Departs
	z							5	ឆ	19	≖ ‡	Sum to be paid on each letter and per each seven and a haif graiames, or fraction of seven and a half grammes, for letter transported between the American frontier and the Franch frontier direct, or when touching at eady one income- diate English port without passing through Eng- land, at the expense of the U. Shates pout office.	ib post office to it is not prepaid, se ex, addressed to it is man of this table tid countries to it paid to destinatio	Department of th

C.—Table showing the conditions on which shall be exchanged, between the U. States, letters sent from France and Algeria for countries to

			1
Designation of the countries where correspondence with France may be directed by way of the United States.	Condition of pre- payment.	Lamii of prepayment.	Another the meter to be paid by the inhabitions of Prince and Agerta, as well on prepaid interactions of prince and Agerta, as well on prepaid interactions of prince and Agerta, and from the interaction of the table as on fetters and another and the prepaid, or partially project, sent from the medical project of princes and Agerta.
Mexico, British West India Islands, Cuba, British Guians, Aspinwall, and Panama.	Obligatory	Sespons to which the United States packets ply.	Fra. centimes.
(New Granada.) West India Islands, (not British, except Cuba.) Turks Island, Cartbagena, Hondu ras, Rt. Junn, (Nicuragua.) Guyaquil and Quitto, (Equador), Cologa and La Pacz, (Bolivin), Copago, Huacco, Coquimbo, Valparasso, and Rt. Jago, (Chila.)	Obligatory	United States, French, and British postage to port of arrival in country of des tination.	-2 20
Bogota and Buchaventura. (New Granzda)	Obligatory		1 60
Payta, Lambayeque, Huanchaco, Casma, Huacho, Calho, Lama, Pisco, Islay, Arica, and Iquique, (Perti.)		Scaports in South Pacific, to which the British packets ply.	1 80
Canada and other British North American Provinces.		Prontier of country of des- tunation.	80
Mandwich Islands	Obligatory	Sun Francisco	×0

Nors Since the execution of the convention, tables A. B. and C have, by mutua

the Post Office Department of France and the Post Office Department of which the United States serves as an intermediate point, and vice versa.

w	ย	2	7	Creta. 10	Sum to be paid on each letter and per each seven grammen and a half, or fraction of seven grau- men and a half, for letters transported between the French frontier and the American frontier, either direct or through England, at the expense or on account of the French post office.	Duties or rates to the United States seed from France designated in the tern set propale said countries as
•	•	5.	¥	6 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16	Sum to be paid on each letter and per each seven grammes and a half, or fraction of seven grammes and a half, for letter transported between the British arouter and the American frontier, for or rom France, at the expense of the United States post office.	be paid by the Fre post office, as well a post office, as well or Algeria address first column of the or partially preparated to France
E	10	2	5	19 19	Rum to be paid on each letter and per each seven grammes and a half, or fraction of seven gram- mes and a half, for letters transported between the seven and the seven and the seven direct, or when touching at only one interme- diate port without passing through Righand, at the expense of the United States post office.	sech bost office to on prepaid letters of to the countries is table as on irt- ist, sent from the and Algeria.
:				Cente	Sum to be paid on each letter and per each quar- ter dunce, or fraction of American quarter onace, for letter transported betw in the French fromtier and American fromter direct, or when touching a only one intermediate port without passing through England, at the expense of the United bitser post officer.	Datice or rates to office to the Fres prepaid sent for the countries de table as on lette to France or Ali
				Cends.	Sum to be paid on each letter and per each quar- ter ounce, or fraction of American quarter ounce, to letter transported betwis the British fronter and the American frontier, for or from France, at the expense of the United States post office.	be paid by the Un- ch post office, as we have said Alg- sugnated in the first saidcressed from the period and propaid to the period to the p
				Conds.	Sum to be paid on each letter and each pur quar- ter ounce, or fraction of American quarter sounce, for letter trans-sourced betwin the French frontier and the American frontier, either di- rect or through England, at the expense or on account of the French poot office.	tited Biazes post rell on letters not rra addressed to st colours of this he said countries to destination.

Post Office Department | Of Paster.

Connectonnesses With the United States Post Office

LETTER BILL

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I and you, regetter with the pressar leave bill, the letters and prised motive of every kind specified in the historing ladden. I beg you to inclusivelying the reception of these matters, article by article, by your act

TABLE No. 1.—Correspondence not prepaid, or partially prepaid, deleased on account to the United States Part Office.

10.0				by the Frenc exchange.	h office	Verificati States o	on by the li	Inteed inge.
	Designation of the correspondence.		Number of articles	Amount of ages to be to the Franc Office.	carried edit of	Number of articles.	Amount of ages to be to the Press Office.	carried edit of
<u>" L.</u>	9		3	Dollars	Ctu.	5	(Joliana	Cu
3 { 4 { 5	Unpaid letters from Prance and Alge- ria for Letters not prepaid or charged with the price of transit, sent from countries to which Prance serves an intermediate and paid and transity directed Post Office, and return Letters had y directed have departed, but ha	The countries to which the U.States serves as an intermediate point by the United States and to that office seed to persons who						

Table No. 2 — Prepuid correspondence, the senders whereof have paid postages which should be carried to the credit of the United States Post Office.

articles (to the States.			by the French exchange.	office	Verification by the United States office of exchange.			
Designation of the certespondence.		Number of articles.	Amount of ages to be c to the cre the United Post Office	arried dit of States	Number of articles.	Amount of ages to be to the cr the United Post Office	carried edit of States	
2 1	· ·	3	4		5	6		
; {	Letters for the United Marcia prepand tode Marcia (c. cents Hartes prepand tode for centing and proceeding to the United Marcia (c. cents per formal (c. cen		Dollars.	('IA.		trollars.	('ta	

CONTINUATION OF THE LETTER BILL OF THE FRENCH POST OFFICE.

Table No. 3.—Correspondence delicated to the United States Post Office free of all charge for brongestation.

		-	_	
Designation of the correspondence.	Statement b	y the French exchange.	Voridention States office	by the United of exchange.
1	Humber of articles.	Not weight	Number of anticles.	Not weight
Printed measure of every kind deferenced to the United States, and precossing Printed measure of every hand subferenced to constron to which the United States, and proceeding to the control of the Cont				

TABLE No. 4.—Abstract of the matters which are to serve as a base for the settlement of the amount due to the British Post Office, or to compariso of commercial vessels, for the transportation of the correspondence comprised in the mail.

States	ment by the Fre	nch office of	exchange.	Verification by the United States office of exchange.					
Letters. Articles of printed matter.			Le	ittem.	Articles of printed matter.				
Number.	Net weight in granimes.	Number.	Not weight in grammes.	Number.	Not weight in grammes.	Number.	Not weight in grammes.		
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						!			

^{*}The correspondence relating to the service, the dead matter, and the letters relating to the account, addressed by the French Post Office to the United States Fost Office, and described in Table No. 3, are not to be included in this instruct.

Certified by the undersigned postmaster.

Post	OFFICE	DEPARTMENT	ł
	A . V .		

United Brates Post Office
1 United STATES POST OFFICE

		•	
ACKNOWLEDGMENT	OF	RECEIPT	

From the office ______ for the office of ______.

I received on the 1 —, 18—, your mail of the 18—, 18—, transported from 164 —, by the 18—. You will find hereinafter stated, article by article, the result of the comparison to which the matters which that mail contained were submitted at the moment of opening the said mail.

(1) Date of the arrival of the mail at the office of destination. (2) Date of the departure of the mail from the office from which it was sent. (3) Name of the port where the mail has been embarked on the vesset which has brought it to Europe. (4) Name of the European port of disembarkation. (5) Nature, nationality, and name of the vessel which brought the mail from the United States to Europe.

Table No. 1.—Correspondence not prepaid, or partially prepaid, delivered on account to the French
Post Office.

arricles (to the States.			by the Unite of exchan		Verification by the Prench office of exchange,			
umbers of the of the of the U	Designation of the	Number of articles.	Amount of post- ages to be carried to the credit of the United States Post Office.			Amount of post- ages to be carried to the credit of the United States Post Office.		
~ i	9		3	4		5	6	
3 {	Unpaid letters from the United States for Letters not prepaid or charged with the price of transit, sent from countries to which the United States serves as an intermediate point, for Letters shally directed Office, and returned Letters re-sent address have departed, but have	o that office sed to persons who		Dollars,	Cents.		Dollars	Cents

Table No. 2.—Prepaid correspondence, the senders whereof have paid postages which should be carried to the credit of the French Post Office.

(S Che			by the United States of exchange.		ion by the French of exchange.
tumbers of the of the of the recount	Designation of the correspondence.	Number of articles.	Amount of post ages to be carried to the credit of the French Post Office.	articies.	Amount of post- ages to be carried to the credit of the French Post Office.
× [2	, 3	4	5	6
7 {	Letters for France and Algeria, prepaid to destination, and proceeding from proceeding from the control of the United Matter point (control of the Control o		Dollars, Cents.		Bollars, Cents
10	Prepaid letters for (The United States countries to which Countries to which France serves as an the United State Intermediate point, serves as an inter and proceeding from mediate point			ı	

CONTINUATION OF THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE FRENCH POST OFFICE.

Table No. 3 —Correspondence delivered over to the French Post Office free of all charges for transportation.

Designation of the correspondence.		y the United of exchange.	Verification by the French office of exchange.		
penguation of the correspondence.	Number of articles.	Not weight in grammes		Not weight in grammes.	
Printed matter of every hind addressed to France and Algeria, and proceeding Printed matter of every kind addressed to the European States to which France sories as an intermediate point, (except Spain and Portugal.) and proceeding Correspondence relating to the account, addressed by the United States Post Office to the France.	ch an an 				

TABLE No. 4.—Abstract of the matters which are to serve as a base for the settlement of the amount due to the British Past Office, or to captains of commercial vessels, for the transportation of the correspondence comprises in the mast.*

∺tatement	Statement by the United St 'es office of exchange.				Verification by the French office of exchange.				
Letters.		Articles of printed matter.		L	etters.	Articles of printed matter.			
Number.	Net weight in grammes.	Number.	Net weight in grammes.	Number.	Net weight in grainines.	Number.	Net weight in grammes.		
		i I							

The correspondence relating to the service, the dead matter, and the letters relating to the account, addressed by the United States Fost Office to the French Fost Office, and described in table No. 3, are not to be included in this abstract.

Certified by the undersigned postmaster.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT)

Coursepondence with the France Post Ossica.

LETTER BILL

Mail sont from the office 2 for the office of a the a

7 (1) Name of the office of despatch. (2) Name of the office of destination. (3) Date of despatching the mail. (4) Character, name, and nation of the "react by which the mail is to be transported from the "finited States to Europe. (3) Name of the port shereat the mail is to be placed on board the vessel charged with a napporting it to Europe. (b) Port of destination of the said vessel. (f) Date of the departure of the said vessel.

I send you, together with the present letter bid, the letters and pristed matter of every kind specified in the following tables. I bey you to acknowledge the reception of these matters, article by your act mail, taking care to mention the differences or the errors which you shall have observed atter exact comparison of the contents of this matter.

TABLE No. 1.— Correspondence not prepaid, or partially prepaid, delivered on account to the French
Post Office.

		t by the U.		Verificat	ion hy the IP	
			ė.	Verification by the French office of exchange.		
Designation of the correspondence.	Number of articles.	to the en	Amount of post- ages to be carried to the credit of the United States Post office,		Amount of post- ages to be carried to the credit of the United States Post Office.	
8	3	4		5	6	
maid letters countries to which rates for countries to which rates for the countries to which rates for the countries to which rates for the countries to the c		Dollars.	Cta.		Dollars.	Cts.
111111111111111111111111111111111111111	paid letters contributed to which contributed the beautiful contributed to which brance serves as an intermediate point (etc., per 7 i grammes), there are not prepaid or f france and Alama god with the price of th	paid letters cont the United lates for the States f	paid letters con the United Fost office con the United States for Large with France serves as an intermediate point, (— ets. per 7 grannies.) Litters not prepaid or f France serves as an intermediate point, (— ets. per 7 grannies.) Litters not prepaid or f France serves see an intermediate point, (— ets. per 7 grannies.) Litters to which the geria. Litters to which the serves see an intermediate that office continues to which the serves see an intermediate that office continues that of the serves see an intermediate that	paid letters on Algeria, (— the price Batter Post office. Prance and Algeria, (— the per i grammen.) (contries not which grame serves as an intermediate point, (— the per i grammes.) there mediate point, (— the per i grammes.) the price of grammes.) the price of grammes of the price of grammes of the price of grammes.) The price of grammes of the price of grammes of the price of grammes of the price of grammes.) The price of grammes of	to the credit of the United States Fost office. 2	to the credit of the United Bates. Post office. Prince and Algeria, (-) contries which grant to United tates for thermodule point, (-) ten price and Algeria, (-) ten price and Algeria, (-) termodule point, (-) ten per 7 grammes.) term not prepaid or (France serves as an intermediate point, (-) ten per 7 grammes.) term not prepaid or (France and Algeria, (-) ten per 7 grammes.) termodule point, (-) ten per 7 grammes.) termodule point (-) termodule point (-

TABLE No. 2, Prepaid correspondence, the senders whereof nave paid postages which should be carried to the credit of the French Post Office.

(To the			t by the U. States of exchange.	Verification by the French office of exchange		
certification of the	Designation of the correspondence.	Number of articles	Amount of post ages to be carried to the credit of the French Post Office.	Number of articles.	Amount of post ages to be entried to the credit of the Freich Past Office,	
7,	2	3	4	5	.3	
7 { 8 { 10 {	Letters for France and Algeria per part to destination and proceeding. Terpuid letters for continues towards point, (-cent as nitre continues towards per j onnee.) From the U. States, From the U. States, and interpolation point, and proceeding to the period of the p		Dollars. Cts.		a office of the	

CONTINUATION OF THE LETTER BILL OF THE UNITED STATES POST OFFICE.

TABLE No. 3.—Correspondence delivered over to the French Post Office free of all charge for trans-

		by the U. States Cexchange.	Veridention by the French office of exchange.			
Designation of the correspondence.		Net weight in grammes.	Number of articles,	Net weight in		
<u> </u>	9	3	4	5		
Ninted matter of every kind addressed to Prance and Algeria, and proceeding as an intermediate point.						
Printed matter of every kind addressed to the European States to which France serves as an Intermediate point, (except Mpsin and Portugal,) and proceeding	į.					
Correspondence relating to the service, dead matter, and letters relating to the account, addressed by the United States Post Office to the French Post Office	-					

TABLE No. 4.—Abstract of the matters which are to serve as a lane for the settlement of the amount due to the British Post Office, or to captains of commercial vessels, for the transportation of the correspondence comprised in the mail. 9

Statement by the United	Verification by the French office of exchange.					
Letters.	Articles of printed matter.		Le	tters.	Articles of printed matter.	
Number. Net weight in	Number.	Net weight in grammes.	Number.	Net weight in grammes.	Number.	Net weight in grammes.
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^{*}The correspondence relating to the service, the dead matter, and the letter relating to the seconds, additioned by the United States Post Office to the Fench Post Office, and described in table No. 3, are not to be included in this abstract.

Certified by the understanded Postmaster.

07 TH	R UNITED STATES.					Pasac	n Post Orre	CR.
	From the offic	ACKNOWLED		OF RECE				
of the mome (1) the ell it to the tion of	received on the 1 -	—, 18—, your r. You will hich the matters: said mail. the mil at the office sent. (3) Name of the United ght the mail from E dence not prepaid,	nail of the find here which the of destinate port who states purt urope to the	inafter sta in at mail co ition. (2) D the the mail to of disembar. United Stat	ted, and the state of the state	rticle by a ed were s he departu ed on the v (5) Chara	rticle, the submitted a re of the ma e-sel which h cter, name, a	it the ii from rought and na-
artielss (to the			Statemer	at by the Fi	ench e.	Verification office	on by the U. i	States i.
Numbers of the articles of the account (to the credit of France.)	Designation of the	correspondence.	Number of articles.	Amount of ages to be to the credi French Po fice.	carried tof the	Number of articles.	Amount of ages to be to the credi French Po fice.	cairied t of the
*10	3		3	4		5	6	
1	Unpaid letters from France and Algeria for	The United States (— cents per) ounce)	i i	Dollars.	Čents.		Dollars.	Ocnis.
3 { 4 { 5	Letters not prepaid, or charged with the price of transst, sent from countries to which France serves as an intermediate point, for Letters bally directed Post Office and return the property of the charge departed, but dress.	The United States. Countries to which the United States serves as an inter- mediate point by the United States ned to that office sed to persons who have left their ad-						: :
	R No. 2 Prepaid	correspondence the to the credit of t	senders wh the United Statema		Office.	Verificati	ch should be	Ptates
fumbers of the articles of the account (to the credit of the U. States.)	Designation of the	corre-pondence.			post carned cdst_of	Number of articles.	Amount of ages to be to the cr the United Post Office	post carried cdit of tates
" 1		1	3	4		5	6	
7 { H { 0 }	Letters for the United States prepaid to destination, and proceeding. Propaid letters for emintries to which the United Mates serve as an intermediate point, and proceeding.	Serves as an inter- mediate point, (cents per 7; grammes) From France am Algeria From countries to which France		Poliurs.	Oent-		Dollars.	Cents.

POSTMASTER GENERAL.

CONTINUATION OF THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE UNITED STATES POST OFFICE.

TABLE No. 3.—Correspondence delivered over to the United States Post Office free of all charge for

		by the French Cazetange,	Verification by the U. S. office of exchange.				
Designation of the correspondence.	Number of articles.	Net weight in grammes.	Number of articles.	Net weight in grammes.			
1	_ 8	3	4				
Printed matter of every kind siddressed to the United States, and proceeding Printed matter of every kind addressed to countries to which addressed to countries to which the U. States serves as an intermediate point, and proceeding							
Correspondence relating to the service, dead matter, and letters relating to the account, addressed by the French Post Office to the United States Post Office.							

TABLE No. 4.—Abstract of the matters which are to serve us a base for the settlement of the amount due to the British Post Office, or to captains of commercial vessels, for the transportation of the correspondence compressed in the matt.*

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Ptater	ment of the Fre	nch office of	exchange.	Verification by the United States office of exchange.				
Letters.		Articles of printed matter.		L	etters.	Articles of printed matter.		
Number. Net weight in grammes.		Number. Net weight in grammes.		Number.	Net weight in grammes.	Number.	Net weight in grammes.	
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The correspondence relating to the service, the dead matter, and the letters relating to the account addressed by the French Post Office to the United States Post Office, and described in Table No. 3, are not to included in this abstract.

Certified by the undersigned Postmaster.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT OF ____, MONTH OF ____

Account of dead matter returned by the affice of ———— to the affice of ———.

Observations.		
1 C 2 C 2 C 2 C 2 C 2 C 2 C 2 C 2 C 2 C). Co Of).	
Sum- at which the cor-	charged by il	Prenct.
Number of articles.		
ponde nee.	Character.	Total amount due the office of
Designation of the correspondence.	Destination.	
	Origin.	
Number of the articles of the account in which	the currespondence orginally appeared.	

E.

POSTAL CONVENTION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND HAMBURG.

The undersigned, being duly authorised for that purpose, have agreed upon the following articles, providing for the reciprocal exchange of mails between the United States and the Hanseatic Republic of Hamburg, to wit:

ARTICLE I.

The post office of New York shall be the United States office of exchange, and Hamburg the office of exchange of that republic, for all mails transmitted under this arrangement.

ABTICLE II.

The in ernational correspondence, conveyed either by United States or by Hamburg steamers, as hereinafter stated, between the United States, or its territories, and Hamburg, will be subject to the following postage charges, viz:

Postage on each letter or packet not exceeding half an ounce		
in weight	10	cents
Above half an ounce and not over once ounce		
Above one ounce, but not exceeding two ounces		

And the postage will increase in this scale of progression to wit: Additional 20 cents for each additional ounce or fraction of an ounce. Payment in advance shall be optional in either country. It shall

rayment in advance shall be optional in either country. It shall not, however, be permitted to pay less than the whole rate, and no account shall be taken of the pre-payment of any fraction of that rate.

ARTICLE III.

All the States belonging to the German-Austrian Postal Union, respectively, are to have the advantage of the rate of ten cents, established by the preceding article, (2d,) whenever their postage to and from Hamburg, for letters to and from the United States, shall be reduced to the uniform rate of five cents or less. On all correspondence for or from such of said States as shall not so reduce their rates, the charge between the United States and Hamburg, by either of the two lines, will be fifteen cents the single rate.

And optional prepayment, a regular progressive scale, &c., upon the same principles as in article 2d, shall be admitted and observed.

ARTICLE IV.

On all letters originating and posted in other countries beyond the United States, and mailed to, and deliverable in, Hamburg, or originating and posted in countries beyond Hamburg, and mailed to, and deliverable in, the United States, or its territories, the foreign postage (other than that of Hamburg, and other than that of the United States) is to be added to the postage stated in article 2d or 3d, as the case may be. And the two post office departments are mutually to furnish each other with lists stating the foreign countries, or places in foreign countries, to which the toreign postage, and the amount thereof, must be absolutely prepaid, or must be left unpaid. And, until such lists are duly furnished, neither country is to mail to the other any letter from foreign countries beyond it, or for foreign countries beyond the country to which the mail is sent.

It is further understood and agreed that no correspondence for or from Hamburg shall be exchanged under this arrangement, unless the rates of postage to and from such countries, via Hamburg, are identically the same as the rates charged via Bremen, under the

United States and Bremen postal arrangement.

ARTICLE V.

Newspapers, not weighing more than three ounces each, mailed in the United States and destined to Hamburg, or mailed in Hamburg and destined for the United States, may be sent by the United States and Hamburg steamers, when the whole postage of two cents is prepaid thereon at the mailing office; and newspapers of like weight done up singly, may be sent to any part of the German Postal Union, via Hamburg, on prepayment of three cents each at the office of mailing in the United States, which shall be in full of the postage to destination; the German postage beyond Hamburg to be one cent each in addition to the two cents chargeable to Hamburg. The postage on pamphlets and magazines per ounce, or a fraction of an ounce, shall be one cent, prepayment of which shall likewise be required in both Said newspapers, pamphlets, and magazines are to be countries. subject to the laws and regulations of each country, respectively, in regard to their liability to be rated with letter postage when containing written matter, or for any other cause specified in said laws and regulations. They must be sent in narrow bands, open at the sides or ends.

ARTICLE VI.

The postage for which the United States and Hamburg post offices shall reciprocally account to each other upon letters which shall be exchanged between them, shall be established, letter by letter, according to the scales of progression determined by the preceding 2d and 3d articles, as follows, viz:

The Hamburg office shall pay to the United States office, for each unpaid letter weighing half an ounce, or less, originating in the United States and destined for Hamburg, as well as for each letter of like weight prepaid in Hamburg and destined for the United States. when conveyed under article 2d, by United States steamer, nine cents. and when by Hamburg steamer, five cents. When conveyed under article 3d, by United States steamer, fourteen cents, and when by Hamburg steamer, five cents.

The United States office shall pay to the Hamburg office, for each unpaid letter weighing half an ounce or less, originating in Hamburg and destined for the United States, as well as for each letter of like weight prepaid in the United States and destined for Hamburg, when conveyed under article 2d, by United States steamer, one cent, and when by Hamburg steamer, five cents. When conveyed under article 3d, by United States steamer, one cent, and when by Hamburg steamer, ten cents.

Respecting the postage for newspapers, pamphlets, and magazines received in either country, the whole is to be paid to the United States office when the same are sent by United States steamers, and one half to the United States, and the other half to the Hamburg office, when sent by Hamburg steamers.

Letter bills and acknowledgments, as well as forms of account,

shall be made to conform to these articles.

ARTICLE VII.

The accounts between the two departments shall be closed at the expiration of each quarter of the calendar year, by quarterly statements and accounts prepared by the General Post Office in Washington; and, having been examined, compared, and settled by the post office of Hamburg, the balance shall be paid, without delay, by that department which shall be found indebted to the other. If the balance is in favor of Hamburg, it shall be paid over by the United States at Hamburg; and if in favor of the United States, it shall be paid over by Hamburg at Washington, or to the General Post Office at London, to the credit of the United States, as the Postmaster General of the United States shall direct. Neither office is to charge to the other any commissions upon any postage it may collect.

ARTICLE VIII.

The steamers of either government plying between New York and Hamburg shall be required to convey all dead and returned letters, and the official communications of the respective post departments of the United States and Hamburg, free of charge.

ARTRILE IX.

The sailing days of the steamers carrying the mail between New York and Hamburg under this arrangement shall be so arranged as not to conflict with the schedule days of sailing of the United States mail steamers plying between New York and Bremen, and between New York and Havre; and also of the Bremen mail steamers plying between New York and Bremen; and shall, as near as practicable, alternate at regular intervals with the days of sailing of the steamers conveying the mail to and from Bremen and Havre.

ARTICLE X.

This arrangement is to go into effect on the first day of July, 1857, and it is to be continued in force until annulled by mutual consent, or by either post department, after the expiration of three months' previous notice to the other; and it may cease whenever all the direct steamers between New York and Hamburg cease running.

Done in duplicate, and signed at Washington on the 12th day of June, and at New York on the 30th day of June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven.

HORATIO KING.
FERDINAND KARCK,
Commissioner for the Hanseatic Republic
of Hamburg.

Approved:

AARON V. BROWN, Postmaster general, U. S.

Hamburg, August 7, 1857.

This convention is ratified with the advice and consent of the senate of Hamburg.

C. H. MERCK, LL. D., Member of the senate, and president of the Post Office Department.

F.

Post Office Department, Contract Office, December 1, 1857.

SIR: For a statement of the mail service for the contract year ending 30th of June, 1857, I respectfully refer you to the tables hereto annexed.

Table A exhibits the character of the service, the number of miles of transportation, and the cost thereof as it stood at the close of the year.

Table B shows the number of mail routes in operation, and the number of mail contractors, route agents, local agents, and mail measurers in the service of the department on the 30th of June, 1857.

On the let of July last the new service in the New England and New York sections was put in operation, the first quarter of which

expired on the 30th of September, 1857.

Table C exhibits the service of these sections as it steed at the close of the contract year, 30th of June, 1857 and at the close of the first quarter of the current year.

Table D exhibits the railroad service as in operation on the 30th

of June, 1857; also, the cost per mile in each State.

Tables E and F exhibit the railroad and steamboat service for the current year, showing the particulars of each railroad and steamboat route.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant, WM. H. DUNDAS,

Second Assistant Postmaster General.

Hon. A. V. Brown, Postmaster General.

Table of mail service for the year ending June 30, 1857, as exhibited by the state of the arrangements at the close of the year.

[The entire service and pay are set down to the State under which it is numbered, though extending into other States, instead of being divided among the States in which each portion of it lies.]

States and Terri- tories.	of routes.		A.1	NU.L TR	AN#PORTATIO	N AND R	ATE OF CO	т.		annual trans- ation by mode specified.	annual trans- tion by exach.	annual tran- ation by stram-	annual trans-	annest tras- ortation.	See of the of
!	Length	Mode no	specifical.	ln -	coach.	In ste	amboat.	Вуп	silrond.	Total porta	Total a	Total a	Total a portal	Total	Total a
Maine New Hampshire State	6,533 0,114	Miles. \$1,08e \$2,08e \$2,08e \$194 \$1,08e \$1,08e \$1,08e \$1,08e \$1,08e \$1,08e \$1,08e \$1,08e \$1,08e \$1,08e \$1,09e \$1,0e \$1,0e \$1,0e \$1,0e \$1,0e \$1,0e \$1,0e \$1,0e \$1,0e \$1,0e \$1,0e \$1,0e \$1,0	Dollars. 15,546 7,544 14,543 14,543 14,543 14,543 15,635 15,663 15,161 15,175 15,537 15,163 112,107 15,355 112,107 15,355 112,107 15,355 112,107 15,355 112,107 15,355 112,107 15,355 112,107 15,355 12,107 15,355 12,107 15,355 12,107 15,355 12,107 15,355 12,107 15,355 12,107 15,355 12,107 15,355 12,107 15,355 12,107 15,355 12,107 15,355 12,107 15,355 12,107 15,355 12,107 15,355 12,107 15,355 1	Miles. 9,379 1,879 1,879 1,879 96 97 4,875 4,875 427 427 427 427 427 427 427 427 427 427	Dollers. 9, 190 15, 247 9, 190 15, 245 17, 196 1, 779 8, 663 110, 650 110, 762 14, 314 46, 364 44, 364 47, 106 43, 263 17, 865 37, 180 56, 631 58, 631 17, 865 30, 883 17, 865 30, 883	Miss. 60 950 59 12 4-2 12 55 1,135 413 880 1,979 1,971 770 101 63 140 614 680 949 S4 677 640	600 14,799 1,900	Miles. 489 487 489 487 1,988 109 9,850 455 1,387 85 506 814 1,073 301 1,197 2,631 300 125	Dollars. 48, 710 31, 740 46, 694 45, 694 325, 690 9, 556 6, 383 317, 380 174, 806 174, 806 174, 806 174, 806 175, 806 174, 806 175, 806 174, 806 175, 806 17	###	MELCO 9829, 964 0 669, 744 452, 400 440, 768 934, 588, 961 605, 423 901, 941 199, 180 901, 941 199,	Miles 98, 060 159, 483 7, 486 870, 606 14, 976 34, 389 176, 585 870, 606 870, 606 870, 606 870, 606 870, 607 871, 387 87	####	##	Dollars. 107,343 48,444 67,791 141,230 144,569 46,549 46,5

Louisiana Texas. California Oregon Territory. N. Mexico Territory. Unth Territory. Nebraska Territory. Kansas Territory.	3,084 1,107 980 1,157 1,103	4,037 9,670 1,479 868 70 1,017 404 1,483	54, 469 89, 896 34, 301 20, 102 1, 150 31, 267 4, 379 18, 580	907 1, 675 1, 301 95 910 140 699 321	1,900 14,150	· · · · · · · ·				596, 960 1, 116, 696 990, 696 90, 394 7, 980 36, 568 46, 384 177, 919	958, 904 589, 968 451, 153 9, 880 91, 840 14, 560 86, 424 48, 778	29,950	85,990	1, 934, 965 1, 964, 336 847, 614 139, 156 99, 190 51, 198 132, 608 995, 966	497, 025 939, 136 143, 797 31, 859 34, 650 32, 467 18, 539 25, 013
Total	842,601	155, 497	1,659,375	49, 399	1,410,896	15,945	991,998	22,530	2, 559, 847	97,089,074	19,090,936	4,518,119	24, 967, 944	74, 906, 067	6,692,046
Route & local agents and mail messen- gers Foreign mails			······································			ij7, 639	380,047		§148, 989			900,839	9,304	903, 136	499, 813 580, 969
Total	242,(0)	155, 497	1,659,375	49, 329	1,410,896	23, 884	1,379,045	99,578	2, 708, 769	97,099,074	19,090,930	4,718,961	94, 970, 948	75, 109, 903	7,650,898

WM. H. DUNDAS, Second Amistant Postmaster General.

^{*}The Baltimore, Wilmington, and Philadelphia railroad is under a Maryland number.
† This includes atsembled service from Louisville to Uncuranti.
This includes atsembled were the strong to Modific; also the route from Cairo to New Orleans.
† This includes the route from New Orleans to Modific; also the route from Cairo to New Orleans.
† This includes from Panama to Aspinwall.
The route from New Orleans to Vera Uraz is not included in this, the contractor having failed and the service having been very irregularly performed during the year.

B.

Number of mail routes, mail contractors, route agents, local agents, and mail messengers, at the close of the contract year ending on the 30th day of June, 1857.

Sections.	Routes.	Contrac-	Route ages ts.	Local agents.	Mail mer- reagers.
New Raginad	879	776	63	1	185
New York	862	751	52	1	1 30
fiddle	1,400	1, 111	, 93	9	: 44
outhern	1, 204	1,036	* 60	1	8
forthwestern	1,865	1,543	88	20	20
outhwestern	1,670	1, 352	52	•	. 7
Ocean routes	. 8	7		1	
Total	7,888	6, 576	406	45	1,33

WM. H. DUNDAS, Second Amstern Postmertz General.

C.

Mail service in the New England section.

	Annual trans- portation	Annual rate of cost.
Servee as in operation on 30th June, 1857. Railroad Steamboat	Miles. 4, 104, 082 217, 880	Dollars. 330, 171 6, 182
Cosch	2,506,036 1,533,804	95, 089 58, 863
Total	8, 361, 8 02 7, 664, 161	490, 255
Decremo	697, 641	
As in operation on 30th September, 1857. Railroad	3,218,206 365,664	391, 212 20, 050
Coach	2, 185, 562 1, 894, 729	100, 163 81, 268
Total	7, 664, 161	592, 693 490, 255
Increase		102, 438

WM. H. DUNDAN,

Escond Assistant Postmaster General.

POSTMASTER GREERAL.

C.

Mail service in the New York section.

	Annual trans- portation.	Annual rate of cost.
Service on in operation on 30th June, 1857. Railroad Seamboat Coach Inferior modes	Miles. 3, 587, 971 270, 608 2, 562, 248 1, 495, 017	217, 548 14, 799 95, 643 60, 628
Total	7, 915, 844 7, 790, 451	488,450
Decrease	125, 398	
As in operation on 30th Systember, 1857. Railroad	3, 881, 299 108, 944 2, 418, 864 1, 381, 344	327, 628 7, 298 108, 305 62, 825
Total	7, 790, 451	506, 956 488, 45 0
Increase		17,606

WM. H. DUNDAS,

Number of reste.	Termini.	Distance.	Test de constitue	No. of bilgs per work.	Armed pay.	12	Amend co.d juy mile on cook years.					1		
;; 90	Naterville to Rappur	85	Miles.	19	Dellare. A, 635 00 A, 500 00 A, 500 00		Dallare. 100 00 100 00	200gs.	Dollars.	6,045 00		199 04		Ħ
90 97	Persiand to Personanth, H. H. Pertiand to Augusta, with breach, Breaswich to Bath Persiand in Page Lier, YL			19			12.0	1,177	190	1,000		177 🗰		1
150 131	Leed's Station to Livermore Pall	112		-21	RS7 00		100 00	1,400		, eta ee				2
	PRW MAMPSHIRE.		4-9		¦	48,710 50	••••	·····			35,430 to	 1	112 70	
	Onecard to Lowell, Mass	8639		19	0,400 00 2,043 00 7,135 00		199 39 40 46 75 00	761	••••	7,00 m		40 46		
987 986	Concord to White River Junction	13		19	7,457 00 1,353 00) 100 m	943 916	1,00	9,343 00 1,516 00	*************	114 5	1::::::	
915a 92a 941	Contoneous Village to Hillsborough Bridge	15 98 98			1,940 00 857 00 1,460 00		200			1,900 00 857 00 1,466 00	***********	4 2 2		
951 977	Nachua to East Witten	21	4861	i	1,650 00	39,987 00		-18		1,500 60	31,06 00	61 70		
₩I	VERNOTT. Windoor to Berlington	117		19	11,700 00		100 00	1,667	356	13,700 00				

Vol.	******	Eminad to North Bennington Branch, to Bennington. White Sirve Junction to St. Johnsbury Bollows' Pails to Waringer Belows' Pails to Burington Bruttleboru' to Sellows' Pails MANACHURTER	5 61 93	19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 1	1,300 00 1,300 00 12,000 00 2,000 00	1	87	00 33 44	400 611 190 1,800 176	6,946 00 6,806 00 3,046 00 15,125 00 3,100 00	54,997 60		
Ť	901 988	Boston to Portsmouth, N. H. Branch to Marblehead. Boston to South Serwick Junction.		19 6	7,910 00		100 57 46 56 100 50	1,583	1,114	9,847 00		100 es	
7	9 03	Branch to Medford Branch, Rollinsford to Great Palls Boston to Lowell. Branch, Wischester to Wohern	4	18				1,100	1,175				
	804	Poston to Fitchburg. Brunch, Cambridge so Lexington Branch, Junction to Waterlown Branch, South Acton to Petroaville	201	18	3,000 00 7,485 00			317	584			1	
	9 46	Boston to Worcester. Branch, Natick to Bazonville Branch, South Framingham to Framingham Branch, South Framingham to Milford	B	19	12,598 00		\$0 00 40 br>40 00 40 40 00 40 40 00 40 40 00 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 4	540	750	13,150 00		197 45	
	•	Branch to Milbury Branch, Ansahle Station to Newton Lower Falls. Boston to Providence, B. I. Branch to Dedham Branch to Belonk.	4945	18	5,718 00		40 85 113 85 10 90 40 87) 247	75	6,190 00	••••	105 54	
	997 999 970a	Souton to Mackstone Branch, North Wreatham to Medway Souton to Flymouth South Abinston to Srideswater	35 4 37	•	3,995 00		30 00 43 00 134 00	· •	1,466	4,736 00		196 86	****
	-	Salem to Lawrence Lawrence to Manchester	16 90 90	19	800 00		# # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # #			713 00 1,684 00		20 ES	••••••• ••••••• •••••
		Groton Junction to Mason Village	91 17 18		986 00 864 00 500 00		48 87 99 99 97 77			945 00 844 00 580 00		46 67 80 90 97 77	········
	641 648 669	Braintree Depot to Cohassett Middleboro' to Hyannis New Bedford to West Warsham. Taunton to Mansfield Junction		19 19 18	4.642 00 800 00	•••••	100 00 50 00	168 344	800 900 115	5, 185 00 1,000 00		70 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 0	••••••
	661 661	Taunton to New Bedford	91 64	19 18 18	9,100 00 6,400 00			871 864		9,100 00		190 00	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	666	Palmer to Amherst		6	857 00		49 86		184		.:::::		· · · · · · · · · · · ·

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	Troy to Albany	1 .		13	1,000 00		150 00					917	ļ
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• :	PCRORCINGY to Hailatea	14		19			22	••••	378	1,100 65		63 23	
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٠!	Syracuse to Rochester Palls	1 94		.63			85 89	1,600	1,200	11,979 06			
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1	Byrnesse in Oswego.	361		13			100 00	'800 I	1,311				••••
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	Betavis to Attics	- 11					72 2 1			15,936 00 550 00			••••
	Buffilo to Lewi-ton	99			1,450 00	************	20 00		••••••				••••
11:	Buffajo to Hornell-ville . Buffajo to Mate line .	91			4,850 00		# W 1	1,000	1,396				••••
Η,	orning to Betavia	. 60		18			\$80 00	900	914				••••
11	SPARCE, Avon to Rochester	100		:1	4,986 00	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	46 86	1,400	9.6	6,602 00		3 6	•••
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	New York to New Branswick	-3	*****	19			375 00	1,550	1,353 😁	基礎豐			••••
٠.	New York to Easton	Ü		19	6,400 00		100 00		1.25	122			
9	New York to Hackettstown	4		19		***********	763 69		1,917 6	91.307			
8	New Brunewick to Philadelphin	54	J	19								M M	
8	Waterloo to Newton	ii	•••••	12	270			•••••		579 00			
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1	Philadelphia to Columbia	5 70				•••••				675.00			
		134				•••••	14 8		4,500 00	98,021 60			
	Philadelphia to Pottsville	97			1,000 00	************	35						
5	West Chester to Philadelphia	34				************			200 00	8,346 69	***********	. 921 87	
•	Lancaster to Harrisburg	378	ļ		7,500				440 00	1,995 00		. 66	
•	Columbia to Middletown	119	ļ				120	1,975	1,963 00	15, 150 🗪		. 19737	I
•	Port Cliaton to Williamsport	119			359 60		45 83			550 00			
7	Behaylkill Haven to Tremont	13			1,400 00		1 × 00			1,400 00			
9	Sunbury to Mount Carmel	- 2			9,300 00				1,173 00	4,173 00		. 27	
•	Raston to Mauch Chunk	133	1		7,900 00		80 80	1,400	1,872 🗪	11,938 00		. # 5	
8	Harrisburg to Auburn						30 00			1,770 00			·····
•	Harrisburg to Chambersburg.	52			5,900 00		100 00	700	100 00	8,000 00		. i 112 30	*****
ï	Harrisburg to Pittsburg				50,000 10	***********	900 00	1)	1			011 40	1
P L	Branch to Hollidaysburg						50 00		4,114 50	58,914 59		., 341 🕶	
	Branch to Indiana	90					50 00		1	410.00		1 46 44	
	Hanover Junction to Hanover	13			630 00		50 00	j					
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19	Funbury to Milton	14	1		609 00			1	1			114 04	

3073 3300 3410 3448 3480 3485 3510	Blossburg to Corning	34 43 20 4 18 54.19 10.11	1,387.3	6 14 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5	9,000 00 1,700 00 3,150 00 4,000 00 173 00 540 00 9,756 00 9,400 00	146,521 60	50 00 50 00 73 25 900 00 43 00 30 00 43 86 40 00	700	947 00 195 00	1,700 00 3,850 00 4,947 00 179 00 540 00 9,756 00 3,993 00	. 177, 354 50	50 00 80 53 919 35 43 00 30 80 42 86 53 75	197 84	
	DELAWARE.	ĺ							1					
3618	Wilmington to Senford	85.	85.1	19	6,382 50	6,389 50	75 00	1,400	8,910 00	10,699 50	10,692 50	195 64	195 64	
1	MARYLAND.								l					
2901 3009	Baltimore to Washington, D. C			25 19)	19,000 00		300 00	1,979	740 00	14,719 00		367 80		
3502	Branch to Frederick	₹ 901		13 }	94,900 00		900 00	5,400	2,763 50	109,363 50		969 37		
3909a 3903	Grafton to Parkersburg	104		6	10.400 00		100 00 367 64	1,600 5,098	1,651 50	19,000 00 44,189 50				
3904	Baltimore to Harrisburg, Pa	H6			17.850 00		50 00	3,600	H9 50	,				
3919	Annapolis to Annapolis Junction			13	81929 00		149 90							
ĺ			74P			174,808 00				••••	. 197,655 50		964 94	
-	OHIO.			Ì					l					
9006	Be I Air to Columbus	1371			97,575 00 8,700 00		900 UG 75 00		545 00	30,590 00		981 26		
. 9050	Branch, Mcans to Cadix	. 8	1		940 00 56,787 80		30 99 127 50	1,400	495 00 1.763 00	10,765 00				
9097 9108	Erie, Pa , to Cleveland, Ohio	96		19	19,900 00		915 00	1,800	1,956 00			931 86	1	
9110	Cleveland to Toledo	1 411	,	65	19,937 50			1,300	969 00	15,499 80 93,715 00		154 99 915 59		
9114 9190	Hudson to Miller-burg	64			1,860 00		10 00 44 56		369 00 59 00	9,939 00		47 18		
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[•] Includes \$6,700, being \$5 per cent. on \$300 a mile, for night service and for a third extra trip, includes \$4,000, being \$5 per cent. on \$300 a mile, for hight service and for a third stars trip, includes \$6,000 for berry at hight, and necessations for agent in night trin.

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Railroad service, as in operation on the 30th September, 1857.

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outh Carolina	(pnrt.) 5693 5661 5659 6611 5659 6610 6600 6600 6601 6605 6653 6657 6671 13007 13004 13114 13327 13668	Wilmington to Smithville Frankin Bepot to Fignouth Frankin Bepot to Fignouth Frankin Bepot to Fignouth Frankin Bepot to Fignouth Frankin Bepot to Fignouth Charleston to New York Swammah to Fliatka, Fla Byammah to Filiatka, Fla Byammah to New York Swammah to Filiatka, Fla Byammah to Filiatka, Fla Frankin to Melionville Charleston, S. C., to Filiatka, Fla Pinika to Melionville Louding Fla Frankin Bernelle Columbus to May Print Charleston, S. C., to Filiatka, Fla Detroit to Smit Sto Maris Smit Sir. Maris Smit Sir. Maris to Unionagon Roy k faland to Davenport Milwaukie to Sheboygan	300 999 96 180 379/ 800 900 1995 1,006 30 310 800 310 800 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 1	- 1,9794 - 25,471 - 850 - 1,9794 - 2,471 - 850 - 101	3 3 1 2 2 1 1 (t) (t) (t) (t) (t) (t) (t) (t) (t) (t)	9,500 1,513 1,300 500 10,000 9,000 9,000 1,600 70,000 1,500 1,500 1,500 1,500 1,500 1,500 1,500	. 1, 600 - 14, 160 - 104, 260 - 1,780 - 5, 627 - 2, 625	Do. Do.
outh Carolina corgia lorida lichigun lichos	(pnrt.) 5693 5661 5659 5661 5659 607 6009 6300 6801 6803 6853 6857 6871 13007 13094 13114 13327 13668 13699	Wilmington to Smithville Prankin Pepet to Tymouth Prynamin to Stantino Charleston to Savannah, Ga. Charleston to New York Ravannah to Platko, Pla Ravannah to New York Savannah to New York Savannah to Platko, Pla Prinke to Michonyile Bathoridge, Ga., to Aplanchicola, Pla Piniaka to Michonyile Bathoridge, Ga., to Aplanchicola, Pla Penascula to Militon Columbias to Hay Print Columbias to Hay Print Columbias to Hay Print Columbias to Hay Print Columbias to Hay Print Columbias to Hay Print Columbias to Hay Print Columbias to Hay Print Columbias to Hay Print Columbias to Hay Print Columbias to Hay Print Columbias to Hay Print Columbias to Hay Print Columbias to Hay Print Columbias to Hay Print Columbias to Galena, Milyantic to Galena, Milyantic to Michongon Print Lact to Menocha	30 99 36 160 379 80 800 800 300 1 908 1,000 300 300 1 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	- 1907 - 650 - 1,9794 - 2,471 - 650 - 101 - 63 - 140	3 3 1 2 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	9, 500 1, 513 1, 300 500 10, 000 9, 000 9, 000 1, 000 11, 000 4, 500 1,	- 1,800 - 14,160 - 104,980 - 1,780 - 3,697 - 3,698 - 7,800	Do. Do.
outh Carolina	(pnrt.) 5633 5661 5633 5661 5559 6041 3236 6007 6309 6310 6801 6805 6842 6842 6843 6853 6843 6853 6853 6853 6853 6853 6853 6853 685	Wilmington to Smithville Prankin Bepot to Fynnouth Prynouth to Humbiou Charleston to Savannah, Ga. Charleston to New York Savannah to New York Savannah to New York Savannah to Pilatka, Fla Savannah to Pilatka, Fla Savannah to Pilatka, Fla Savannah to Pilatka, Fla Pilatka to Melioaville Rainbridge, Ga., to Apalachicola, Fla New Grenna, La, to Key Wed, Fla Penascola to Milton Columbus to Bay Printa Columbus to Bay Print Sault Sie. Mare to Outonagon Rock Island to Galena. Milwaukie to Sheboggan Fond du Lae to Menosia Keokuk to Rock I-land St. Louis to Keokuk, Iowa Jefferon Uty to St. Joseph. St. Paul to Dubuque.	30 99 56 160 379 80 800 300 14,000 1	- 1,9794 - 280 - 1,9794 - 2,471 - 550 - 101 - 83 - 140 - 660	3 3 1 2 2 1 1 1 (†) (†) (§) 1 3 6 6 6 6 6	9, 500 1, 515 11, 200 5, 000 10, 000 10, 000 10, 000 10, 000 10, 000 10, 000 10, 000 11, 00	. 1, 600 - 14, 160 - 104, 280 - 1,760 - 5, 827 - 9, 895 - 7, 800	Po. Po. Po.
outh Carolina	(pnrt.) 5633 5661 5633 5661 5559 6041 3236 6007 6309 6310 6801 6801 6801 6801 6801 13004 13114 13527 13004 13149 9436 FR19 9426	Wilmington to Smithville Prankin Bepot to Fynnouth Prankin Bepot to Fynnouth Prynouth to Hauliton Charleston to Savannah, Ga. Charleston to New York Savannah to New York Savannah to New York Savannah to Pilatka, Fla. Bivannah to Pilatka, Fla. Bivannah to Pilatka, Fla. Charleston, S. C., to Pilatka, Fla Pilatka to Melioavile Rainbridge, Ga., to Apalachicola, Fla. New Oreans, L.A., to Key West, Fla. Charleston, S. C., to Pilatka, Fla. Deported to Savanti Sto Marie Sault Ste. Marie to Outonagon Rock Island to Bavenport Rock Island to Bavenport Rock Island to Bavenport Rock Island to Bavenport Rock Island to Bavenport Rock Island to Galena. Milwaukie to Rheborgan Fond du Lacto Menosha Keokuk to Rock I-land. St. Louis to Keokuk, Lowa, Jefferon Uty to St. Joseph. Pull to Galena.	30 99 95 56 160 379 800 800 300 14,000 300 1,000	- 1,9794 - 280 - 1,9794 - 2,471 - 550 - 101 - 83 - 140 - 660	1 1 2 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	9, 500 1,515 1, 200 10, 000 10,	1,800 - 14,160 - 104,980 - 1,780 - 3,897 - 3,898 - 7,800 - 100,000 - 10,800	Do. Do. Do. Do. Do. Do.
outh Carolina corgia forida findia fi	(part.) 5832 5863 5823 5861 5825 5825 5825 5825 5825 5825 5825 582	Wilmington to Smithville Prankin Pepet to Tymouth Prankin Pepet to Tymouth Prankin Pepet to Tymouth Prymenth to Smithion Charleston to Sawannah, Ga. Charleston to New York Savannah to New York Savannah to New York Savannah to Philatch Pia. Savannah to Philatch Pia. Savannah to Philatch Pia. Savannah to Philatch Pia. Savannah to Smithion Pia. New Ore sana. Lo., to Key West, Pia. Penascala to Milton Columbus to Bay Print Columbus to Bay Print Columbus to Bay Print Columbus to Bay Print Columbus to Bay Print Columbus to Bay Print Marie Sault Sie. Marie Sault Sie. Marie to Outonagon Rock Island to Davenport Rock Island to Galena, Milwaukis to Rheboygan Pond du Lac to Menasha Keekuk to Rock Island. S. Louis to Keokuk, Iswa. Jefferon Uty to St. Joseph R. Paul to Glena, St. Paul to Glena, St. Paul to Unbunque Louisville to Cinconnati Paducint to Cinconnati	300 999 999 900 300 300 1,000 300 300 300 300 1,000 300 300 1,000 300 300 300 300 300 300 300 300 300	- 101 - 930 - 11,9794 - 93,471 - 930 - 101 - 93 - 140 - 650 - 409	1 1 2 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	9, 500 1,515 1,300 1,000 9,000 9,000 10,000 9,000 10,0	. 1,800 - 14,160 - 104,980 - 1,760 - 3,897 - 9,695 - 7,800 - 100,000	Do. Do. Do.
outh Carolina	(port.) 5052 5062 5062 5062 5062 5062 5062 5062	Wilmington to Smithville Prankin Depot to Tymouth Prynamin to Stantino Charleston to Savannah, Ga. Charleston to New York Ravannah to Platko, Pla Ravannah to New York Savannah to New York Savannah to Platko, Pla Prinka to William Pla Savannah to Platko, Pla Savannah to Platko, Pla Savannah to Platko, Pla Platko Platko Pla Savannah to Platko, Pla Bathoridge, Ga., to Apiachicola,	30 30 30 30 379 800 800 906 1,000 300 300 11 100 300 300 300 3	- 850 - 1,9794 - 1,9794 - 2,471 - 850 - 101 - 840 - 140 - 660 - 409 - 34	1 1 2 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	9, 500 1,515 1, 200 10, 000 10,	. 1,800 - 14,160 - 104,980 - 1,780 - 3,897 - 8,895 - 7,800 - 104,000 - 10,800 - 98,495	Do. Do. Do. Do. Do. Do.

1.

Lemosts.			One additional workly trip nies months in the year between New Ocleans and Galveston, 400 miles.			
Total annual pay in each Binte.	\$		380,808	ξ. 8		8
Vanuel pay.	\$ 0.17 kg	원 825 88 88 88 88	11. 30 10,000 4,900	25.52 000.00 000.00	1,100	85 450
Number of trips per week,	17 (N 17) 71	~ _	#£#£	••3	O+ O+	-
Total distance in each Histo.	S S	8	8	3 9,	Ā	£2
. Вівідпев.	A 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25	568 ± 35		22.5	8=	£
Tembii	Napoleon to Richbad Krapkas to Napoleon Angoleon to Atenden Angoleon to Atenden	New Orleans to Michic, Ala New Orleans to Shreyer. New Orleans to Correspon Breviet to New Uberia New Orleans to Baker. New Others to Calvo.	New Orleans to Indianola. New Unicase to Brazon Basingo. Galvenan to Mossion. Galvenan to Liberty.	San Practice to Sacramento City. San Francisco to Strekton. Sacramento Cay to Maryurille.	Asserts to Pertiand.	Olympia to Whalcom
Number of route.	西部署落		777	8 T 1977	\$ 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 5	Ž.
States and Territories.	Whates	The state of the s	Тета	Calaboraca	Oregon Terribory	Washington Territory

W.W. H. DUNDAS, Second Anistonic Protomentor General. † Twice a week. § Six times a week seven months; part of coach contract.

Berrier engaged by the trip; 134 trips performed.
 (Once a week three months; twice a week mass months.

Auditor's Office, Post Office Department, November 16 1857.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following annual report of the receipts and expenditures of the Post Office Department, nighther with the operations of this office in connexion therewith, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1857:

REVENUE ACCOUNT OF THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

The balance standing on the books of this office to the credit of the department on the 30th of June, 1856, was	\$ 789,599 78
statement marked "A," were	7,353,951 76
Making a total revenue of	4,528,004 67 12,671,556 21
"B ₁ " were	
From which deduct the amount of credit balances charged to "suspense account"	
Net expenditure	11,507,670 16
Leaving to the credit of the revenue account on 1st of July, 1857	1,163.886 05

The excess of expenditures of all kinds over the revenue of the year, inclusive or receipts and payment for foreign postages, and exclusive of the amount to the credit of the department, on the 1st of July, 1856, and the sums appropriated by the several acts of Congress out of the general revenues of the United States, was \$4,153,718 40.

The net revenue from postage, being the aggregate amount of

For the quarter ending September 30, 1856	
" " March 31, 1857 1.014,407 7 " June 30, 1857 989,842 3	
Total 3,344,381 6	
The number of accounts audited during the year, and on which the above sum was ascertained, was—	_
During the quarter ending September 30, 1856	
December 31, 1000 20,30	
march 31, 109/ 23,01	
" June 30, 1857 25,46	51
Total number of postmasters' quarterly accounts audited 101,74	6
In the adjustment of these accounts it was ascertained that durin the fiscal year the following sums were reported by postmasters a "postage on letters paid in money:"	
In the quarter ending September 30, 1856 \$229,221 1	0
" December 31, 1856 221,608 1	
" March 31, 1857 254,367 9	
" " June 30 1857 245,275 1	

A portion of the above sum was, of course, collected on foreign letters, but much the larger portion thereof was received and entered by postmasters in direct violation of the regulation of the department dated November 20, 1855, issued in accordance with the provision of the 1st section of an act approved March 3, 1855.—(United States Laws, vol. 10, page 642.) And until that regulation is universally observed the door to frauds upon the revenues of the department will remain open, and the chief object had in view by the late Postmaster General in procuring the passage of the act referred to will be defeated.

950,472 34

I respectfully suggest that additional regulations are necessary to secure the department from frauds in the rendition of accounts by postmasters of the printed circulars prepaid ("in postage stamps") mailed by them, upon which they receive 50 per cent, commission without any debit to their account.

It is the universal practice to enter these circulars in the "transcript of prepaid printed matter sent" in bulk, without indicating the date of mailing or their destination; and as they are not accompanied by "post bills" it is difficult to ascertain the correctness of the entries.

In some of the eastern States the amount of circulars thus mailed is very great.

I also respectfully recommend that application be made to Cougress for authority to enable me to have the transcript accounts of mails sent and mails received, and all other parts of postmasters' "quarterly returns" from July 1, 1850, to June 30, 1855, except the "accounts current" and the vouchers for contingent and incidental expenses, removed and sold; the proceeds of sale to be applied to defray the expense of reparating and removing the transcripts, &c., and rearranging and filing the "accounts current."

These quarterly returns, in connexion with the "accounts current" and vouchers, prior to July 1, 1850, now occupy fourteen rooms in the basement of the Post Office building; and I am informed by the superintendent of the building that the remaining rooms are insufficient to contain the fuel necessary for the winter; so that, if relief is not given by the sale of the bulky material of the "quarterly accounts," the returns for the quarters ending June 30, and September 30, 1857, must necessarily be piled in an unsightly and exposed condition in the main passenge of the building

dition in the main passage of the building.

The amount collected as registration fees and postage of valuable

In the quarte	er ending	September 30, 1856	\$8,138	85
"	"	December 31, 1856	9,393	80
"	"	March 31, 1857	10,345	20
"	"	June 30, 1857	8,117	05
Total.	••••••	······································	35,994	90

The amount of postage stamps and stamped envelopes	
sold by postmasters during the fiscal year, was Of which there was used and cancelled	\$5,448,755 32 5,070,527 86
Leaving in the possession of the purchasers	378,227 46

CONTRACTORS' ACCOUNT.

The average number of accounts of contractors and others engaged in carrying the mails, settled in each quarter, was, on regular mail routes	5,372 3,133 1,218 1,596
On mair messengers and locar agents	1,000
Total number of accounts	11,319

MAIL TRANSPORTATION ACCOUNT.

The amount charged to "accrued trained placed to the credit of contracts for mail transportation, during the Amount for regular services	ors and others,	\$7,524,585 43	
Total		7,524,585 43	
The amount actually paid during the transportation was	•	7,239,333 27 183,388 55	1
transportation." and charged to contractors for over credits and damages, was	\$46,208 14 86,330 26 102,416 58	234,954 98	
COLLECTION OF POST OF	TICE REVENUE.		
The number of offices in operation 26,586, which are thus classified un chapter 23, sections 237, 238, 239, 240. 992 are "draft offices," and during the drafts were issued by the Postmaster	during the fider department		
countersigned by the Auditor, amoun	ting to	\$1,030,107 83	
1,278 are "deposit offices," and have det the year	ve paid on the	1,239,071 84	
year. 4,729 are styled "special and mail mess and have derived their supply of m the payment of their net revenue;	enger" offices, ails chiefly by	1,083,869 29	
thus paid was		224,195 20	

During the fiscal year the "collecting division" of the charge of the following number of accounts:	is office had
Of present postmasters	12,720
Total number	47,174
The number of changes of postmasters reported to the of by the Post Office Department, which required the fladjustment of their respective accounts, was 7,868. And the balance due on the accounts amounted to	
Amount remaining for collection	173,159 01 3,021 17
Leaving a balance on these accounts, uncollected, on the 30th day of June, 1857, and not in suit, of	170,137 84
The balance due the United States by late postmasters whose terms of service expired between the 1st of July, 1845, and 30th June, 1856, unsettled, and not in suit on 1st July, 1856, as stated in the last annual report, was	109,505 75 6,719 21
30, 1857	116,224 96 47,564 44
Amount uncollected on the 30th June, 1857 Of which there has been placed in suit	68,660 52 15,449 18
Amount due and not in suit	53,211 34 33,878 19
	110,010 18

These late postmasters have presented vouchers of expenditures in and about the business of their offices for a much greater sum than is exhibited on the books of this office as due by them to the United States; and, as it is probable that an amount will be allowed to them by the Postmaster General, under the provisions of the 4th and 5th sections of an act approved July 27, 1854, which will equal their apparent indebtedness, this sum should be deducted, leaving due by late postmasters in the Atlantic States.	\$ 19 , 333 16
Suits.	
The amount due by late postmasters whose terms of office expired between the lat of July, 1845, and 30th of June, 1856, for the collection of which suit was instituted prior to June 30, 1856, as stated in last report, was Add amount of 76 new cases, for the collection of which suit was instituted during the last fiscal year, c'uccounts prior to June 30, 1856	88,345 03 24,099 32 3,021 17
Amount in suit during the year	115,465 52 13,077 42
Leaving still due	102,388 10
Of this sum there is due by late postmasters in California, on accounts prior to June 30, 1856	ts have been

cluded, and the money paid into the treasury.

Summary of debts and collections.
The aggregate amount due the United States on the 30th June, 1856, by late postmisters whose terms of office expired between July 1, 1845, and June 2014 1845.
Amount due by late postmasters of the last fiscal year
Total amount for collection during the year

\$204,815 27

492,639 17

697,454 44

POSTHASTER GEMERAL.	1089
Amount collected and credited on accounts prior to June 30, 1856,	
Total amount collected and credited during year	6371,717 16
Amount remaining due to the United States Amount of the above balance is suit \$192,388 10 Amount of the above balance not in	325,737 20
sait	325,737 :
Classification of balances due the United Rates not is	. suit
Classification of balances use the Critical Notes Notes On accounts of late postmasters of year end'g June 30, 1846 Do. do. 1847 Do. do. 1848 Do. do. 1850 Do. do. 1851 Do. do. 1852 Do. do. 1853 Do. do. 1854 Do. do. 1854 Do. do. 1855 Do. do. 1856 Do. do. 1857	\$54 08 116 08 39 14 81 18 156 90 525 41 1,052 43 15,140 33 13,510 23 9,647 72 12,887 84 170,137 84
Amounts in suit.	
On accounts for the year ending June 30, 1846. Do. do. 1847. Do. do. 1848. Do. do. 1850. Do. do. 1851. Do. do. 1852. Do. do. 1853. Do. do. 1854. Do. do. 1855. Do. do. 1855. Do. do. 1856. Do. do. 1857.	3,025 77 728 06 898 42 1,833 37 1,066 55 2,599 71 2,816 90 43,416 18 14,952 70 7,900 12 20,129 15 3,021 17
Vol ii69	

Credit halances

Credit balances.	
Amount due to late postmasters on the 30th June, 1856, as stated in last annual report	\$121,949 92 1,652 19 60,640 77
TotalAmount paid or closed during the year	184,242 88 36,072 02
Amount of balances apparently due to late postmasters on 30th June, 1857	148,170 86
A surplus of commissions occured at the following podeducting the maximum compensation of the postmanecessary incidental expenses of the offices, viz:	st offices, after sters, and the
Augusta, Ga	\$488 81
Albany, N. Y	4,140 97
Boston, Mass	22,819 04
Brooklyn, N. Y	657 47
Buffalo, N. Y	4,533 84
Cleveland, Ohio	4,519 24
Columbus, Ohio	23 12
Chicago, Ill	21,841 06
Charleston, S. C.	267 54
Cincinnati, Ohio	666 21
Dubuque, Iowa	5,477 37
Detroit, Mich	4,086 00
Detroit, Mich	88 58
Davenport, Iowa	188 70
Erie, Pa	1,962 17
Galveston, Texas	410 38 1,231 79
Hartford, Conn	1,618 77
Indianaudia Ind	1,980 83
Harrisburg, Pa	340 51
Kensington, Pa	40 07
Louisville, Ky	1,426 42
Lowell, Mass	23 50
Memphis, Tenn	927 35
Madison, Wis	676 90
New Bedford, Mass	428 42
Newark, N. J	461 59
Nashville, Tenn	1,540 31
New York, N. Y	95,288 15
New Haven, Conn	297 68
Newport, R. L	31 03
Newport, R. I	145 56
New Orleans, La	2,026 64

POSTMASTER GENERAL.

Norwich, Conn	\$3,750	88
Portland, Me	1,528	37
Philadelphia, Pa	9,433	39
Providence, R. I	266	52
Pitteburgh, Penn	2,649	28
()swego, N. Y	416	83
Richmond, Va	425	80
Rochester, N. Y.	943	15
St. Louis, Mo	4,720	81
Syracuse, N. Y	285	
Springfield, Mass	475	70
Springfield, Ill		72
San Francisco, Cal	2,932	
Toledo, Ohio.	1,838	
Troy, N. Y	2,573	
Trenton, N. J.	135	
		93
Utica, N. Y	2,739	
Washington, D. C	2,135 549	
Worcester, Mass		
Wilmington, Del	671	
Wilmington, N. C.		95
Williamsburg, N. Y	170	55
Total	216,036	02
		==

Being an excess of \$45,886 99 over the present fiscal year. The following statement partially indicates the chief labors performed

durin	g the las	t fiscal year.	
The	number o	of quarterly accounts adjusted, audited, and	
reg	istered w	88	101,746
The	umber of	quarterly accounts of mail contractors audited	,
			21,488
The	umber of	payments made to special and route agents.	4,872
		special contractors and mail messengers ac-	1,012
		d	18,916
COU	nus sectie	4	
		f miscellaneous accounts audited and paid	597
The r	umber o	"collection orders" issued	72,110
The r	iumber o	f "collection drafts" insued	3,994
"	"	"department drafts" registered	13,993
"	"	"department warrants" registered	6,840
"	"	letters received	126,454
"	"	letters prepared and mailed	71,791
"	66	folio post pages recorded	2,971
"	"		
		accounts on the current ledgers	53,952
"	"	corrected quarterly accounts prepared and	
		insued	18,000

The tabular statements appended hereto, marked "A" and "B." exhibit the receipts and expenditures of the department under their several heads during the last fiscal year.

That marked "C" is a recapitulation of the amount of letter postage. newspaper postage, registered letters, postage stamps sold, compensation allowed postmasters, incidental expenses of post offices, and amount credited contractors and others, for the transportation of the mails in each State and Territory for the year ending June 30, 1857.

That marked "D" exhibits the number of letters, circulars, handbills, newspapers, and pamphlets received and delivered by "carriers," and the amounts received for carriage in the several cities named

therein.

The carefully prepared statements numbered from 1 to 32 exhibit the operations and results of our postal intercourse with foreign

governments.

I deem it to be unnecessary to make special mention of the manner in which the multifarious and responsible duties of the clerks in this office have been performed, as I am convinced that the foregoing statement, indicating their labor in ascertaining the amount of the revenues of the department, and collecting it, and in adjusting and reporting to you for payment all sums found due for mail transportation and other services rendered to the department during the year, will suffice to commend them to your favorable consideration.

Respectfully submitted.

THOMAS M. TATE, Auditor.

Hon. A. V. Brown, Postmaster General.

Statement exhibiting the receipts of the Post Office Department, under their several heads, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1857.

	Third o		ter	Fourth		rter	First que	rter	1857.	Second 1	d qua 867.	rter	Total und		ıch
Letter postage Registered letters Stamps sold Newspapers and pamphlots Pines Receipts on account of emolument Receipts on account of letter carriers Receipts on account of dead letters	1,284, 164, 19, 28,	141 352 432 5 627 886	20 23 94 00 04 57	1, 308, 155,	275 309	32 26 38 27	1, 423 167 20 44	344 701 70	55 75 58 50 43	1,431 147 19	, 115 , 401 , 102 , 750 , 750 , 991 208	80 27 61 50 26 53	79, 30 154, 7 6, 70	16 8 34 5 33 5 15 0 31 0 56 5	7 11 10 10 11 17
Extra compensation overcharged	1,	998 478			834	61		497	08	6	670 929		1,60		
Aggregate amount	1,737,	130	13	1,788	186	35	1,946	433	72	1,918	, 408	56	7, 353, 9	51 7	6

[•] In the item "Letter Postage," for third and fourth quarters 1856, and first quarter 1857, is embraced the sum of \$168,072 98, ascertained to be due from the United States to the United Kingdom on account of British postages.

In same item for the third and fourth quarters 1856 is included the sum of \$2,627 13, due from the United States to the Bremen office, on

account of postages. In same item for first and second quarters 1857 is included the sum of \$32,876 12, due to the United States from the Kingdom of Prussia, on

account of postages for third and fourth quarters 1858, and first quarter 1857.

Respectfully submitted.

THOS. M. TAIR, delica.

POSTMASTER GENERAL

POSTMASTER GENERAL.

	Third quarter 1856.	Fourth quarter 1856.	First quarter 1857.	Second quarter 1857.	Total under each head,
Compensation to postmasters	1, 776, 112 84 9, 748 64 438 85 7, 192 98 18, 126 28 35, 590 90 6, 185 50 15, 389 71 197, 294 35 6, 169 15 15, 782 67 28, 886 57 28, 886 57 938, 254 78	\$343, 109 81 4,472 72 1,660,667 37 13,335 03 1,375 98 50,855 65 15,214 35 12,261 40 18,418 06 197,782 90 7,067 16 15,009 86 41,408 31 20 11 45,636 64	\$597, 418 94 4,009 28 2,030,140 97 8,749 30 702 57 28,017 81 20,086 60 25,316 91 4,111 10 14,827 26 209,408 22 9,239 71 17,587 60 41,424 10 48,335 52	\$596, 383 91 5, 022 35 1, 772, 512 09 20, 287 89 1, 460 86 9, 039 93 11, 791 98 44, 001 68 2, 574 20 16, 593 19 229, 540 13 8, 162 78 15, 217 61 42, 991 53 15 81 56, 881 08 *189, 425 80	\$2, 285, 699 86 17, 594 76 7, 239, 353 27 52, 130 78 3, 978 26 75, 106 57 65, 219 21 117, 170 87 12, 287 50 65, 238 25 634, 025 60 30, 638 80 63, 597 74 154, 710 51 41 84, 107 99 297, 098 88 6, 187 44
Aggregate amount	2,760,475 24	2,661,116 66	3,064,563 23	3,021,902 80	11,508,057 93

^{*}These sums, amounting to \$297,098 88, are in payment of the ascertained balances, including premium on exchange, arising from British postage, and found to be due from the United States to the United Kingdom on account of the first, second, third, and fourth quarters 1856, and first quarter 1857.

AUDITOR'S OFFICE, POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, Not. 12, 1857. Hon. AARON V. BROWN, Postmaster General.

Respectfully submitted.

THOS. M. TATE, Auditor.

C.

A recapitulation of the amount of letter postage, newspaper postage, registered letters, postage stamps sold, compensation allowed postmasters, incidental expenses of post offices, and amount credited contractors and others for the transportation of the mails in each State and Territory, for the year ending June 30, 1857.

States and Territories.	Letter postage.	Newspaper postage.	Registered letters.	Stamps sold.	l'otal receipta.	Transporta-	Compensation of postmasters	Incidental ex- penses.	Total compen- sation and incidental ex- penses.	Тота! ехрениея,
Maine New Hampehite Vermont Ma-sachusetta Ricode Irland. Commercial Commercial New York New Jerrey Maryiand. Gelaware Maryiand. Guster of Columbia. Virginia North Crollina South Crollina Florida Alabanja Mississippi Tyras Kenturky Kenturky Kenturky Missina Mississippi Tyras Kenturky Missina Mississippi Tyras Kenturky Missina Mississippi Tyras Kenturky Missina Mississippi Mississippi Tyras Kenturky Missina Mississippi Mississippi Tyras Kenturky Mississippi	4,709 91 4,809 00 5,686 37 11,475 12,75 321,601 16 17,339 69 99,589 12 1,339 44 21,068 16 6,400 19 10,418 97 10,438 17 1,931 48 6,103 38 6,103 38 6,103 38 6,103 38 6,103 38 1,931 48 1,931 48 1	13, 467 04 3, 210 95 97, 452 83 11, 279 89 7, 724 67 16, 405 76 3, 323 94 11, 766 90 11, 391 01 16, 981 08 17, 346 10 14, 335 73 19, 133 52	\$875 30 414 56 425 60 1, 756 95 1, 756 95 1, 756 95 3, 997 15 3, 997 15 1, 100 90 494 30 1, 576 15 1, 576 16 1, 576	\$104, 905 19 185,765 75 75 15,085 90 461,449 05 53,530 90 153,530	9154,1655 92 118,0527 nt 100,742,155 579,946 65 64,077 nt 1919,742,155 579,946 65 64,077 nt 1919,742 115,503,444 42 115,503,444 42 1173,119 44,092 70 1173,119 44,092 70 1173,119 1173,	9 P. 975 00 65 689 14 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	4%, 955 91 159, 133 00	84,709 SH 65,074 7H	867, 663 86 365 365 35, 134 83 34 984, 565 76 884, 565 76 76 76 76 76 76 76 76 76 76 76 76 76	\$185, 159 06 106, 690 87 150, 690 48 160, 980 99 44, 974 98 44, 974 98 61, 703 99 61, 703 99 61, 703 99 61, 703 99 77, 703 99 97, 703 99 97, 703 99 97, 703 99 97, 703 99 98, 703 99
Ohin Indiana. Ar'amana. Ar'amana. Outlibrain Oregon Territor). Minimedia. New Matten.	43,7% of lacy30 99 1,655 46 17,588 75 57,949 30 1,934 08 8,956 07 176 14	47, 143 84 94, 460 36 4, 893 96 15, 698 60 11, 490 93 1, 516 88 3, 996 10	3,193,30 1,966,30 179,75 1,000,03 463,15 34,90 368,50	396, 315, 64 145, 156, 56 131, 165, 78 133, 357, 55 157, 658, 93 8, 550, 96 31, 385, 04 1, 310, 96	490,383 78 164,813 43 90,994 83 157,724 98 9,56,963 91 19,095 39 43,615 71 1,649 88	51:4, 76% 55 906, 3:49 93 179, 399 90 100, 336 48 946, 931 31 98, 371 00 36, 196 75 49, 991 30	174,370 53 86,039 43 16,881 42 97,062 86 56,370 51 5,547 76 18,153 53	70, 199 31 14, 935 79 1, 917 51 1R, 117 96 57, 641 74 31 R4 9, 104 17	946, 449 e4 109, 954 99 19, 746 93 85, 900 64 114, 092 95 5, 579 64 81, 379 66	260, 898, 39 3 M, 636, 17 391, 119, 93 1-7, 537, 99 379, 953, 56 303, 959, 66 304, 968, 41 44, 683, 78

[†] In payment of the adjusted balance arising from postages, and found due from the United States to the Bremen office, on account of first, second, third, and fourth quarters 1856.

C-	-Cops	tinued.
		7

States and Testituies.	Letter postage.	Hewspaper pastage.	Registered jetlere.	tomp rejd.	Potal receipts.	Transports.	Compression of pusting spec.	(neldenja) ez-	Justice and incidently of parties and	Total expresses.
Dah	9007 FE WET 16 956 FT 900 GD	(D) 74	20 00 14 00 77 3 20 02	(66) /4 2,95 35 1,07 30 3,07 00	91,303 60 3,500 13 1,780 53 10,965 63	600,001 to 16,100 to 51,300 to	8705 07 9,917 44 887 13 5,984 81	900 73 19 90 17 67	1770 to 2,000 fs 500 fs 1,644 to	(A) (B) (B) (B) (B) (B) (B) (B) (B) (B) (B
Deduct micrellaneous entries 141 28 Deduct micrellaneous entries		981.74	25,594 80	5,446,755 30	7,676,387 8)	6,506,130 06	9,975,176 91	1,012,610 85	3,900,700 20	1,001,000 ED
Po Do				5,477,764 51						

THOMAS M. TATE. - Author.

POSTMASTER GENERAL.

1097

D.

Statement of the number of letters, circulars, handbills, newspapers, and pamphlets received and delivered by car.iers, and the amount received for carriage, in the cities of New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore, New Oricans, Harrisburg, Lowell, Syracuse, Rochester, and Manchester.

Places.	No. of letters.	No. of circulars, &c.	No. of newspapers and pamphlets.	Total No. of let- ters, &c.	Amount paid for carrage.
New York, N. Y Philadelphia, Penn Boston, Mass Baltimore, Md	3,776,094 2,050,543 41,014 865,670	14,620 *1,317,535 31,531	536,446 355,930 95,172 159,757	4,755,555 2,421,093 1,453,721 1,056,958	\$82,1 :4 25 42,936 71 13,924 63 18,427 48
New Orleans, La	109,873 118,816 36,589	13, 101		138, 644 126, 586 86, 589	2,381 82 981 02 2,384 92 731 78
Rochester, N. Y Manchester, N. H	28,472 74,907	1,819,802	1,916 6,974		594 27 1,533 01 166,529 89

^{*} In this, many letters are included, being of same rate as circulars. † Number of letters, &c., not given

No. 1.

Amount of letter postage on British mails received in and sent from the United States for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1857.

Received.	Unpaid.	id. Unpaid F distributed.		Pald distributed.	Total.	
By the Cunard line By the Collins line by the Havre line. By the Bromen line	890, 190 63 20, 091 64 4, 616 23 6, 236 71	31,418 47	\$54,175 82 8,619 30 2,538 02 2,883 74	\$62,069 47 12,367 24 5,664 49 6,105 60	\$323, 907 95 72, 496 65 27, 121 59 31, 805 52	
Total	121, 135 21	179,672 82	68,216 88	86,206 80	455, 231 71	
Amount received.	300,808 03		154,423 68			
Sent.	Paid.	Paid distributed.	Unpaid.	Unpaid distributed.	Total.	
By the Cunard line By the Collina line By the Havre line. By the Bremen line	15, 953 17 3, 818 85	21,767 11			\$252, 386 70 95, 554 65 36, 139 06 35, 015 93	
Total	66,955 38	206, 431 34	145,709 62		419,096 34	
Amount sent	273, 386 72		145,709 62			
Amount collected i					574, 194 75 300, 133 80	
Total amou	n t				874, 328 05	
Excess collected in	the United	States	·····		274,061 45	

No. 2.

Amount of letter postage on Prussian mails received in and sent from the United States for the fiscal year endel June 30, 1857.

Received.	Unpaid.	Unpaid distributed.	Paid.	Paid distributed.	Total.
By the Cunard line By the Collins line By the Havre line. By the Bremen line	\$7,891 69 3,914 01 3,711 56 2,826 55	249, 493 06 16, 448 58 11, 905 50 12, 828 05	\$3,876 65 1,925 40 1.331 40 1,263 60	\$13,391 02 3,250 99 2,257 62 1,487 86	\$74,652 42 25,53H 98 18,206 08 19,406 06
Total	17,343 81	90,675 19	8, 397 05	21, 387 49	137,803 54
Amount received.	108,019 00	,	29, 784 54		
Sent,	Paid.	Paid distributed.	Unpaid.	Unpaid distributed.	Tutal.
By the Cunard line By the Collins line By the Havre line. By the Bremen line	3,291 %6 1,508 80	\$46,921 95 22,689 23 10,512 01 7,238 18	\$56,071 97 18,810 90 8,755 34 2,314 56		113,640 12 44,791 93 20,776 15 9,869 77
Total	15,754 89	87,361 37	85,952 77		189,069 G:
Amount sent	103, 116 26		85,952 77		
Amount collected Amount collected				•••••	211, 135 20 115, 737, 3
Total amou	nt			••••••	326, 872 5
Excess collected in	Alica Problem 1 6	**			95, 397 9.

No. 3.

Amount of letter postage on Havre mails received in and sent from the United States for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1857.

eccived by the Havre line, unpaideccived by the Havre line, unpaid distributed	\$3, 103 80 3, 354 20	86.4 58.00
Sent by the Havre line, paid distributed	2,163 20 3,787 14	5,950 81
Total amount, all collected in the United States		12,408 34

No. 7.

Revenue to the United States, also to the Post Office Department, per the Havre line, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1857.

		_
Amount of postage on British mails		
Deduct British inland, 4 7,907 58		
	\$55, 353	
Add postage on 234.918 newspapers sent, at 2 cents each	4, 698	
Add postage on Havre mails	12,587	20
Add sea rate on Prussian closed mails, 40,290 ounces, at 40		
Crnis	16, 116	00
Add newspapers on Prussian closed mails, 11,206 papers, at		
2 cents	224	12
Add sea rate on Canada closed mails, 509 ounces, at 40 cts.	203	60
Add newspapers do do 958 papers, at 2 cents	19	16
Add sea rate on California closed mails, 1,6471 ounces, at 40		
cents	658	90
Add newspapers on California closed mails, 2,995 papers, at		
2 cents.	59	90
Add see rate on Havana closed mails, 248 ounces, at 40 cts	99	20
Add newspapersdodo134 papers, at 2 cents	2	68
Add see rate on Mexicodo 46 ounces, at 40 cents		40
Add newspapersdo 94 papers, at 2 cents	1	88
Total to the United States	90,042	47
The Post Office Department pays commissions to postmasters		
amounting to	15,793	55
Net revenue, with United States inland included	74, 248	92
Deduct United States inland on British mails, dr of		
\$63,260 65, amounting to		
Add United States inland on Havre mails, & of		
\$12,687 20, amounting to		
	16, 226	10
i		
Total net revenue to the United States Post Office Depart-		
ment, without United States inland	57,922	82
	1	

No. 8.

Revenue to the United States, also to the Post Office Popartnest, per the Bremen line, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1857.

	į		
Amount of postage on British mails			
Deduct British inland,	8,352 68		
		\$58.468	
Add postage on 169,549 newspapers sent, at 2 cents each		3, 390	98
Add postage on Bremen mails			
Deduct Bremen inland, 10	5, 208 29		
411		46, 274	
Add postage on newspapers, Bremen mails	**********	339	62
Add sea rate on Prussian closed mails, 32,718 ounces, at 40		10.00	
centa		13, 087	20
Add newspapers on Prussian closed mails, 10,221 papers, at	l l	204	40
2 cents			
Add ses rate on Canada closed mails, 1,938 ounces, at 40 cts.		775	
Add newspapersdodo4,995 papers, at 2 cts	*****	99	90
Add sea rate on California closed mails, 1,903 ounces, at 40	1	201	••
cents.		761	20
Add newspapers on California closed mails, 3,045 papers, at 2 cents.		60	00
2 cents		110	
Add newspapers /do 134 papers, at 2 cents			68
Add sea rate on Mexicedo 412 ounces, at 40 cts		16	
Add n.wspapersdodo 57 papers, at 2 cents			14
Add nowspapersdo or papere, at 2 cents			14
Total to the United States	l l	124, 193	<u></u>
The Post Office Department pays commissions to postmasters		147, 100	
amounting to		16,079	18
smounting to		10,010	10
Net revenue, with United States inland included	ľ	108, 114	415
Doduct United States inland on British mails, J. of		100,114	00
\$60,821 45, amountly, to	13,921 13		
Add United States inland on Bremen mails, A of	10,021 10		
\$52,082 99, amounting to	26,041 49		
#0#,00# 00, minoritizing to	20,041 40	39, 962	62
		, 1102	
Total net revenue to the United States Post Office Depart-	l i		
ment, without United States inland	1	68, 152	03
monet atom the Courter proof a tutting		, 102	.,,,

No. 4.

Amount of letter postage on Bremen mails received in and sent from the United States for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1857.

	- Diance joi	the from y			···
Beceived.	Unpaid.	Unpaid dis- tributed.	Paid,	Paid distrib- uted.	Total.
By the Bromen line Amount received.	84,664 69 27,754 U7	\$23,089 38	\$1,117 15 4,633 15	\$3,516 00	\$32,387 22
Sent	Paid.	Paid distrib- uted.	Unpaid.	Unpaid dis- tributed.	Total.
By the Bremen line Amount sent	\$2,189 61 14,534 50	\$12,344 89	\$5, 161 27 5, 161 27		\$19,695 77
Amount collected in Amount collected in					42,288 57 9,794 42
Total amoun	t				52,082 99
Excess collected in	the United St	ates	••••		32,494 15
Total postages on B United States portic Add postage on 1, 1	ritish mails by m. 3, being 75, 340 papen	y the Cunard H United States i s sent, at 2 cen	ne	120, 040 51 23, 506 80	\$576, 194 65 143, 547 31
United States portic Add postage on 1, 1 The Post Office Departmenters on the al	ritish mails by m., 3, being 75, 340 papers artment pays saye, viz: on unpaid 12; per cent postmasters paid distribute a paid distribute postmasters of 47, at 30 punpaid sent,	y the Cunard H United States is sent, at 2 cen commissions distributed r at offices wh per cent. d received, \$62 ated sent, \$99, at offices wh er cent. \$100,399 46,	ne		\$576, 194 65
and Philadelphia, Unpaid receiv Paid sent, \$4	on ved, \$90, 190 2, 861 43, at	at New York, 63, at 15 per c 15 per cent 96 80, at 50 pe	ent	13,528 59 6,429 21 11,758 40	144,279 00
Peticit to the Post (Peduct United State					731 69 120,010 51
Total deficit	to the Post O	lice Departmen	1	······,	120,772 20

No. 6.

Revenue to the United States, also to the United States Post Office Department, per Collins line, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1857.

Total postage on British mails by the Collins line Deduct British inland, rate #3. Add postage on 461,659 newspapers sent, at 2 cents each ese rate on Prussian closed mails, 73,858 onnees, at 40 cts. newspapersdodo29,794 papers, at 2 cts. sea rate on Canadado1,7861 unnees, at 40 cts. newspapersdodo3,518 papers, at 2 cts. sea rate on Californiado3,3793 ounces, at 40 cts. newspapersdodo6525 ounces, at 40 cts. newspapersdodo6525 ounces, at 40 cts. newspapersdodo342 papers, at 2 cts. sea rate on Havanado6525 ounces, at 40 cts. newspapersdodo342 papers, at 2 cts. sea rate on Mexicodo1236 ounces, at 40 cts.	21,006 41	9,233 18 29,543 20 415 88 706 30 710 26 1,351 80 129 86 261 00 6 84
newspapersdodo160 papers, at 2 cts_		3 30
The Post office Department pays the following commissions to postmasters on the above postages, vis.: For distribution on unpaid distributed received, \$31,418 47, at 12½ per cent. For commissions to postmasters at the offices to which directed, on \$31,418 47, at 30 per cent. For distribution on paid distributed received, \$12,367 24, at 12½ per cent. For distribution on paid distributed sent, \$50,418 77, at 12½ per cent. For commissions to postmasters on \$50,418 77, at 30 per cent. For distribution on unpaid sent, \$25,307 94, at 12½ per cent. For commissions to postmasters at New York, Neston, and Philadelphia, on unpaid received, \$20,091 04, at 15 per cent. newspapers sent, \$9,233 18, at 50 per cent.	3, 927 30 9, 426 54 1, 545 90 6, 302 34 15, 125 63 3, 288 49 3, 013 74 2, 392 97 4, 616 59	189, 456 61
Net revenue to the Post Office Department, with United States inland postage included		139, 818, 11
Peduct United States inland on British mails, A. of \$168,051 30		35,010 69
Total net revenue to the Post Office Department, without United States inland.		104, 807: 43

'No. 9.

Iterenue to the United States, also to the Post Office Department, on the correspondence exchanged between the United States and Bremen, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1857.

\$52, 062 5, 208	99 29
46, 874 339	
47, 214 16, 079	
31, 136 23, 437	
7,697	81
	5, 298 46, 874 339 47, 214 16, 079 31, 135 23, 437

No. 10.

Receipts and disbursements in closed mails between the United States and the kingdom of Prussia for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1857.

	RECEIPTS.		
Amount of postage on paid and unpaid received	Amount of postage on paid and unpaid sent	\$189,069 03 44,116 10	4144 059 09
Add newspaper postage on 59, 442, at 4 cents	Amount of postage on paid and unpaid received	187,803 54 22,967 25	,
Amount paid Great Britain for carrying 117,638 ounces, at 574 cents, and 77,031 ounces, at 655 cents	Add newspaper postage on 59, 441, at 4 cents		114,836 29 2,377 64
Amount paid Great Britain for carrying 117,638 ounces, at 574 cents, and 77,031 ounces, at 635 cents		!	262, 166 86
574 cents, and 77,081 ounces, at 654 cents	Dibnuranmenta,	!	
	574 cents, and 77,031 ounces, at 655 cents. Amount paid Collins line for carrying 73,858 ounces, at 40 cts. Do "" 20,794 papers, at 2 " 40,290 ounces, at 40 " Do "" 11,206 papers, at 2 " Do Bremen "33,718 ounces, at 40 " Do "" 10,231 bacers, at 2 "	118, 097 15 29, 543 20 415 88 16, 116 00 224 12 13, 087 20 204 42	263.183 71

Statement of the sumber of letters and newspapers, and the amount of postages theron, conveyed by the various lines of local states 30, 1887.

	ocean-meamers for the flocal year ended June 30, 1861	necal year en	ded June 30,	1867.		
Names of the lines.	Offices.	Number of let- tem.	Number of pa- pera.	Number of let. Number of pa. Postage on let. Postage on let- ters. ters received. ters sent.	Postage on 1st- ters sent.	Total.
O New York, Chagava, and California	New York Borton Philadelphia Philadelphia Philadelphia Philadelphia Philadelphia Now Orleans Charleston Charleston Bultimore Bultimore Washington Chicago		3, 862, 886 862, 107 207, 927 110, 000 110, 004 50, 388 86, 307	989, 376 82 83, 113 16 66, 604 04 04 04 04 04 04 04 04 04 04 04 04 0	1 1	28222 4484 E5888498492 S426484288
Add to letter postage the postage on papers,		2. 277, 780 4, 316, 333 100, 643 50 133, 447 64	4, 316, 313	150, 543 50	131, 647	
Total postages						314, 843 78
Cheston and Havans	Charleston Savannah	34, 126	18, 862 30, 219	2, 789 89 622 76	1, 205 01	2 7 5 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7
		60,850	180'081	3, 422 65	1,968 60	6, 391 26
Add postage on papers, at 2 cents each Total postages						6, 572 67

STATEMENT-Continued.

Names of the lines.	Offices.				Postage on let-	Total.
		ten.	pers.	ters received.	ters sent.	
New Orleans and Vera Cruz	New Orleans	15, 863		\$1,490 24	\$1,612 26	87, 102 51
Total postages		••••••		·		2, 102 41
West India islands			102, 465		19,425 52	40,871 13 2,049 30
Total postages			••••			42, 920 43
Panama			27, 326	3, 953 23	8,505 61	12,466 74 1,003 04
Total postages					<u></u>	13,861 78
Aggregate total postages		····			=	390, 290 34

No. 12.—Number of letters and newspapers exchanged between the United States and the United Kingdom in British mails for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1857.

	Number of letters-		Total letters.	Number of newspapers-		Total newspapers.
	Received.	Sent.	,	Received.	Seat.	
By the Cunard line By the Colline line By to Havre line By the Bremen line	1, 434, 322 295, 766 101, 886 126, 168	1, 224, 621 399, 168 148, 676 146, 069	2, 658, 343 694, 934 283, 562 272, 237	968, 663 149, 837 79, 559 83, 107	1, 175, 340 461, 639 234, 918 169, 849	611, 496 314, 47?
Total	1,961,114	1,917,934	3, 879, 076	1, 280, 586	2,041,466	3, 322, 052

No. 13.

Number of letters and newspapers exchanged between the United States and the kingdom of Prussia, in closed mails, for the fiscal year ended June So., 1857.

	Number of letters—		Total letters.	Number of ne	Total newspapers.	
;	Received.	Sent.		Received.	Sent.	
By the Cunard line By the Collins line By the Havre line By the Bremen line	82,701	363, 637 148, 263 67, 878 31, 869	605, 810 230, 964 126, 866 94, 687	14,091 6,531 4,824 5,491	84, 862 14, 130 6, 882 4, 567	48, 453 20, 661 11, 306 10, 058
Total	446,680	611,647	1,058,327	80, 937	59, 441	90, 378

No. 14.

Number of letters and newspapers exchanged between the United States and Bremen, in Breman mails, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1857.

Number o	Number of letters—		Number of t	Number of newspapers—		
Received.	Sent.		Received.	Sent.		
201, 217	181,113	832,330	12,860	16,981	29,841	

15.—Closed mail account.	7
mail account	(0)
mail account	Ţ
mail account	Ĭ
2000	L
	8

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Total	Ceased libr Called libr Called libr Bavre libr West belon seed!	Hempapen.	1042	Comment Ton Column Ton Thomas Ton Thomas Ton	Lettern
¥,5		III	142,787	11 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Property.
\$ \$,,;; 28:3	Ĭ	190, 748		1
676, 830	ik Skar	ţ	130, 015	-57	1
3,2	FEFE	Ĭ	131, 407		Cardo To Cardo Tal.
# . # . # . # . # . # . # . # . # . # .		ţ	16, 201		
, . E	5882	Ĭ	2,796	أفقاة	į
-	FFE	ţ	7, 88	arril	Barra T
, , ,	2255	ţ	teus't	224	1,5

	Bremen to United States	Kingdom of Francia to United States	United Kingdom to United States	
		119 919	#, I# I#	_
	Bremen to United States	Kingdom of Pressia to United States	United Kingdom to United States	
	3	1, 197 97	\$10, 100 60	

Britain and Iroland in account with the United States of ded Inne 30, 1867, (service of the Post Office Department.)

Ch. RALIS RECEIVED. For postago : a unpaid letters from United Kingdom for United States. For postage on unpaid letters from Syraga countries, &c		Dn. Exams marr. For postage on unpaid letters from United Stagdom. For postage on unpaid letters from United Stagdom. For postage on unpaid letters in transit, do. For postage on unpaid letters in transit, do. For postage on unpaid letters from United Stagdom for United Stagdom for postage on paid letters from United Ringdom for United Stagdom for Un	
., ., 	49,847 24	\$15,764 31 678 51 5 16 11 56 11 56 11 56 11 56 11 56 11 57 14 56 5,513 74	1856. Sd quarter.
35, 809 80 3,448 08	50, 584 59	914, 880 29 64 79 9 43 9 43 7 61 15, 263 36 388 73 388 64 65 26 15, 894 28 3, 606 74 3, 607 74 1 81	1856. 4th quarter.
44, 318 70 4, 548 81	49, 153 34	914, 933 80 95 839 9 839 11, 931 90 11, 44 90 11, 46 90	1857. Let quarter.
41, 106 30 8, 908 75	46, 611 38	914, 456 98 9 884 9 884 10 88 11, 995 17 11, 995 18 488 18 48 48 48 48 48 48 48 48 48 48 48 48 48	1857. 2d quarter.
. ? 157, 571 48 15, 475 76	196, 196 40	54, 458 68 78 88 7	Total

Ma	17_	-Continued	
10.	11-	-Constinues	•

	1856. 3d quarter.	1856. 4th quarter.	1857. let quarter.	1857. 3d quarter.	Total.
Ca.					-
or postage on unpaid newspapers in travelt, &c	8385 44		8343 40	8401 44	\$1,300 \$
or postage on missent, redirected, and returned letters	53 00	15 87	43 65	37 59	179 1
or postage on closed mails in transit through United Kingdom	31,858 92	85, 633 94 .	42,868 81	40,517 23	150, 563 9
Mails sent.		!			
or postage on paid letters from United States for United Kingdom.	25, 059 76	29,561 42	28, 473 20	31,997 91	115,002 1
or postage on paid letters for foreign countries, &c	2.573 28	2, 475 89	2, 231 21	2,314 23	9,444 (
or postage on paid newspapers for countries in transit, &c	210 70	344 44	237 92	264 64	957 1
or postage on loose letters, (collected on ships)	8 33	1 98	3 36		18 (
or postage on dead letters returned to Washington	754 96	468 18	339 36	541 68	2, 104
or postage on paid letters and papers to West India ports, &c or postage on paid registered letters from United States for United	1,552 50	1,491 54	1,615 57	1,575 42	6, 236
Kingdom	256 15	267 04	294 70	449 87	1, 267
or overcharges on various letters and packages	5 76		26 02	3 12	38 3
or this amount, difference in settlement of 1st quarter				546 97	546 (
ľ	102,939 70	109,485 14	125, 233 21	123, 457 34	461, 115
Balances in favor of the United Kingdom	53, 092 46	58, 900 55	76,079 97	76,845 91	364, 918

No. 18.—The Kingdom of Prussia in account with the United States for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1857, (service of the Post Office Department.)

		1856. 3d quarte	er.	1856. 4th quart	er.	1857. 1st quarter.	1857. 2d quarte	er.	Total.	
Da.	MAILS SENT.									_
For postage on un	paid letters from United States		66 44 14	\$16, 212 520		533 12			\$64,528 2,079 6	
	MAILA RECEIVED.					٠.				
For postage on pai	d letters from Prussiad newspapersd newspapersd letters from foreign countries, &cdletters returned to Berlin				72 52	841 44 101 61	5,710 348 81		23, 706 1, 230 331 1, 167	69 70
('n.	MAILA SENT.	21,622	65	23, 525	50	24,690 09	23, 212	03	93, 050	27
For postage on pai	id letters for Prussiad letters for Mutes beyond, &cd d newspapers for Prussia	5,045 1,082 286		1,294	86	6,768 60 1,263 52 296 84	5, 687 1, 198 332	93	21.955 4,829 1,202	95
	MAILS RECEIVED.			ı						
For postage on uni For postage on let For postage on dea	paid letters from Prussia	3,504 1,134 15 166	13 99	140	36 80	4,680 50 1,604 94 26 "5 149 89 45	160	88 03	616	
		11, 236		.1,944		13.781 09			···	
				= =	_		12, 546		49,548	93
Balances in	favor of the United States	10, 386	55	11,580	57	10,909 00	10,625	22	43,501	34

The Post Office of Bremen in account with the United States of America for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1867, (service of the Post Office Department.)

	1856. 3d quarter.	.	1866. 6th quarter.	1867. Int quarter,	1867. 34 quarter.	Total.
Du. Haild 1887.						
For postage on unpaid letters from the United States for Bremen For postage on unpaid letters from the United States for States be-	\$1,896 -	•	\$1,267 57	\$1,237 41	\$1,178 23	\$4,900 4
yond			29		34 75	34 7
For postage on missent, redirected, &c., letters	1 3		1 23	2 06	1 46	1 0
MAILS BECKVER.		-			i 1	
For postage on paid letters from Bremen for the United States For postage on paid letters from States beyond	870 6	•	1, 164 78	963 60	922 78	8,911 7
or postage on paid letters for countries beyond the United States	23 0		38 10 78 09	29 26	36 36	126 8
or postage on paid newspapers from Bremen	59 4	•	78 V9	50 12	53 67	341 3
or postage on dead letters returned to Bremen	163 1	4	•	179 12	166 74	500 a
	2,444 6	4	2,550 01	2,441 56	2,383 99	9,820 2
Cn. Mails received.						
or postage on unpaid letters from Bremen for United States	65 2 1,933 5		78 70 2,493 34	41 38 2,613 57	53 04 1,849 83	238 4 8,890 3
or postage on unpaid letters for countries beyond United States	99 7	i۱	21 89	5 40	13 91	140 2

MAILS SENT.	1	1	1	1	
For postage on paid letters from the United States for Bremen For postage on paid letters from the United States for States beyond For postage on paid letters from countries beyond the United States	1,406 40	28 49 1, 340 69	28 23 1,319 35	48 13 1, 396 16	125 64 5, 462 60
For postage on paid newspapers from the United States for Bremen. For postage on paid registered letters from Bremen for United States For postage on dead letters returned to Washington	33 36	41 88 28 97	28 37 42 12	65 08 34 78	168 19 120 85
	3,598 02	4,028 46	4,073 42	3, 450 23	15, 145 18
Balances due Bremen	1, 148 38	1,478 45	1,681 86	1,066 24	5, 824 93

No. 20.

The post office of Hamburg in account with the United States of America for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1857, (service of the Post Office Department.)

Dr. mails surt,	
For postage on unpaid letters from the United States for Hamburg For postage on unpaid letters from the United States for States beyond Hamburg	\$6 1 15
Hamburg For postage on unpaid letters from foreign countries, &c For postage on missent, redirected, returned, &c., letters	
MAILS RECEIVED.	
For postage on paid letters from Hamburg for the United States. For postage on paid letters from States beyond Hamburg for United States. For postage on paid letters for countries beyond the United States. For postage on paid newspapers, &c., from Hamburg for the United States.	
	296 85
Ch. MAILS BECRIVED.	
For postage on unpaid letters from Hamburg for the United States For postage on unpaid letters from States beyond Hamburg For postage on unpaid letters for countries beyond the United States	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
For postage on missent, redirected, returned, &c., letters	60
For postage on paid letters from the United States for Hamburg	40 15
burg For postage on paid letters from countries beyond the United States for	
Hamburg For postage on paid newspapers, &c , from the United States for Hamburg.	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
	314 00
Balance in favor of Hamburg	17 18
W. D1	•
No. 21.	

Balances due the United Kingdom on the adjustment of the accounts between the United States and the United Kingdom for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1857.

Third quarter, 1806	\$53,092 46
Fourth quarter, 1856	58,900 55
First quarter, 1857	76,079 97
Second quarter, 1867	76,845 91

Total	918	89
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No. 22.

Balances due the United	States on the adjustment of the accounts between
the United States and	the Kingdom of Prussia for the fiscal year ended
June 30, 1857.	• • • • •

Tbird quarter, 1856 Fourth quarter, 1856 First quarter, 1857 Second quarter, 1857	11,580 5 10,909 6 10,625 1	57 00 22
Total	43,501 3	34

No. 23.

Balances due Bremen on the adjustment of the accounts between the United States and Bremen for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1857.

Third quarter 1856		\$1,148	38
Fourth quarter, 1856		1.478	
First quarter, 1857		1,631	86
Second quarter, 1857		1,066	24
	•		_
Total		5, 324	93

No. 24.

Revenue derived by the United States from the postages on British mails, under the postal treaty with Great Britain, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1857.

RECEIPTS.			
Amount of letter postage collected by the United States Amount of newspaper postage collected by the United States	\$574, 191 75 42, 868 46	\$617,063	21
Disbursements.			••
Amount paid Great Britain, difference on British mails, as per account current. Amount paid in commissions to United States postmasters, vis:	264,918 89	!	
On mails per the Cunard line	144,279 00	!	
On mails per the Collins line	49,688 50		
On mails per the Havre line	15,793 55	!	
On malls per the Bremen line	16,079 16	!	
•		490,709	10
Total revenue from British mails, with the United States			_
inland included		126, 354	11
Deduct the United States inland on letter mails, vis:			
Per the Cunard line	120,040 51		
Per the Collins line	85,010 6H	4	
Per the Havre line	13, 179 30	1	
Per the Bremen line	13,921 13	1	
Newspapers, per the Cunard, Collins, Havre, and]	
Bromen lines	20,414 66	1	
		202,566	38
Total deficit on British mails for ocean postage		76, 212	17

No. 25.

Amount of letter postage on French mails received in and sent from the United States from April 1, 1867, to Inne 30, 1867.

Beerind.	Unpaid.	Unpaid distrib'd.	Pald.	Puld distributed.	Total.
By the Consed line By the Collins line By the Rurer line By the Rewest line	\$2, 183 48 85 74 85 97 254 97	82, 631 94 238 44 405 57 468 81	8, 28 118 118 118 128 128 128	22, 553 146 93 160 57 180 57	######################################
Total	2.870 04	3,738 76	6, 333 80	4, 493 04	17,434 73
Amount received.	6,608 90	6, 608 80	10, 826 93		
Sent	Paid.	Paid distributed.	Unpaid.	Unpaid distrib'd.	Total.
By the Cumard line By the Cultima line By the Earre line By the Barre line	24, 104 28 547 72 763 24 203 24	94, 701 92 996 03 1, 739 48 547 64	97,466 1,025 41 1,243 95 114 61		20. 20. 20. 20. 20. 20. 20. 20. 20. 20.
Total	5,619 93	7,985 07	10, 148 46		28, 765 46
Amount sent	13, 605 00		10, 148 46		
Amount collected in the United Stat.s. Amount collected in France	e United Stat.s	-	20, 213 80	9.9	
Total amount		Total amount	41, 188 19	ı o	
Excess collected in France	901		760 54	ı e II	

No. 26.

Number of letters and nessepapers exchanged between the United States and France from April 1, 1857, to June 30, 1857.

	Number o	í letters-	Total	Number of newspapers		Total newspa-	
	Received.	Seat.		Received.	Bent.	pers.	
By the Cunard line By the Collins line By the Havre line	83, 733 3, 503 6, 403	102,843 16,027 22,463	186, 565 19, 539 28, 885	20, 609 767 3, 181	40,793 6,240 8,489	61,402 7,007 11,670	
By the Bremen line	9,985	7,603	17,588	4,735	2,897	7,632	
Total	103, 613	148,955	252, 568	29, 292	88,419	87,711	

No. 27.

Amount of letter postage on Hamburg mails received in and sent from the United States for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1857.

Reorived.	Unpaid.	Unpaid distributed.	Paid.	Paid distributed.	Total.
By the Hamburg line	\$314 00	\$168 80	\$279 90	\$147 50	8910 20
Total	814 00	168 80	279 90	147 50	910 20
Amount received	482 80		427 40		
Sent.	Paid.	Paid distributed,	Unpaid.	Unpaid distributed.	Total.
By the Hamburg line	\$71 20	\$9 16	\$69 10		\$149 40
Total	71 20	9 10	69 10		149 40
Amount sent	80 80		68 10		
Amount collected in the United &					\$568 10 496 50
Total amount	•••••				1,059 60
Excess collected in the United St	atos				66 60

No. 28.

Number of letters and necessary exchanged between the United States and Hamburg for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1857.

1	Number of	letters-	Total let- ters.	habe: Namper o	(news-	Total news papers.
	Received.	Sent.		Received.	Sect.	
By the Hamburg line.	9, 102	1,504	10,606	727	485	1,313
Total	9, 102	1,504	10, 606	727	485	1,212

No. 29.

Amounts reported due the steamers on the Bremen line, being the gross amount of postages accruing to the United States.

Steamers.	Round trips.	Amount.
North Star	Between June 13 and July 29, 1857	9, 158 96 8, 857 59

No 30.

Amounts reported due the steamers on the Havre line, being the gross amount of postages accoung to the United States.

Stenmers.	Round trips.	Amount,
Arngo	Between 27th June and 10th August, 1857	

No. 31.

Postages on the mails received and sent between the United States and the British Provinces for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1857.

Amount of mails received unpaid	\$31,709 63 40,100 05	
Amount of mails sent unpaid	29, 168 86 45, 823 44	\$71,809 71
Ī		75, 292 36
Total amount		147, 102 01
Collected in the United States	77.633 97 69.568 95	
I-		7,964 12

No. 32.

The General Post Office of France in account with the United States of America from the 1st of April, 1857, to the 30th June, 1857, (service of the Post Office Department.)

•	1887. 3d quarter.	Total.
Da.		
MAILS SENT	Į.	
For postage on unpaid letters from the United States for France and Algeria.	\$2,372 93	
For postage on unpaid letters from the United States for countries beyond France	1, 215 80	
Alcoria. For postage on letters not prepaid, &c., for countries	106 OH	
beyond France For postage on letters badly directed by the French post offices, and returned, &c.	62 86	
For postage on letters ressent, &c	4 89	
MAILS RECRIVED.	1	
For postage on letters for the United States, prepaid, &c., from France and Algeria	2,782 13	
&c., from countries beyond France	817-96	
United States from France, &c. For postage on prepoid letters for countries beyond the United States from countries beyond France	281 00 3 36	
For postage on loose letters (collected on ships) For postage on dead letters returned to France		
For overcharges on various letters, &c		\$7,61
1	=	===

REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL.

STATEMENT-Continued.

	1857. 3d quarter.	Total.
Ch.		
For postage on unpaid letters from France and Algeria for the United States	\$3, 125 09	
For postage on unpaid letters from France and Algeria for countries beyond the United States		
States For postage on letters not prepaid, &c., for countries beyound the United States	2,963 11	
For postage on letters badly directed by United States post offices and returned, &c	12 1	
Mails sest.		
For postage on letters for France and Algeria from the United States	5, 932 95	
tries beyond the United States	65 19 2,875 04	
For postage on prepaid letters for countries beyond France from countries beyond the United States For postage on loose letters (collected on ships)		
For postage on dead letters returned to Washington For overcharges on various letters, &c		\$15,001 92
Balance in favor of France		7, 354 56