

## STATEMENT—Continued.

1830.					
Dec. 20	J. Elliot, for six Congressional Directories,	-	-	-	\$1 50
29	S. Tryon, for almanacs,	-	-	-	2 25
31	Charles Durden, for extra laboring services,	-	-	-	6 00
31	Remigius Burch, for lighting lamps,	-	-	-	18 12½
31	William Jackson, for keeping the horse,	-	-	-	10 00
31	William Johnson, for scavenger's work,	-	-	-	12 00
31	Thomas Garner, for shoeing the horse,	-	-	-	3 00
					\$8,734 01½

21st CONGRESS.]

No. 109.

[2d SESSION.

## CONDITION OF THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE, MARCH 3, 1831.

Mr. CLAYTON made the following report:

The committee appointed, in pursuance of the resolution of the 15th of December last, "to examine and report the present condition of the Post Office Department; in what manner the laws regulating the Department are administered; the distribution of labor; the number of clerks, and the duties assigned to each; the number of agents, where and how employed; the compensation of contractors; and, generally, the entire management of the Department; and whether further, and what, legal provisions are necessary to secure the proper administration of its affairs," respectfully report:

That the papers herewith submitted contain the information which they have collected in obedience to the resolution, and which is now laid before the Senate without remark or comment. These papers are marked and described as follows, viz:

1. The Postmaster General's letter to the committee, dated February 26, 1831, and delivered to the chairman on the 1st of March, at 10 o'clock P. M. This letter is in reply to the letter of the committee of the 24th of December last, and is marked No. 1.
2. Paper marked A, No. 2, in reference to the incidental expenses of the Department.
3. Paper marked K, No. 3.
4. Paper marked L, No. 4.
5. Paper marked M, No. 5, respecting defaulters.
6. Paper marked N, No. 6, stating the cases in which the lowest bids for carrying the mail were not accepted.
7. Paper marked I, No. 7, containing an inventory of property in the iron chest.
8. Paper marked No. 8, B, being two letters of the Postmaster General, dated January 31, 1831.
9. Paper marked C, containing a letter of the Postmaster General, of the date of February 22, covering C. K. Gardner's letter of the 21st of February.
10. Paper marked D, being a letter of the Postmaster General, dated February 23, 1831, received on the 24th.
11. Paper marked E, containing the letters of the Hon. John McLean to the committee.
12. Paper marked F, being a letter from the Postmaster General, dated March 2, 1831, covering copies of certain letters of John McLean and Abraham Bradley.
13. Paper marked G, Judge Test's letter to the committee.
14. Paper marked H, letter of the Hon. George M. Bibb.
15. Paper marked I, No. 15, containing depositions of Mr. C. K. Gardner, Mr. O. B. Brown, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Suter, and Mr. Dundas.
16. Paper marked J, No. 16, containing the interrogatories and letters of the committee.
17. Paper marked K, No. 17, containing the journal of the committee, and the deposition of Abraham Bradley, unfinished for want of time.

The committee have received abstracts E, F, G, and H, referred to in the Postmaster General's letter of the date of the 26th of February, being *answers in part* to interrogatories respecting the causes of the increased expenditure of the last year, which the Postmaster General in that letter alleges are "incomplete for want of time," and which have been, at his request, returned to him "that they may be completed during the recess."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN M. CLAYTON, *Chairman.*

No. 1.

SIR:

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, *February 26, 1831.*

In answer to the resolutions of the select committee of which you are chairman, requiring information from this Department in nine divisions of subjects, I have the honor to communicate as follows:

First. A statement of the whole incidental expenses of the Department, "giving the various items of such expenses" from July 1, 1826, to July 1, 1827, marked A; a statement of the incidental expenses of the Department, "giving the various items of such expenses," from July 1, 1827, to July 1, 1828, marked B; also a like statement from July 1, 1828, to July 1, 1829, marked C; and a like statement from July 1, 1829, to July 1, 1830, marked D.

Second. A "distinct" statement, so far as the force within the power of the Department has been able to complete it, of the various items which have caused the increase of expenditures for the year ending July 1, 1830, beyond those of the year preceding, amounting to the sum of \$150,475 38. This resolution of the committee, "desiring to know distinctly what are the improvements in mail facilities, or other causes, which have occasioned this increased expenditure," requires the various items in all the expenditures of the Department within the last year, which occasioned either an increase or diminution of expenditures on the same objects within the preceding year, with all the items of additions, to be set forth, in order to show the exact difference in the total sum which was reported as above, and is exhibited by the balances on the books. Under the same head, the resolution requires, also, a specification of the routes on which the transportation of the mail has been increased, and a separate statement of what contracts have been made for such purposes. The fulfilment of this requisition has rendered necessary a laborious and voluminous abstract from the books of the whole operations of the Department for the year commencing the 1st of July, 1828, (marked E, for transportation,) and of the whole operations of the Department for the last year, commencing the 1st of July, 1829, (marked F, for transportation,) in order to enable an experienced clerk to proceed with the comparative statement, by collating the two accounts, item by item, and tracing and recording the causes of difference as well as the amounts, to exhibit the true result, (marked G and H.) These have not been completed, from the absolute insufficiency of the time. As the statements may hereafter be completed by the principal pay clerk during the recess of Congress, the committee are requested to return these papers, when they dispense with them, to the Department. In answer to the desire of the committee, "to ascertain how much the amount of revenue has been augmented" by the improvements and increase of facilities in mail transportation, it should be stated that

the increase of revenue is not produced immediately by the addition of mail facilities, but that such improvements are the causes of a gradual increase of revenue in future years. The increase of receipts, according to the last report, for the year commencing the 1st of July, 1829, above the receipts of the year preceding, was \$143,164 68. This increase of receipts may have been partly occasioned by greater strictness in enforcing the rules of accountability and the post office laws; but it is chiefly to be attributed to the extension of mail accommodations in preceding years, together with the regular growth of correspondence with the population of the country.

The augmentation of the revenue has been immediately perceptible, however, in the post offices at *New Orleans* and *Mobile*, derived from the improvement in the mail accommodation between those places, exclusively of the general advantage received from that improvement in post office revenue at all the cities in the Atlantic States having intercourse with New Orleans. The total receipts of postages at these two offices for two years, commencing with 1829, (the new contracts having gone into operation in December, 1829,) are as follows:

	1829.	1830.	Increase.
New Orleans, from 1st January to 1st April, - - -	\$7,364 97	\$10,642 58	\$3,277 61
From 1st April to 1st July, - - -	8,438 00	10,298 79	1,860 79
From 1st July to 1st October, - - -	7,416 82	8,409 31	992 49
From 1st October to 31st December, - - -	8,514 12	9,141 96	627 84
Increase of postages at this office in 1830 over 1829,			<u>\$6,758 73</u>
Mobile, from 1st January to 1st April, - - -	2,416 27	2,767 82	351 55
From 1st April to 1st July, - - -	1,926 54	2,436 77	510 23
From 1st July to 1st October, - - -	1,425 88	1,632 26	206 38
From 1st October to 31st December, - - -	1,875 68	2,177 48	301 80
Increase of postages at this office in 1830 over 1829,			<u>\$1,369 96</u>

The expenditures of the year commencing on the 1st of July, 1828, exceeded those of the preceding year by \$158,238 77, although the increase of receipts for that year above those of the former was but \$108,540 47. The expenditures of the year commencing the 1st July, 1829, exceeded those of the preceding year but \$150,575 38, while the increase of receipts within that year, above the former, was \$143,164 68. It will thus be observed, on comparing the increase of these two years with each other, that the advantage is in favor of the latter year, commencing the 1st July, 1829, by \$34,624 21, and yet the excess of expenditure is less than that of the year commencing the 1st July, 1828, by \$7,663 39; or, to present the comparison in a more obvious point of view, the excess of expenditure in the year commencing the 1st July, 1828, beyond that of its preceding year, exceeds the increase of receipts of the same year by \$49,698 30; whereas, the excess of expenditure in the last year, commencing the 1st of July, 1829, beyond that of the preceding year, exceeds the increase of receipts but by \$7,410 70; and yet no complaint or imputation is founded on, or ought to apply to, the management of the finances of the Department within the former year.

Of the third resolution, the first requirement, of the balances due to the Department on the 1st of October last, cannot, during the present quarter, be furnished. The proceeds of postage of particular offices can be ascertained from the returns, but the entire amount of the receipts and expenditures of the Department cannot be posted and abstracted from the ledgers into the "general account," to show "the state of the funds of the Department," until about two quarters transpire; nor so soon, in this instance, as the bookkeepers have been employed, for about three months of the last quarter and this, in making balance sheets, to answer a resolution of the last session of the Senate.

To the second requirement of this resolution, of "the state of the funds and the pecuniary responsibilities of the Department" when I came into office, and "the means of payment," the answer is, that, on the 1st of April, 1829, the balance on the books of what was due to the Department amounted to \$573,530 36, which consisted as follows:

Of cash deposited in bank, (prior to the 1st October, 1826,) estimated to be lost, - - -	\$2,445 33
Uncurrent and counterfeit money found to have been on hand, - - -	4,728 12
Amount passed to account of bad debts, - - -	51,315 13
Amount due by late postmasters and others, estimated to be bad, - - -	255,209 37
Amount due by postmasters, &c., estimated as available, - - -	126,250 61
Cash on hand, - - -	133,581 80
Making the above aggregate, - - -	<u>\$573,530 36</u>

The certified exhibit of the moneys, good and bad, found in the iron chest, left by the late senior assistant, is transcribed in the paper marked I, annexed.

The pecuniary responsibilities of the Department, when I came into office, were those incurred by the pre-existing contracts; and the means of payment were the available debts and cash on hand, (amounting, together, to \$259,832 41,) and the current revenue of the Department, to be derived exclusively from postages.

Fourth. The number of clerks employed by the Department, and their salaries per annum, up to the 1st of January last, are as follows:

Obad. B. Brown, chief clerk, - - -	\$1,700	George Breathitt, clerk, - - -	\$1,000
Thomas B. Dyer, clerk, - - -	1,400	Francis G. Blackford, clerk, - - -	800
Joseph W. Hand, clerk, - - -	1,400	John G. Whitwell, clerk, - - -	800
John Suter, clerk, - - -	1,400	John F. Boone, clerk, - - -	800
John McLeod, clerk, - - -	1,200	Joseph Sherill, clerk, - - -	800
William G. Eliot, clerk, - - -	1,200	Edmund F. Brown, clerk, - - -	800
Michael T. Simpson, clerk, - - -	1,200	John G. Johnson, clerk, - - -	800
Nicholas Tastet, clerk, - - -	1,100	William French, clerk, - - -	800
David Saunders, clerk, - - -	1,100	John H. Waggaman, clerk, - - -	800
Richard Dement, clerk, - - -	1,100		
And. M. D. Jackson, clerk, - - -	1,100	<i>Extra and temporary clerks:</i>	
Arthur Nelson, clerk, - - -	1,100	James H. Doughty, - - -	800
Thomas Arbuckle, clerk, - - -	1,000	James Coolidge, - - -	800
Josiah F. Caldwell, clerk, - - -	1,000	Charles S. Williams, - - -	800
Joseph Haskel, clerk, - - -	1,000	John Taylor, - - -	800
Samuel Fitzhugh, clerk, - - -	1,000	Richard Emmons, - - -	800
William C. Ellison, clerk, - - -	1,000	Estwick Evans, - - -	800
William Deming, clerk, - - -	1,000	J. J. Lehmanowsky, - - -	800
Wm. C. Lipscomb, clerk, - - -	1,000	John P. Denny, - - -	800
Thomas B. Addison, clerk, - - -	1,000	John Marron, - - -	800
Matthias Ross, clerk, - - -	1,000	C. H. W. Wharton, - - -	800
David Kooness, clerk, - - -	1,000	William G. Eliot, Jun., - - -	600
Presley Simpson, clerk, - - -	1,000	Alexander H. Fitzhugh, - - -	600
Grafton D. Hanson, clerk, - - -	1,000	Edmund Burke, - - -	600
Walter D. Addison, clerk, - - -	1,000	Thomas A. Scott, - - -	600
John W. Overton, clerk, - - -	1,000	Livy McLean Blair, - - -	600
Samuel Gwin, clerk, - - -	1,000	William H. Dundas, - - -	800
John T. Temple, clerk, - - -	1,000		
George L. Douglas, clerk, - - -	1,000		

For the thirty-eight clerks preceding, who occupy permanent places, the laws of Congress have provided as follows:

1 chief clerk, at	-	-	-	-	-	\$1,700
3 clerks,	-	-	-	-	-	1,400 each.
5 clerks,	-	-	-	-	-	1,200 each.
23 clerks,	-	-	-	-	-	1,000 each.
6 clerks,	-	-	-	-	-	800 each.

Total, 38

It will be perceived that five of those receive at the rate of \$1,100; and that two receive but \$800 salaries of the number for whom \$1,000 each is provided. This division of legal salaries commenced in 1819. The sum of appropriation is not exceeded; and when two salaries of \$1,200 and 1,000 are divided equally between two clerks who are considered of equal merit, they are estimated by the agent of salaries as receiving the higher and lower salaries in alternate quarters, which, in the result, conforms to the law. In the other cases of two at \$800, (which are of but temporary occurrence,) for whom a provision is made of \$1,000, the surplus assists to make up one of the \$600 salaries, and an additional \$100 to a \$1,000 salary.

The salaries of the permanent clerks are paid, by authority of acts of Congress, out of any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, as has been done since the establishment of the General Post Office. The salaries of the extra clerks are paid out of the funds of the Department, until provision is made by Congress for the extra clerk hire; the last appropriation having been made of \$12,628 24, by the act of the 12th February, 1828, passed in pursuance of the application of the late Postmaster General, a copy of which is annexed, marked K.

My chief clerk has not received any additional compensation for his services as such; but, from October 1st to November 15, 1829, there was a vacancy in the office of one of the assistants, during which time, amounting to forty-six days, he was *acting assistant*, and performed the duties of that office; and for that period, and that period only, he received the compensation prescribed by law for the same.

The duties of all these clerks are exhibited in the printed statement marked L.

Fifth. For the first inquiry in this resolution, I beg leave to refer the committee to the answer made by me to the Senate in fulfilment of its resolution of the last session. To the remainder of the inquiry, I answer, that the contract for carrying the mail between Washington city and Baltimore was made with Richard C. Stockton, dated October 19, 1827, to commence January 1, 1828, and to continue in force until the 31st of December, 1831, at \$1,800 per annum.

Under this contract, he was never required to perform the trip from one city to the other in less than five hours; and when the bad state of the roads in the winter delayed the arrival of the mail at Washington from the south, or at Baltimore from the north, which frequently happened, it was conveyed by special express between these two cities at the expense of the Department, or the breaking of the connexion occasioned an entire failure between the north and the south. To prevent these failures, an arrangement was made with the contractor to carry the mail in carriages with not more than two passengers; to expedite so as never to exceed four and a half hours from one city to the other, and never to arrive in Baltimore at a later hour than 12 M., nor in Washington at a later hour than 10 A. M., though it should require them to perform the trip in four hours; and that still greater expedition than four hours should be given to it, when necessary to effect the connexion at either end of the route. This arrangement took effect on the 1st of December, 1829.

It was also found necessary, from the depredations which had been successfully made upon the mail in some instances, and attempted in others, by robbers, to cause it to be accompanied by armed guards. The expense of the guards, including their passages, it was found, would amount to upwards of \$1,700 a year. It was therefore stipulated that, for the increased expedition and certainty of arrivals, so as to keep up the connexion agreeably to the above arrangement, and also for furnishing and transporting the guards, the compensation should be increased to \$5,000 a year. The compensation was accordingly made at the rate of \$5,000 a year from the 1st of December, 1829, to the 30th of April, 1830, a period of five months. The rendering of this service on the part of the contractor sometimes required him to perform the trip from Baltimore to Washington in three hours, which he faithfully executed; but the sacrifice of horses, and the exclusion of passengers, with the great expense incurred by the contractor, were the reasons assigned by him for desiring the Department to allow more time for the trip. Accordingly, from the 30th of April, 1830, the arrangement was so changed as to allow him five hours to perform the trip, except when the preservation of the connexion should require it to be done in a shorter time, in which case he is to perform it in four and a half hours; and for this increase of time allowed, his compensation is reduced to \$2,800 a year. The compensation, therefore, for transporting the mail between this place and Baltimore, from the 30th of April, 1830, to the present time, is at the rate of \$2,800 a year.

The contract first mentioned was made by my predecessor; the last-mentioned by myself.

Sixth. The postmasters who have been defaulters to the Government since I came into office, the times when declared, the sum due from each, and against whom suits have been instituted, are set forth in the statement marked M. There are occasional delinquencies in the payment of drafts of the Department, sometimes without fault in the postmasters, sometimes from a misunderstanding with the contractors, and sometimes from a misunderstanding on their part of the state of their accounts, which, on investigation, are speedily settled, and therefore excused: so there are frequent delinquencies in the making of deposits within the time prescribed by the regulations, and also in transmitting their quarterly accounts; but being subsequently made and rendered, the delinquency ceases. These cases, though there may be some existing at the present time unarranged, were not presumed to be comprehended within the call of the committee, as they are not considered absolute defaulters till the last requisitions of the Department are disregarded.

To the seventh inquiry, the answer is made in the statement marked N; and the reasons assigned in that statement for the acceptances given, furnish an illustration of the practice of the Department in similar cases heretofore, which practice has obtained in the Department from the period of its earliest records.

Eighth. "The system of receipts and disbursements of money" which prevailed when I entered the Department, was, that the senior assistant received and disbursed all its funds. The moneys paid, in notes or specie, into the Department at Washington, were paid to him; and the payments in bank throughout the Union were subject to his entire control.

The Postmaster General was responsible by law for these moneys, but the senior assistant controlled their application at his own will. The latter, too, kept his own account of the moneys drawn by his checks from the banks, or paid out of the chest in his office, without the intervention of a clerk; and of the moneys found in his chest no account could ever be discovered in the Department. Thus, it will be perceived, money to a large amount could be abstracted from the funds of the Department, without the knowledge of the head, and without the fear of detection. There was no check upon any such transactions.

The system now adopted is, that all moneys shall be paid to the Department by certificates of deposit in banks; and that no money can be drawn from these deposits, not even by the head of the Department, but by the signatures of two officers of the Department, each acting independently of the other; and every such payment shall be recorded in the separate books of these officers; and that no drafts, even on postmasters, shall be made, without the investigation and signatures of two officers. The moneys appropriated for the salaries of the officers and clerks are not mingled, as heretofore, with the funds of the Department, and so made liable to be overdrawn; but those moneys are especially assigned to the care and disbursement of a distinct officer; and the salaries, being settled monthly and quarterly, are never entered in the books of the Department, his account being kept in a separate book. More strict regulations are enforced, requiring the payment, at regular periods, of the funds of the larger offices, and of all those postmasters are instructed to deposit. It is believed that the moneys of this Department are now applied faithfully, and preserved securely.

Ninth, and lastly. There have been special agents employed by the Department, for particular services and for short periods, none of whom have been in service since the date of the resolution, nor for some time previous.

The general agent of the Department is Preston S. Loughborough, at a salary of \$1,600. His duties, when employed at the seat of Government, are described in the printed statement marked L; and when employed at a distance, they are, the investigation of mail robberies, losses and depredations by postmasters, and the examination of mail routes and post offices, and the conduct of contractors and postmasters.

There are also three persons employed in the Department for opening dead letters, (who are paid under the denomination of agents,) to wit: Charles Bell, Remigius Burch, and John Davis, who are each paid \$400 per annum; and James Tate, who acts as assistant messenger, and also as clerk, at \$300 per annum.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. T. BARRY.

Hon. JOHN M. CLAYTON, *Chairman of Select Committee U. S. Senate, &c.*

A, No. 2.

*Incidental expenses of the Post Office Department from the 1st day of July, 1826, to the 1st day of July, 1830.*

To cash paid—		[A.] 1st July to 1st October, 1826.		
John Brown,	-	For carrying express in 1825,	-	\$2 00
William Cooper,	-	Printing,	-	301 45
J. D. Boteler,	-	Locks and keys,	-	190 90
Do.	-	Do.	-	111 60
E. J. Hale,	-	Advertising,	-	95 70
William Young,	-	Portmanteaus,	-	30 48
A. Way,	-	Paper,	-	1,275 00
Charles Dean,	-	Twine,	-	35 86
C. Dean,	-	Transportation of twine,	-	1 06
John D. Boteler,	-	Locks and keys,	-	147 70
John Davis,	-	As agent, (special,)	-	85 25
William Young,	-	For saddlery,	-	30 70
Cash,	-	Do.	-	10
Com. Craig,	-	Mail bags,	-	1,000 00
True & Green,	-	Furnishing blanks, wrapping paper, and twine, to various offices,	-	2,674 56
Daniel Lombard,	-	Pursuing mail robbers, attorney's fees, payment of witnesses, &c.	-	66 86
True & Green,	-	Furnishing blanks, wrapping paper, and twine, for various offices,	-	170 00
William Young,	-	Mail portmanteaus,	-	19 25
J. Clark,	-	Bringing mail bags from Baltimore,	-	1 12
D. F. Algood,	-	Attending the prosecution of W. F. Watson, charged with robbing the mail,	-	13 25
A. Dupuy,	-	For advertising,	-	7 00
				6,259 84
		1st October, 1826, to 1st January, 1827.		
M. T. Simpson,	-	Examining post road,	-	114 75
William Young,	-	Portmanteaus,	-	18 48
W. Cooper, jun.	-	Printing blanks, &c.	-	377 50
Sellers & Pennock,	-	Portmanteaus,	-	2,940 00
Edwin Porter,	-	Expenses as agent, (special,)	-	67 50
Way & Gideon,	-	Printing circulars, &c.	-	24 00
William J. Stone,	-	Furnishing stamps, &c.	-	75 33
J. Howard, (Te.)	-	Advertising,	-	20 00
J. Downer,	-	Mail bags,	-	20 00
J. D. Boteler,	-	Locks and keys,	-	193 80
William Young,	-	Portmanteaus,	-	36 00
Do.	-	Do.	-	80 44
John D. Boteler,	-	Locks and keys,	-	95 80
Susan Borrowes,	-	Making bags,	-	3 75
Peter Isler,	-	Advertising,	-	101 20
William Young,	-	Portmanteaus,	-	55 00
J. D. Boteler,	-	Furnishing mail locks and keys,	-	100 00
True & Green,	-	Printing, wrapping paper, &c.	-	1,768 40
William Young,	-	Portmanteaus,	-	88 30
John Wise,	-	Furnishing and repairing mail bags,	-	37 62
Julius Guiteau,	-	Prosecuting Otis Furman and Putnam, for plundering the mail in 1825,	-	272 45
John Guiteau,	-	His expenses in pursuit of Cox, who had plundered the mail,	-	700 00
William Cooper,	-	Printing blanks, &c.	-	150 00
Morgan, Lodge, & Fisher,	-	Blanks and paper,	-	331 50
Solomon Van Rensselaer,	-	Inspecting post offices in New York,	-	336 00
William Young,	-	Portmanteaus,	-	34 66
J. D. Boteler,	-	Locks and keys,	-	148 20
Gales & Seaton,	-	Advertising,	-	54 12
William Hogan,	-	Carrying Charles Doolittle from Hogansburgh to Bennington, Vermont, charged with a breach of the post office laws,	-	20 00
M. T. Simpson,	-	Services as agent,	-	250 00
				8,515 00
		Deduct cash received of M. T. Simpson,	-	550 00
				\$7,965 00
		1st January to 1st April, 1827.		
Way & Gideon,	-	For printing and binding, &c.	-	138 00
William Cooper,	-	Printing,	-	758 60
Charles Dean,	-	Twine,	-	16 00
William J. Stone,	-	Post office stamps,	-	128 49

## STATEMENT A, No. 2—Continued.

To cash paid—				
A. Dyer,	-	As agent, at \$20 per month, from the 20th December to 14th April,	\$77 07	
Charles Dean,	-	For twine,	26 12	
William Young,	-	Portmanteaus,	33 24	
John D. Boteler,	-	Locks and keys,	177 50	
William Young,	-	Mail bags,	30 47	
G. Gaither,	-	Blank stamps,	37 50	
J. D. Boteler,	-	Locks and keys,	157 85	
William Young,	-	Portmanteaus,	15 56	
True & Green,	-	Printing blanks, wrapping paper, and twine,	1,837 35	
R. P. Anderson,	-	Printing,	54 00	
J. D. Boteler,	-	Locks and keys,	142 40	
Aug. Oury,	-	Expenses and time employed in detecting and prosecuting Abm. Fetkill and Seth Ward, jun., mail robbers,	250 00	
William Young,	-	Portmanteaus,	16 88	
Camak & Ragland,	-	Advertising,	137 75	
J. Webster,	-	Bill of costs, suits vs. Red and Tenzeny,	13 19	
John Conrad,	-	As marshal, (for fees,)	263 31	
Henry P. George,	-	For bills of costs,	62 54	
Andrew McClure,	-	Do.	39 76	
E. Shepley,	-	Do.	74 48	
Do.	-	Recording a mortgage,	72	
			4,488 78	
		Deduct overcharge paid Mr. McLeod, January 30, 1826,	44	
		<i>1st April to 1st July, 1827.</i>		\$4,488 34
William Cooper,	-	For printing,	361 00	
Gales and Seaton,	-	Do.	2,761 25	
M. T. Simpson,	-	Travelling expenses as agent in June, July, and part of August, 1827,	306 50	
Do.	-	Postage of letters on business of the Department,	2 12	
Theodorus Bailey,	-	This sum expended by him for the pursuit of James Hall, supposed to have robbed the mail, and the employing J. B. Mower in investigating mail robbery between New York city and Hartford,	249 00	
Way & Gideon,	-	Printing,	24 00	
Sellers & Pennock,	-	Furnishing and repairing mail bags,	1,649 85	
William Craig,	-	Cotton bags,	666 50	
John D. Boteler,	-	Mail locks,	182 25	
Way & Gideon,	-	Printing,	52 50	
William Young,	-	Portmanteaus,	28 71	
J. M. Coleman,	-	Services as agent, (special,)	68 00	
George Collings,	-	Aid in prosecuting Strother Johnson,	75 00	
John D. Boteler,	-	Locks and keys,	159 40	
W. R. Thompson,	-	Fees as sheriff on prosecution of Cox,	69 50	
William J. Stone,	-	Stamps,	189 63	
True & Green,	-	Printing paper, &c.	1,906 55	
M. T. Simpson,	-	Travelling expenses as agent, from January to April, 1827,	229 09	
Morgan, Lodge, & Fisher,	-	Printing blanks, &c.	334 87	
J. D. Boteler,	-	Mail locks,	247 50	
M. T. Simpson,	-	Travelling expenses as agent to Upper Marlborough and Baltimore,	34 00	
E. P. Langdon,	-	Searching post offices for lost letter,	29 50	
Pleasants & Smith,	-	Advertising,	47 25	
William Young,	-	Portmanteaus,	26 97	
Peter Force,	-	Printing, from August, 1825, to April, 1827,	566 25	
R. Tillotson,	-	Bills of cost,	109 61	
A. R. Thornton,	-	Do.	68 50	
R. & G. Collings,	-	Attorneys for attending the examination of Charles Thoroman, charged with thefts upon the mail,	75 00	
William A. McLane,	-	Costs in suit against Erastus Granger,	148 17	
			10,668 47	
		[B.] <i>1st July to 1st October, 1827.</i>		
Theodorus Bailey,	-	This sum paid by him for printing blanks, and paper,	418 75	
Do.	-	This sum paid by him for wrapping paper,	90 00	
Do.	-	This sum paid by him to Benj. J. Hayes, for his services in pursuit of James Hall,	50 00	
Do.	-	This sum paid by him for twine,	37 46	
Andrew Way,	-	Paper,	2,529 50	
William Cooper,	-	Printing, &c.	454 70	
H. Bradley,	-	One hundred maps of the United States,	600 00	
Way & Gideon,	-	Blanks,	148 00	
R. Mills,	-	As agent for making reports, &c.	6 50	
Cameron, Morris, & Co.	-	For advertising,	194 00	
H. H. Snow,	-	Reward for finding mail,	28 00	
Isaac Tompkins,	-	For pursuing Joshua Hall into Canada,	49 42	
William Young,	-	Saddlery,	22 58	
Ritchie & Gooch,	-	Advertising,	33 25	
R. Blackman,	-	Do.	75 00	
M. Woodruff,	-	Examining locations for post offices,	12 00	
Andrew Way,	-	Paper,	1,498 50	
Theodorus Bailey,	-	This sum paid by him for twine,	70 62	
Do.	-	This sum paid by him for stamps,	74 14	
J. D. Boteler,	-	Locks and keys,	231 45	

## STATEMENT A, No. 2—Continued.

To cash paid—				
Robert Mills,	-	As agent for the Department,	-	\$6 50
Aaron Hill,	-	For advertising,	-	23 33
Orlando Saltmarsh,	-	Pursuing Hall, charged with mail robbery,	-	50 79
William Young,	-	Portmanteaus,	-	35 70
Charles Dean,	-	Twine,	-	27 00
True & Green,	-	Printing,	-	1,305 28
J. D. Boteler,	-	Locks and keys,	-	164 00
Brice & Howard,	-	Taking depositions,	-	40 00
C. Lyon,	-	Pair of saddlebags,	-	7 00
W. Woodruff,	-	Advertising,	-	103 50
Thorris's order,	-	Portmanteaus,	-	38 25
Charles Dean,	-	Twine,	-	189 75
L. H. Redfield,	-	Advertising,	-	30 00
William Young,	-	Repairing portmanteaus and bags,	-	75 00
C. S. V. Jones,	-	Apprehending Charles Kutts for attempting mail robbery,	-	20 00
W. J. Stone,	-	Stamps,	-	91 35
J. Howard,	-	Advertising,	-	20 00
M. T. Simpson,	-	Expenses on suit of Ward C. Butler against him, as agent, and examining mail routes in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, &c.	-	430 62
John Vawter,	-	Mail bags,	-	20 00
John McRae,	-	Apprehending H. McKenney and Edward Skipper, mail robbers, in 1825,	-	248 60
J. D. Murrell,	-	Prosecuting Seth Ward for stealing from the mail,	-	160 49
				9,711 03
		Deduct this sum to credit of bills of costs,	-	11 88
				\$9,699 15
		<i>1st October, 1827, to 1st January, 1828.</i>		
Thomas Cooper,	-	For printing,	-	403 90
Way & Gideon,	-	Do.	-	36 00
J. D. Boteler,	-	Locks and keys,	-	140 20
William Young,	-	Saddlery,	-	23 25
Do.	-	Portmanteaus,	-	48 25
Sellers & Pennock,	-	Do.	-	4,468 66
J. Turner,	-	Advertising,	-	35 00
W. J. Stone,	-	Furnishing stamps and seals,	-	83 28
William Young,	-	Saddlery,	-	51 08
John Schell,	-	Apprehending and convicting Samuel Dillon for mail robbery in 1822 and 1823,	-	200 00
J. D. Boteler,	-	Locks and keys,	-	182 20
R. Imlay,	-	Assisting in getting on the mail, December,	-	75 00
William Craig,	-	Two hundred and twenty-nine cotton bags,	-	622 50
C. D. McLean,	-	Printing,	-	82 87
True & Green,	-	Paper and twine,	-	1,937 41
William J. Stone,	-	Blank stamps,	-	160 00
William Young,	-	Portmanteaus,	-	33 44
J. D. Boteler,	-	Locks and keys,	-	199 10
William Young,	-	Saddlery,	-	15 00
John R. Brown,	-	Taking depositions between Chamberlain, Drake, and McKansey,	-	50 00
— Kizer,	-	Making sample of water-tight mail bags,	-	5 00
Timothy R. Hawley,	-	One pair mail bags,	-	7 00
Theodorus Bailey,	-	This sum paid by him for blanks,	-	609 43
Andrew Way,	-	Paper,	-	2,084 00
Theodorus Bailey,	-	Twine,	-	78 83
H. L. Barnum,	-	Measuring, laying out, and surveying roads,	-	350 00
Andrew Way,	-	Paper,	-	697 00
M. T. Simpson,	-	Travelling expenses as agent to Baltimore, Hagers-town, and Chambersburg,	-	69 75
T. H. Clarke,	-	As agent for the Department,	-	12 00
Jacob Sides,	-	For mail guard,	-	116 81
John McRae,	-	Travelling expenses, (on business of the Department,)	-	98 00
Theodorus Bailey,	-	Paper and blanks, (as paid by him,)	-	706 90
R. Stanard,	-	His services as attorney,	-	740 00
D. Derickson,	-	Rees and costs in prosecuting J. McCurtuy for opening letters in post office,	-	249 03
C. J. Ingersoll,	-	Bills of costs,	-	262 65
				14,933 54
		<i>1st January to 1st April, 1828.</i>		
Way & Gideon,	-	For printing copies of post office laws, instructions, and forms,	-	1,050 00
M. T. Simpson,	-	As post office agent,	-	36 31
Andrew Way,	-	For paper for Post Office Department,	-	2,185 00
Do.	-	do.	-	1,762 00
Richard Bache,	-	Expenses to Boston, in 1826, after a depreddator upon the mail,	-	380 00
Theodorus Bailey,	-	Wrapping paper,	-	135 00
Thaddeus Loomis,	-	Mail bags,	-	6 00
Theodorus Bailey,	-	Wrapping paper,	-	112 50
William Young,	-	Repairing portmanteaus,	-	34 98
Peter Force,	-	Advertisements,	-	26 37
William Cooper, jun.	-	Printing bills, &c.	-	449 40
Way & Gideon,	-	Printing,	-	97 00
W. Harrison,	-	Post office seal,	-	10 00
James Wood,	-	Apprehending mail robber,	-	50 00

## STATEMENT A, No. 2—Continued:

To cash paid—				
J. D. Boteler,	-	For locks and keys,	-	\$179 10
John Wise,	-	Repairing portmanteaus,	-	25 62
Simon Ide,	-	Printing,	-	1,236 44
William Young,	-	Saddlery,	-	48 28
William Smith,	-	As special agent for the Department,	-	99 00
H. Tutwiler,	-	For services as special agent,	-	63 87
William Young,	-	Saddlery,	-	31 50
J. D. Boteler,	-	Locks and keys,	-	148 60
Morgan, Fisher, & Co.	-	Printing,	-	485 88
Thomas Sargeant,	-	Map of New Jersey,	-	7 50
William Smith,	-	As special agent to the Department,	-	72 00
True & Green,	-	For printing, wrapping paper, &c.	-	2,678 41
William Young,	-	Portmanteaus,	-	51 20
Beers, Booth, & St. John,	-	Expenses and printing,	-	85 00
J. D. Boteler,	-	Locks and keys,	-	197 40
J. Tompkins,	-	Services as agent,	-	49 50
W. J. Stone,	-	Stamps,	-	111 85
Solomon Van Rensselaer,	-	Services and expenditure in examining into a fraud,	-	72 00
William Young,	-	Saddlery,	-	58 84
H. Bradley,	-	One hundred maps of the United States,	-	600 00
William Boggs,	-	Arresting D. H. Dyer on an escape from jail,	-	70 00
J. Webster,	-	Bill of costs,	-	14 19
John Vowter,	-	Do.	-	28 62
R. Stanard,	-	Do.	-	100 00
G. Collings,	-	Do.	-	65 00
John Simonds,	-	Do. in suit against T. Rogers,	-	25 65
John Vowter,	-	Do. case of E. Fairchild,	-	30 91
Ether Shepley,	-	Do. case of Charles Johnson,	-	67 52
				13,038 44
		Deduct for two post coaches purchased by Stockton & Stokes,	\$900	
		Amount overpaid W. Young, December 22, 1827,	10	
				910 00
		1st April to 1st July, 1828.		
M. T. Simpson,	-	Agent, expenses on journey to Cincinnati,	-	28 00
Theodorus Bailey,	-	For blanks and twine,	-	693 93
Way & Gideon,	-	Printing,	-	445 00
Do.	-	Do.	-	2,885 00
William Burke,	-	As agent in regulating mails,	-	32 87
Andrew Way,	-	For sundry bills for paper,	-	3,146 00
Theodorus Bailey,	-	Wrapping paper,	-	117 00
William Cooper, jun.	-	Printing,	-	630 65
Way & Gideon,	-	Do.	-	121 50
Simon Ide,	-	Blanks, paper, &c.	-	1,408 53
Henry Smith,	-	Plan of addition to General Post Office,	-	25 00
J. D. Boteler,	-	Locks and keys,	-	155 00
Charles Dean,	-	Twine and bags,	-	23 50
B. O. Tyler,	-	Map of Pennsylvania,	-	6 00
Ritchie & Gooch,	-	Advertising,	-	17 75
Pleasants & Smith,	-	Do.	-	11 75
Do.	-	Handbills,	-	2 00
William Young,	-	Portmanteaus,	-	66 92
Green & Jarvis,	-	Advertising proposals,	-	2 00
J. D. Boteler,	-	Mail locks and keys,	-	107 10
Way & Gideon,	-	Advertising,	-	600 00
William Young,	-	Portmanteaus,	-	79 69
Simon Ide,	-	Twine and wrapping paper.	-	323 31
True & Green,	-	Furnishing blanks and twine,	-	706 04
Hammond,	-	Printing,	-	135 75
Do.	-	Twine,	-	61 16
Sellers & Pennock,	-	Mail bags, portmanteaus, &c.	-	2,470 02
William D. Waples,	-	Advertising for carrying mail,	-	2 20
William Craig,	-	Mail bags,	-	544 20
William Young,	-	Portmanteaus,	-	53 62
William J. Stone,	-	Stamps,	-	55 21
Theodorus Bailey,	-	Blanks and twine,	-	19 68
Otho L. Williams,	-	Mail bags,	-	6 00
J. Nicholson,	-	Bill of costs in suit vs. J. Chevereaux,	-	18 00
Do.	-	Do. vs. J. Converse,	-	18 83
				15,019 21
		Deduct amount received for fifty copies of list of post offices,		26 00
		[C.] 1st July to 1st October, 1828.		
R. C. Stockton,	-	For two post coaches,	-	1,300 00
Peter Force,	-	Printing,	-	2,731 25
Andrew Way,	-	Sundry bills of paper,	-	2,232 50
John R. Bailey,	-	Blanks, wrapping paper, and twine,	-	99 93
Do.	-	Do. do.	-	493 90
Do.	-	Wrapping paper and twine,	-	139 50
Andrew Way,	-	Sundry bills of paper,	-	1,522 50
William Smith,	-	As special agent for the Department,	-	25 00
William Cooper, jun.,	-	For printing,	-	823 00
William Young,	-	Mail bags,	-	50 62
Isaac Hill,	-	Advertising proposals,	-	93 00
				14,993 21

## STATEMENT A, No. 2—Continued.

To cash paid—			
John Prentiss,	-	For advertising,	\$48 00
Charles Dean,	-	Twine,	60 25
William Young,	-	Portmanteaus,	68 41
Pleasants & Smith,	-	Advertising,	13 31
Charles Dean,	-	Twine,	72 45
Snowden & Co.,	-	Advertising,	1,140 00
Simon Ide,	-	Blanks and wrapping paper,	1,392 47
Pleasants & Smith,	-	Advertising,	13 19
William Young,	-	Saddlery,	73 37
G. Burkhart,	-	Wrapping paper,	32 00
J. D. Boteler,	-	Locks and keys,	230 20
J. Howard,	-	Advertising,	20 00
True & Green,	-	Wrapping paper,	791 55
William Smith,	-	Prosecuting mail robber,	108 00
W. J. Stone,	-	Stamps,	107 85
Ritchie & Gooch,	-	Advertising,	43 75
John R. Bailey,	-	Wrapping paper and twine,	594 06
C. D. McLean,	-	Advertising,	40 00
J. D. Boteler,	-	Locks and keys,	173 90
Henry Bradley,	-	One hundred maps of the United States,	600 00
R. Tillotson,	-	Bills of costs in sundry cases,	1,166 75
T. Wetherspoon,	-	Do. do.	24 13
			<u>16,329 84</u>
<i>1st October, 1828, to 1st January, 1829.</i>			
William Young,	-	For saddlery,	76 51
Way & Gideon,	-	Printing,	54 00
William Cooper, jun.,	-	Printing blanks, &c.,	770 80
Sellers & Pennock,	-	Mail bags, portmanteaus, &c.,	2,515 06
J. Monroe,	-	Advertising,	6 00
Simon Ide,	-	Blanks, paper, and twine,	1,454 04
Andrew Way,	-	Paper,	2,330 00
J. D. Davenport,	-	Advertising,	58 50
William Burke,	-	Newspaper subscription,	22 00
John Wise,	-	Portmanteaus,	31 56
H. Bradley,	-	One hundred maps of the United States,	600 00
L. Tucker,	-	Advertising,	102 00
J. B. Moore,	-	Do.	93 00
Lodge & Co.,	-	Furnishing blanks, printing, &c.,	198 50
G. Lockwood,	-	Services and expenses in prosecuting A. W. Howle for stealing from the mail,	180 00
William Young,	-	Portmanteaus,	60 90
W. J. Stone,	-	Stamps,	73 28
J. Kelborne,	-	Correcting list of post offices,	9 00
R. Morse,	-	Three days' service,	15 00
John Agg,	-	Services as agent,	50 00
William Craig,	-	Mail bags,	541 00
James B. Mower,	-	Advertising proposals,	75 00
Anderson & Irviu,	-	Attending examination of D. Dyer,	125 00
Alexander H. Wood,	-	As magistrate in the above case,	12 00
D. Fuller,	-	Do.	10 00
James H. Weakly,	-	Magistrate's fees in prosecuting Hubbard,	10 00
Theodorus Bailey,	-	Paper,	90 00
Andrew Way,	-	Paper,	1,450 00
W. J. Stone,	-	Stamps,	64 21
J. D. Boteler,	-	Mail locks,	198 00
Peter Force,	-	Printing,	550 00
John H. Henderson,	-	Mail bags,	10 00
J. M. Preston,	-	Bills of costs,	35 41
E. J. Lee,	-	Bills of costs in suit against Wheatley,	43
William Young,	-	Portmanteaus,	55 00
J. D. Boteler,	-	Locks and keys,	83 00
			<u>12,009 20</u>
<i>1st January to 1st April, 1829.</i>			
Way & Gideon,	-	For printing,	25 50
M. T. Simpson,	-	As agent of the Department, expenses to Philadelphia, 1828,	12 50
William Young,	-	For portmanteaus,	44 04
Andrew Way,	-	Paper,	1,341 00
William Cooper,	-	Printing blanks, &c.,	802 40
Gales & Seaton,	-	Printing, &c.	2,660 50
J. D. Boteler,	-	Locks and keys,	174 15
D. Marvin,	-	Map of New York,	7 00
Simon Ide,	-	Blanks, wrapping paper, &c.,	1,449 11
William Craig,	-	Mail bags,	662 80
William Young,	-	Portmanteaus,	50 55
E. T. Bridge,	-	Examining charges vs. Postmaster at Bangor,	78 75
Peter Force,	-	Printing,	3,127 50
Gales & Seaton,	-	Printing,	524 62
William J. Stone,	-	Stamps,	54 00
Andrew Way,	-	Furnishing paper,	1,455 00
William Young,	-	Portmanteaus,	63 74
Do.	-	Repairing mail bags,	71 99
McYoung,	-	Fees of deputy sheriff in prosecuting David Dyer in Alabama,	22 00

## STATEMENT A, No. 2—Continued.

To cash paid—			
M. T. Simpson,	-	As agent, travelling expenses,	\$27 00
J. D. Boteler,	-	For locks and keys,	102 00
Do.	-	Expenses in bearing President's message in 1829,	12 00
Lodge & Co.	-	Printing blanks,	50 87
B. B. Clarke,	-	As agent in special journey,	5 40
J. Nightingale,	-	For ruling blanks, &c.,	330 00
Andrew Way,	-	Paper,	1,187 50
Samuel L. Gouverneur,	-	Paper, twine, and blanks,	733 62
Charles Dean,	-	Twine,	42 50
J. H. Bradley,	-	Map,	300 00
True & Green,	-	Printing blanks, &c.,	1,916 41
John Crozier,	-	Printing mail proposals,	19 60
J. Sutherland,	-	Bill of costs in several cases,	140 15
H. Prillas,	-	Costs of suit vs. Robert Chandleny,	24 70
C. J. Ingersoll,	-	Bill of costs,	108 00
J. Sutherland,	-	Do.	6 77
William Murphy,	-	Fee in prosecuting mail robber,	20 00
			17,653 67
<i>1st April to 1st July, 1829.</i>			
Way & Gideon,	-	For printing,	319 50
Andrew Way,	-	Paper,	1,500 00
Thomas Scott,	-	Services as agent,	20 00
John West,	-	Inspecting postmasters, mail contractors, and carriers,	300 00
S. L. Gouverneur,	-	Blanks, wrapping paper, and twine,	1,390 87
Andrew Way,	-	Paper,	1,587 50
Do.	-	Paper,	1,393 25
Do.	-	Paper,	4,889 50
William Young,	-	Portmanteaus,	69 25
Way & Gideon,	-	Printing,	30 00
William Cooper, jun.,	-	Printing,	562 70
F. S. Myer,	-	Printing,	209 00
S. Ide,	-	Printing, paper, twine, &c.,	1,073 48
Gales & Seaton,	-	Printing,	6 00
Bartow & Co.,	-	Paper,	112 00
S. Ide,	-	Wrapping paper and twine,	611 16
Sellers & Pennock,	-	Portmanteaus,	3,219 20
D. Green,	-	Printing and paper,	296 00
W. R. Abbot,	-	Advertising,	2 00
J. D. Boteler,	-	Locks and keys,	109 30
William Young,	-	Portmanteaus,	64 50
J. Nightingale,	-	Ruling blanks,	302 25
M. T. Simpson,	-	As agent,	23 90
Lodge & Co.	-	For blanks,	96 00
John Wise,	-	Repairing portmanteaus,	57 25
D. Green,	-	Printing,	102 25
William Young,	-	Saddlery,	42 54
J. D. Boteler,	-	Locks and keys,	132 30
William J. Stone,	-	Stamps and seals,	64 00
William Young,	-	Saddlery,	31 50
J. Tompkins,	-	Attorney's fees, and apprehending mail robber,	35 00
True & Green,	-	Blanks, wrapping paper, and twine,	314 33
D. Green,	-	Printing,	110 75
A. Bradley,	-	Maps,	600 00
F. S. Myer,	-	Printing,	141 25
William Young,	-	Saddlery,	31 50
J. D. Boteler,	-	Mail locks,	153 70
D. Green,	-	Blanks,	118 33
John Duer,	-	Bills of costs,	133 06
George Blake,	-	Costs of suits,	194 39
L. A. C. Elmer,	-	Bill of costs,	115 81
J. W. Denny,	-	Attending suit vs. J. Jackson,	10 00
John Simmons,	-	Bill of costs,	39 25
			20,614 57
		Deduct, by Mahlon Roach, late postmaster of Hillsborough, Virginia,	39 83
			\$20,574 74
<i>[D.] 1st July to 1st October, 1829.</i>			
E. De Krafft,	-	For ruled paper,	85 00
R. Blodget,	-	Her dower on General Post Office building,	83 33
William Young,	-	Saddlery,	14 00
E. T. Bridge,	-	As agent to the Department,	40 00
J. Goodbar,	-	For two mail bags,	8 00
William Young,	-	Saddlery,	21 00
A. L. Mills,	-	As agent to the Department,	60 00
William Craig,	-	For mail bags,	632 10
S. Ide,	-	Blanks,	865 09
William Harvey,	-	As agent of the Department,	33 00
R. Burch,	-	Do. do.	33 00
F. S. Myer,	-	For printing,	297 50
J. D. Boteler,	-	Locks,	153 70
D. Green,	-	Blanks,	160 75
A. B. Waller,	-	Wrapping paper,	100 50

## STATEMENT A, No. 2—Continued.

To cash paid—			
Charles Bell,	-	As agent to the Department,	\$33 00
R. Burch,	-	Do. do.	33 00
William Harvey,	-	Do. do.	33 00
William Young,	-	For saddlery,	6 75
E. De Krafft,	-	Books, ruling, &c.	1,280 00
J. Howard,	-	Printing,	25 00
Do.	-	Mail bags,	23 50
George Burkhart,	-	Wrapping paper, printing, &c.	40 00
True & Green,	-	Printing,	1,114 03
Simon Ide,	-	Do.	293 33
John D. Boteler,	-	Locks,	131 00
M. Hayes,	-	Expenses in arresting mail robbers,	29 33
A. Hutchinson,	-	Mail bags,	5 00
E. Shepley,	-	Bill of costs in conducting suits,	61 85
			5,695 76
<i>1st October, 1829, to 1st January, 1830.</i>			
R. Burch,	-	As agent,	34 00
Charles Bell,	-	Do.	34 00
William Harvey,	-	Do.	34 00
F. S. Myer,	-	For printing,	109 00
J. Borrows,	-	Putting up blanks,	100 00
A. M. Duncanson,	-	Pay books,	108 00
Rebecca Blodget,	-	Her dower on General Post Office building,	83 33
Woodson & Price,	-	Apprehending William Oden,	12 88
J. Goodwill,	-	Apprehending the mail robber Cox, in 1826,	200 00
Simon Ide,	-	Blanks,	1,789 44
Sellers & Pennock,	-	Portmanteaus,	2,248 32
William Young,	-	Saddlery,	36 50
J. D. Boteler,	-	Locks and keys,	22 00
D. Green,	-	Printing,	247 50
True & Green,	-	Do.	33 81
J. A. M. Duncanson,	-	Do.	27 00
P. L. Weeks,	-	Apprehending Johnson, suspected of mail robbery,	50 00
F. S. Myer,	-	Printing,	122 25
William Harvey,	-	As agent to the Department,	33 00
R. Burch,	-	Do. do.	33 00
Charles Bell,	-	Do. do.	33 00
D. Green,	-	For advertising,	71 75
William Craig,	-	Cotton bags,	523 40
E. De Krafft,	-	Books and printing,	360 00
Camak & Ragland,	-	Advertising,	100 00
William Young,	-	Saddlery,	15 75
Do.	-	Do.	42 00
R. R. Thrall,	-	Mending mail bags,	1 24
M. T. Simpson,	-	As agent, for expenses in trial of W. C. Butler vs. M. T. Simpson, agent of General Post Office,	92 00
J. D. Boteler,	-	For locks and keys,	125 62
John McLean,	-	Advertising,	48 00
R. G. Lanphier,	-	Stamps,	30 00
D. Green,	-	Binding, &c.	94 00
Charles Bell,	-	As agent for the Department,	33 00
R. Burch,	-	Do. do.	33 00
William Harvey,	-	Do. do.	33 00
John Davis,	-	Do. do.	10 00
F. S. Myer,	-	For printing,	22 50
J. Reeside,	-	Various disbursements made by him to agents,	1,217 00
P. Heiskel,	-	Advertising,	110 00
D. Green,	-	Printing, &c.,	162 00
William Young,	-	Saddlery,	32 62
True & Green,	-	Printing,	401 15
Thomas McGrath,	-	As agent,	73 00
Rebecca Blodget,	-	For her dower on the General Post Office building,	83 33
Edmund Anderson,	-	As agent,	198 88
D. Green,	-	For printing, &c.,	2,623 50
D. Files,	-	Bills of cost,	11 00
C. J. Ingersoll,	-	Fees, expenses, &c., in trial of Butler vs. M. T. Simpson, agent General Post Office,	203 02
J. M. Goodenow,	-	Services in prosecuting Wm. Howe,	50 00
S. A. Hopkins,	-	Bills of cost,	104 83
J. Havens,	-	Do.	7 01
Warren Crow,	-	Do.	152 93
Charles Mullan,	-	Do.	15 20
J. G. Harrison,	-	Do.	38 00
S. A. Bower,	-	Do.	37 50
			12,547 26
<i>1st January to 1st April, 1830.</i>			
F. S. Myer,	-	Printing,	40 50
W. H. Swift,	-	Services as topographical engineer,	208 00
E. De Krafft,	-	Printing, &c.,	253 75
Charles Bell,	-	Services as agent,	34 00
R. Burch,	-	Do.	34 00
William Harvey,	-	Do.	34 00
John Davis,	-	Do.	34 00
Adam Whann,	-	Expenses in recovering lost mail,	50 00
B. Chambers,	-	Engraving twenty stamps,	126 00
James Tate,	-	As agent,	40 33

## STATEMENT A, No. 2—Continued.

To cash paid—			
Rebecca Blodget,	-	For her dower on General Post Office building,	\$83 33
A. Nash & Co.	-	Advertising,	5 25
John Sargeant,	-	Binding,	51 00
Duff Green,	-	Printing,	43 00
James H. Jeffers,	-	On account of apprehending mail robbers,	100 00
William Young,	-	For saddlery,	16 50
C. Gunn,	-	Advertising,	35 00
J. D. Boteler,	-	Locks and keys,	183 97
William Young,	-	Saddlery,	16 50
Simon Ide,	-	Blanks,	230 00
Do.	-	Do.	757 72
James Tate,	-	As agent,	16 67
Charles Bell,	-	As agent for the Department,	33 00
R. Burch,	-	Do. do.	33 00
John Davis,	-	Do. do.	33 00
William Harvey,	-	Do. do.	33 00
B. Chambers,	-	For stamps, &c.	54 00
F. S. Myer,	-	Printing,	54 00
J. A. M. Duncanson,	-	Do.	64 50
William Young,	-	Saddlery,	33 00
Timothy Green,	-	Twine,	59 58
William Morgan,	-	Freight on paper,	6 95
H. Gray,	-	Cleaning Post Office Department,	1 68
	-	Locks,	276 50
S. D. Ingham,	-	Account of John Hank, for paper,	525 00
George Finicane,	-	For printing proposals,	146 25
J. Williamson,	-	Expenses incurred in apprehending mail robber,	40 08
William Morgan,	-	Freight on paper, &c.	7 80
True & Green,	-	Blanks, wrapping paper, &c.	2,492 70
W. H. Swift,	-	Services as topographical engineer,	122 00
John Davis,	-	As agent of the Department,	33 00
Charles Bell,	-	Do. do.	33 00
R. Burch,	-	Do. do.	33 00
James Tate,	-	Do. do.	16 67
J. A. M. Duncanson,	-	For printing,	60 00
F. S. Myer,	-	Post bills,	9 00
J. D. Boteler,	-	Mail locks and keys,	114 45
B. Chambers,	-	Stamps, &c.	43 00
J. Reeside,	-	Reward and expenses of and for apprehending mail robbers,	979 06
William Young,	-	For saddlery,	23 00
Do.	-	Do.	6 50
William Morgan,	-	Freightage,	9 35
S. D. Ingham,	-	Account of John Hank, for paper,	650 65
S. H. Redfield,	-	For mail bags,	6 00
William Dougherty,	-	Bills of costs,	224 99
			8,651 23
		Deduct on account of bills of costs,	38 33
			\$8,612 90
		<i>1st April to 1st July, 1830.</i>	
F. S. Myer,	-	For printing blanks, &c.	124 00
Charles Bell,	-	As agent of the Department,	34 00
John Davis,	-	Do. do.	34 00
R. Burch,	-	Do. do.	34 00
James Tate,	-	Do. do.	16 66
J. A. M. Duncanson,	-	For printing,	71 00
William Craig,	-	Mail bags,	308 70
Rebecca Blodget,	-	Her dower on the General Post Office building,	83 33
J. D. Boteler,	-	Mail locks and keys,	130 97
William Morgan,	-	Freight on paper,	9 77
R. G. Lanphier,	-	Stamps,	15 00
Simon Ide,	-	Wrapping paper, blanks, and twine,	867 76
Do.	-	Do. do.	388 96
Sellers & Pennock,	-	Portmanteaus, mail bags, &c.	2,437 00
B. Chambers,	-	Stamps, &c.	126 00
E. De Krafft,	-	Printing, &c.	75 75
S. D. Ingham,	-	Account of John Hank, for paper,	801 23
R. G. Lanphier,	-	For stamps,	15 00
W. H. Swift,	-	Topographical engineer,	122 00
James Tate,	-	As agent of the Department,	16 66
Charles Bell,	-	Do. do.	33 00
John Davis,	-	Do. do.	33 00
R. Burch,	-	Do. do.	33 00
William Young,	-	For saddlery,	10 12
F. S. Myer,	-	Printing,	132 50
Duff Green,	-	Do.	343 31
John Hamer,	-	Attorney's fees, and expenses of suit,	63 00
Do.	-	Do. do.	75 00
William Smith,	-	As agent of the Department,	50 00
William Morgan,	-	For freight,	10 28
Duff Green,	-	Printing,	60 00
R. G. Lanphier,	-	Stamps, &c.	15 00
D. Green,	-	Printing, &c.	27 12
Do.	-	Do.	52 00
B. Chambers,	-	Stamps,	144 00
Geo. R. McElvy,	-	A letter box,	5 00
P. S. Loughborough,	-	As agent,	303 00

## STATEMENT A, No. 2—Continued.

To cash paid—				
Charles Bell,	-	As agent for the Department,	-	\$33 00
James Tate,	-	Do. do.	-	16 66
John Davis,	-	Do. do.	-	33 00
R. Burch,	-	Do. do.	-	33 00
F. S. Myer,	-	For printing,	-	19 50
Peter Force,	-	Do.	-	3 75
Charles Dean,	-	Twine,	-	10 00
J. A. M. Duncanson,	-	Printing,	-	200 00
William Greer,	-	Do.	-	16 00
S. D. Ingham,	-	Account of John Hank,	-	649 72
J. D. Boteler,	-	For mail locks and keys,	-	187 00
True & Green,	-	Blanks, wrapping paper, &c.	-	750 55
Wm. H. Swift,	-	Topographical engineer,	-	92 00
D. Green,	-	Printing,	-	107 00
R. G. Lanphier,	-	Stamps,	-	15 00
D. Green,	-	Printing,	-	66 00
B. Chambers,	-	Stamps,	-	36 00
William Smith,	-	Examining mail route with a view of discovering an alleged robbery,	-	25 00
John W. Livingston,	-	Bills of costs,	-	29 44
John Havens,	-	Amount paid district attorney,	-	31 72
B. Allen,	-	Bills of costs,	-	6 74
E. J. Roberts,	-	Do.	-	80 38
Julius Guiteau,	-	Additional allowance made for pursuing mail rob- bers, Otis, Firman, Putnam, and Cox,	-	550 00
Alexander G. Morgan,	-	Services as general agent of the Department,	-	828 25
Andrew Way,	-	For paper,	-	3,596 50
Michael T. Simpson,	-	As agent for the Department,	-	87 00
Andrew Way,	-	For paper,	-	950 00
Elijah Hayward,	-	As agent for the Department,	-	542 56
Andrew Way,	-	For paper,	-	3,054 00
Edmund Anderson,	-	As agent for the Department,	-	788 75
Andrew Way,	-	For paper,	-	630 00
Chester Bailey,	-	As agent for the Department,	-	432 37
M. T. Simpson,	-	Do. do.	-	35 00
Shadrack Penn, jun.	-	For printing and blanks, (several accounts,)	-	10,310 44
Duff Green,	-	For printing,	-	91 50
S. L. Gouverneur,	-	Postmaster, New York,	-	2,159 42
Shadrack Penn, jun.	-	For printing, &c.	-	627 50
D. Green,	-	Do.	-	2,123 50
Shadrack Penn, jun.	-	Do.	-	203 00
John Sargeant,	-	Book binding,	-	126 75
				\$36,679 12
		Deduct, by Shadrack Penn, jun., for paper purchased by him on account of the Department, and applied to his own use,		72 00
				\$36,607 12

## K, No. 3.

SIR:

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, *January 5, 1828.*

I have the honor to enclose to you a statement of the sums paid out of the funds of this Department, to meet deficiencies in the appropriations for its contingent expenses, complete the repairs of the building in which the General Post Office is kept, made in the year 1826, and for clerk hire beyond what was provided for by law since July, 1824, amounting to the sum of \$12,628 24. In the sessions of Congress in 1826 and 1827, an account of the sums then expended was communicated to the Committee of Ways and Means, and appropriations asked to cover them; but, through the press of business, and the indisposition of the chairman of that committee at the last session, the subject was not acted upon by the committee.

I beg leave to refer to the communications heretofore made on this subject, (copies of which are enclosed,) and to remark, that in no instance has the expenditure of one dollar been incurred beyond what the public interest required. A close application to their duties, often beyond the office hours, has been given by all persons engaged in this office; and if the amount of labor annually performed were exhibited in detail, it would far exceed any estimate that has been formed of it.

The correspondence of the office, including the quarterly returns, exceeds six hundred communications received and sent daily; some of them containing many hundred vouchers each. Between forty and fifty thousand accounts are examined and settled annually, besides other branches of labor, which it would be tedious, and, it is hoped, unnecessary to enumerate.

The business of the Department cannot be successfully done but by applying the necessary force at all times, and I have not hesitated to employ it. The results, it is believed, have shown the correctness of this policy.

As the above sums have been paid out of the funds of the Department, it will only be necessary to provide that the account of the Postmaster General shall be credited to that amount at the Treasury.

It is indispensable that the entire building, now occupied, in part, by the officers of this Department, should be appropriated to their exclusive use. Five, and in some instances six clerks, are obliged to occupy a small room, which does not afford convenient space for their desks and papers. Cases of papers are placed in the entries, and are often exposed; and clerks engaged in the same branch of business, who have occasion hourly to refer to the books and papers of each other, cannot be placed together for want of sufficient rooms. By this inconvenience, the public business is not only retarded, but less accurately executed than it would be under a proper arrangement. I would, therefore, respectfully suggest to the committee the propriety of authorizing the Postmaster General to construct, with the funds of the Department, a building on the public ground near the General Post Office, for the accommodation of the city post office and the patent office. It is believed that a substantial building for these purposes may be erected for the sum of \$12,000.

Five additional clerks will be necessary in this Department. The business increases as rapidly as the operations of the mail are extended, and the public interest requires that the force of the office should be augmented. The active operations of more than twenty-five thousand agents are regulated by this office, most of them acting inde-

pendently of each other, each being responsible to the head of the Department. In these operations the people have a direct interest; and every omission of duty produces some inconvenience, and requires an immediate remedy. This can only be applied, and the prosperity of the Department rapidly advanced, by affording to the office the necessary means to discharge its duties accurately and promptly.

As the clerks of this Department receive less, on an average, for their services, than is paid for similar services in the other Departments, it is hoped that, should the clerkships now applied for be granted, the compensation will be fixed at one thousand dollars, each, per annum.

I have the honor to be your obedient servant,

JOHN McLEAN.

Hon. GEORGE McDUFFIE, *Chairman Committee of Ways and Means.*

L, No. 4.

*Organization of the Post Office Department, and assignment of duties to the officers and clerks by the Postmaster General, arranged for the 1st January, 1831.*

#### FIRST DIVISION.

Charles K. Gardner, *Senior Assistant Postmaster General*—Is charged with the duties appertaining to the finances of the Department; with the general supervision, under the direction of the Postmaster General, of the duties performed in the offices of this division, and particularly with the cash disbursements; with the comptrolling of all "incidental" accounts which are audited by the chief clerk; and with examining and reporting to the Postmaster General, when deficient, the deposits of the weekly, monthly, and quarterly proceeds of "depositing" post offices.

#### *Book-keepers.*

Thomas B. Dyer, *Principal Book-keeper*—Is charged with the books of the North and East section, to wit: five ledgers, containing 2,988 postmasters' accounts; the contractors' accounts of this section, 443, as well as the general accounts of the Department; a journal, containing the transportation credits to the contractors, and abstract of the day book of this section, which contains the ordinary entries by the book-keepers, solicitor, and principal pay clerk. Salary \$1,400.

Richard Dement, *Second Book-keeper*—Charged with the books of the South and West section, to wit: four ledgers, containing 2,741 postmasters' accounts, and the contractors' accounts of this section, 456; a journal, and a day book: all containing and kept as in the preceding section. Salary \$1,100.

John F. Boone, *Third Book-keeper*—Charged with the books of the Middle section, to wit: four ledgers, containing 2,388 postmasters' accounts; all contractors' accounts of this section, 400; a journal, and a day book: containing and kept as above. Salary \$800.

The book-keepers also keep ledger N, of balances due from late postmasters and contractors, and have charge of the cash book kept by the assistant's bank clerk.

Total postmasters' accounts, 8,117; of contractors' accounts, 1,299; making, with the current settlements of ledger N, an aggregate of more than 10,000 accounts, in thirty books, to be balanced quarterly.

#### *Solicitor's Office.*

Joseph W. Hand, *Solicitor*—To whom is assigned the final settlement or closing of all accounts; the collection of balances; the commencement of suits; and the correspondence with the United States district attorneys and others in relation thereto; also, the correspondence concerning the passed accounts of postmasters. Salary \$1,400.

John G. Whitwell—Assists the solicitor in transmitting the prepared statements of late and present postmasters' accounts, and in the correspondence connected therewith. Salary \$800.

David Koonen—Prepares statements of the accounts of present postmasters and contractors. Salary \$1,000.

\*William H. Dundas—Prepares statements of the accounts of late postmasters and late contractors. Salary \$800.

\*Richard Emmons—Copies accounts of late and present postmasters and contractors. Salary \$800.

#### *Pay Office.*

John Suter, *Principal Pay Clerk*—Examines the accounts of all contractors for the transportation of the mail; ascertains their dues; issues the drafts in their favor on the postmasters belonging to their routes; keeps the pay books of the pay due, of the sums drawn from the post offices, and of the drafts and checks transmitted; and furnishes certificates to the assistant of the sums for which checks are required to meet all payments for transportation. He is also *agent for the payment of salaries* of the officers, clerks, and others of the Department proper. Salary \$1,400.

William Deming—North and East section. Salary \$1,000.

F. G. Blackford—Middle section. Salary \$800.

\*James Coolidge—South and West section. Salary \$800.

The division of States in these sections is the same as that of the book-keepers.

These pay clerks fill up all drafts on postmasters, (upwards of 25,000 in number per annum,) and transmit them to the contractors.

\*John Marron—Prepares statements of contractors' accounts, and of present postmasters', for the solicitor. Salary \$800.

#### *Examiner's Office.*

William G. Eliot, *Chief Examiner*—Who is charged with the crediting and examining of all postmasters' accounts; the correspondence connected therewith; receiving and depositing in bank such remittances as are specially authorized; returning what is not receivable; and with notifying and reporting delinquents. Salary \$1,200.

Josiah F. Caldwell—Examines, compares, corrects, and notes the balances of letters on hand. Salary \$1,000.

Joseph Haskell—*Examiner* for Pennsylvania and South Carolina. Salary \$1,000.

Presley Simpson—*Examiner* for part of New York. Salary \$1,000.

Joseph Sherrill—*Examiner* for part of New York. Salary \$800.

William French—*Examiner* for New Jersey, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas Territory, Tennessee, and Missouri. Salary \$800.

John G. Johnson—*Examiner* for Virginia, North Carolina, and Illinois. Salary \$800.

John H. Waggaman—*Examiner* for Maryland, Ohio, and District of Columbia. Salary \$800.

\*James H. Doughty—*Examiner* for Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and Canada mails. Salary \$800.

\*William G. Eliot, jun.—Assists the chief examiner. Salary \$600.

\*Thomas Arthur Scott—*Examiner* for New Hampshire, Vermont, Delaware, Alabama, Kentucky, Indiana, and Michigan Territory. Salary \$600.

*Register's Office.*

David Saunders, *Chief Register*—Prepares all the accounts of the Department for the Treasury, with their vouchers, with a general quarterly account current; corresponds for deficient vouchers; and does the correspondence in the register's business, notifying the errors of all postmasters' accounts, and explaining questions relating to them. Salary \$1,100.

John McLeod, *Register*—South and West section. Salary \$1,200.

Thomas Arbuckle, *Register*—North and East section. Salary \$1,000.

William C. Ellison, *Register*—Middle section. Salary \$1,000.

These register the accounts current of all postmasters, designating the different items of charge in each particular account, and re-examine and note the errors in the book of errors.

Samuel Fitzhugh—Makes abstracts of the register's books of postmasters' accounts, and numbers and files the quarterly accounts of all postmasters. Salary \$1,000.

William C. Lipscomb—Collects, compares, numbers, and files contractors' receipts and other vouchers; arranges abstracts, and prepares calls for deficient vouchers. Salary \$1,000.

\*John P. Denny—Makes abstracts of the transportation accounts, and arranges the vouchers of these for the Treasury. Salary \$800.

\*A. H. Fitzhugh—Assists in abstracting register's books. Salary \$600.

*Attached to the First Division.*

Nicholas Tastet—Keeps the assistant's bank ledger, the cash book, and the book of "depositing post offices," and makes monthly and quarterly exhibits of the cash received, disbursed, and in deposit. Salary \$1,100.

Grafton D. Hanson—Assists in the correspondence of the assistant, records letters of this division, and of the Postmaster General. Salary \$1,000.

\*John Taylor, *Register of Letters*—Endorses, registers, numbers, and files letters received in this and the third division, and records letters. Salary \$800.

## SECOND DIVISION.

Selah R. Hobbie, *Assistant Postmaster General*—To whom is assigned, under the Postmaster General, the charge of the duties appertaining to the establishment and regulation of post offices; the appointment, supervision, and instruction of postmasters; and the security of remittances by mail: requiring a supervision of the offices of this division, and especially of the office of appointments; the direction of its duties and correspondence; the examination of mail routes, in order to determine the location of new offices; and the reporting of cases of applications and complaints for the decision of the Postmaster General.

*Office of Appointments.*

Andrew M. D. Jackson, *Corresponding Clerk*—For the States of New York and Pennsylvania. Salary \$1,100.

Samuel Gwin, *Corresponding Clerk*—For the States of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, and the Territories of Florida and Arkansas. Salary \$1,000.

John T. Temple, *Corresponding Clerk*—For the States of Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Ohio, the District of Columbia, and the Territory of Michigan. Salary \$1,000.

\*Estwick Evans, *Corresponding Clerk*—For the States of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New Jersey. Salary \$800.

Their duties consist in the examination and endorsement of memorials, letters, and reports; obtaining and noting information from the book-keepers and the office of mail contracts; filing papers in appropriate parcels and cases; notifying charges against postmasters and assistants, and complaints of the location of offices; writing references of cases, and for statements of distances, routes, and other topographical information, and otherwise assisting in the correspondence of this office. They also prepare abstracts of cases; register and attest commissions; and enter the changes, discontinuances, and appointments, in the bond book, with the penalties of the bonds; inspect all bonds after execution, and return them for correction when required.

\*Charles S. Williams—Prepares the letters of appointment, of discontinuance, and bonds, with the oaths and blanks for new offices, for transmission; writes notices of appointment, change, and discontinuance; enters them, and the statements of distances, in the appointment book, and posts therefrom into the register of postmasters; enters all changes in post offices in the alphabetical book of changes, and in the State book of changes; prepares all commissions, and furnishes the office of mail contracts with a statement of all newly established offices requiring a change of route, private offices, and offices discontinued. Salary \$800.

\*Edmund Burke—Records and transmits the letters from the office of appointments, and occasionally aids the preceding clerk. Salary \$600.

Joseph Borrows, *Messenger*—His duty is to put up all packets of blanks for postmasters, keys, locks, stamps, tables of post offices, laws, and instructions to be franked; to keep an account thereof; to superscribe all such as are to be sent to old offices, and to seal all commissions. Salary \$400.

*Dead Letter Office.*

Michael T. Simpson, *Superintendent*—His duty is to examine dead letters containing articles of value; to enter, number, and transmit each, with its contents, to the writer or owner, in a letter to the postmaster nearest his residence, with receipts to be executed; and if a dead letter is returned, to note it, &c. In cases of enclosures that are not money, he numbers the letters and contents; enters, endorses, and files them, if law papers, in the order of States; if others, alphabetically. It is his duty also to make searches; to answer applications for enclosures; to correspond with postmasters on the subject of dead letters sent to them for delivery, and to report special failures; also, to complete the unfinished business of filing and arranging the old papers. The moneys remaining on hand are periodically deposited in bank, subject to the future claims of the owners thereof. Salary \$1,200.

Matthias Ross, salary \$1,000, } assist the superintendent in the preceding duties.

\*Livy McLean Blair, salary \$600, }

N. B. Near 500,000 dead letters were returned during the last year.

*Office of Instruction and of Mail Depredations.*

P. S. Loughborough—Corresponds with postmasters in relation to their official rights and duties under the law and the standing instructions, and communicates the decisions of the Postmaster General on such questions; directs, under his orders, prosecutions for violations and mail robberies; attends to all cases of mail losses and depredations, and of lost letters. Connected with this duty, is that of corresponding with agents of the Department, making out their instructions, receiving their reports, and reporting charges and information to the Assistant Postmaster General.

## THIRD DIVISION.

Obadiah B. Brown, *Chief Clerk*—Is charged with the duties of this division, and especially as superintendent of the "office of mail contracts."

*Office of Mail Contracts.*

The business done in this branch is the regulating and adjusting mail routes and their connexions; the times of arrival and departure of mails; the frequency of their trips, and conduct of contractors and carriers; arranging, preparing, and advertising mail routes; recording and comparing, at the appointed times, proposals for contracts, with the testimonials of the persons proposing; completing the contracts; procuring and supplying mail portmanteaus, bags, and locks; arranging distributing post offices, and the distribution to be made at each; keeping a route book of all the mail routes, post offices thereon, and their relative positions and distances, and conducting the correspondence in relation to the above duties. The division of duties among the clerks is as follows:

Arthur Nelson, *Corresponding Clerk*—For the States of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New York. Salary \$1,100.

George L. Douglass, *Corresponding Clerk*—For the States of Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia, Florida Territory, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Tennessee. Salary \$1,000.

George Breathitt, *Corresponding Clerk*—For the States of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Kentucky, Ohio, Michigan Territory, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, and Arkansas Territory. Salary \$1,000.

Their duties consist in the examination of petitions, letters, and reports; endorsing on the back of each, for the inspection and decision of the Postmaster General, their respective contents; filing papers in their proper cases; examining the claims of contractors for special and additional services; noting the alterations on contracts; requiring contractors to supply newly established offices, and notifying changes in routes; furnishing, at stated periods, the superintendent, for the examination of the Postmaster General, with memoranda showing the amount of additional allowances, stating to whom and on what contracts such allowances have been made; and in doing that part of the correspondence, &c. which relates to the States annexed to their names.

Thomas B. Addison—Keeps the proposal books; files proposals and oaths of mail carriers; fills contracts and bonds for execution, and has them in general charge; prepares them for the Treasury, and statements of them for Congress. Salary \$1,000.

Walter D. Addison—Records and prepares for transmission all letters relating to the business of this division. Salary \$1,000.

\*John J. Lehmanowsky—Collects the names and location of the post offices on each mail route in the Union, ascertains their distances from each other, and arranges them on the route book. Salary \$800.

*Office of Chief Clerk.*

Under the direction of the chief clerk, the following clerks are employed:

Edmund F. Brown—Endorses and registers, after being audited, all accounts of the Department, except for transportation; registers all checks for moneys; keeps the chief clerk's moneyed transactions; and examines and answers such miscellaneous letters as are committed to him by the chief clerk. Salary \$800.

Prepares statements for Congress, and for the different Departments of the Executive; and assists the chief clerk in miscellaneous duties.

Those marked with a (\*) are extra and temporary clerks, who are necessarily employed to discharge the duties annexed to their names, until further provision is made by law.

NOTE.—The division of States which obtains with the book-keepers, and generally governs in the division of duties in this Department, is as follows:

*North and East section.*—1. Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut. 2. New York.

*Middle section.*—1. New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia. 2. Kentucky, Ohio, and Michigan Territory.

*South and West section.*—1. Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida Territory. 2. Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas Territory, Tennessee, Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri.

## M, No. 5.

*Statement of postmasters who have become defaulters to the Government since April 6, 1829, with the date of the defalcation, and the balance due from each.*

Postmasters.	Office.	State.	Defalcation.	Date.	Steps taken to collect.
John Fitzgerald, -	Pensacola, -	Fl. Ter.	\$1,171 68	May 6, 1830,	Sued July 28, 1830.
Charles C. Mills, -	Tarver's Mills, -	Georgia,	140 37	Oct. 1, 1829,	" July 28, "
John Fisher, -	Bear Gap, -	Penn. -	54 78	Oct. 1, 1829,	" Aug. 13, "
Samuel McKenzie, -	Philadelphia, -	Tenn. -	44 16	Oct. 1, 1829,	" Aug. 13, "
B. Robinson, -	Cahawba, -	Alabama,	229 20	July 1, 1829,	" Aug. 14, "
Abner Pitts, -	Cahawba, -	Alabama,	178 70	Jan. 1, 1830,	" Aug. 14, "
Josiah Ramsay, -	Jefferson City, -	Missouri,	377 58	Oct. 27, 1829,	" Aug. 27, "
James W. Combs, -	Pulaski, -	Tenn. -	325 76	Sept. 20, 1829,	" Aug. 27, "
Moody Chase, -	Dyer Court-house, -	Tenn. -	135 89	Jan. 1, 1830,	" Nov. 2, "
Squire Streeter, -	St. Augustine, -	Fl. Ter.	915 03	July 28, 1830,	" Nov. 2, "
James H. Collins, -	Vernon, -	N. York,	230 84	July 1, 1829,	" Dec. 2, "
Anson K. Parsons, -	Enfield, -	Conn. -	146 60	July 1, 1829,	" Dec. 2, "
Lemuel Ford, -	Charleston, -	Indiana,	135 07	Jan. 1, 1830,	" Feb. 7, 1831.
Joseph C. Holmes, -	Claverack, -	N. York,	109 90	May 16, 1829,	" Feb. 8, "
Shepard Kollock, -	Elizabethtown, -	N. Jersey,	286 61	April 29, 1829,	" Feb. 8, "
John E. Kreider, -	Kreidersville, -	Penn. -	92 68	Aug. 22, 1829,	" Feb. 8, "
David L. McKee, -	Lancaster, -	Kent'ky,	213 11	May 27, 1829,	" Feb. 8, "
Amasa Hitchcock, jun., -	Cheshire, -	Conn. -	993 78	Oct. 1, 1830,	" Dec. 11, 1830.

In the above cases, suits have been instituted in the district courts of the United States on the bond and account of each postmaster.

There are other cases of defalcations by postmasters, who, in many of the instances, have been removed, or who have resigned subsequently to their defaults, but which have been secured or settled without suit. These cases are various in degrees, both as to time and amount of defalcation, but are not entered on any particular statement or book, in the manner of cases in which suits are instituted. Want of time prevents a recapitulation of this class of

defalcations, as the statements are spread through the files and books of the Department; and in many of these cases there would be an inherent difficulty in completing the list. In some instances, probably to avoid suits, the payments have been made at so early a period after the defalcation occurred, that it might be a questionable point to determine that such persons should be reported as defaulters at this time, the default being so temporary. In all cases of default prior to the 1st July, 1830, suits have been instituted against such as gave no just ground of hope for an amicable settlement; and, in other cases, transcripts of their accounts have been made from the books of the Department, and transmitted for collection. In many cases, drafts have been made on the defaulting postmasters, or their sureties; and in others, they have been directly called upon for payment through the agency of other postmasters. With respect to those cases which have appeared since the 1st of July, 1830, they have not been generally acted upon; this branch of business being nearly three months in arrears, from the circumstance that the force regularly employed upon it has been necessarily engaged in the preparation of reports in obedience to the calls of the Senate.

## N, No. 6.

*A list of contracts, made in October, 1829, for the western section of the United States, agreeably to proposals advertised, on which the lowest bids were not accepted, with the reasons assigned therefor in each particular case.*

Route No.	Contracts.	Amount per annum.
IN INDIANA.		
3	Vernon to Paoli, once a week, 48 miles: Accepted to Major Ringo, at - - - - - James Dugan bid \$168 per annum. Dugan bid for 31 routes, and his recommendation was not sufficient to justify the belief that he would be competent to the undertaking; the bid of Ringo was, therefore, preferred.	\$175 00
5	Charleston to New Providence, once a week, 17 miles: Accepted to Major Ringo, at - - - - - William Gibson bid \$39 per annum. Gibson's bid was much lower than any person could afford to perform the service for, and there was no assurance given to the Department of his ability to perform; his bid was, therefore, rejected.	50 00
8	Lawrenceburg, by Georgetown, &c. to Lawrenceburg, once a week, equal to 31 miles: Accepted to Luther Hinman, at - - - - - Wyeth and St. John bid \$100 per annum. Hinman was the former contractor, approved, and therefore preferred.	104 00
9	Madison to Versailles, once a week, 25 miles: Accepted to Major Ringo, at - - - - - Frederick Green bid \$70 per annum. Green was not recommended; therefore his bid was rejected.	75 00
10	Brownstown to Terre Haute, once a week, 134 miles: Accepted to Alfred J. Athan, at - - - - - Joseph A. Wright bid \$334 per annum. Wright was not sufficiently known nor recommended; therefore his bid was rejected.	398 00
26	Dickson's Mills to Montezuma, once a week: Accepted to Eli Newling, at - - - - - Washington Walls bid \$98 per annum. Newling was the former contractor, and approved; the preference was, therefore, given to him.	100 00
40	Eugene or Covington to Fort Wayne, once in two weeks: Accepted to George Smith, at - - - - - Thomas W. Mansfield bid \$338 per annum. Smith was the former contractor; Mansfield unknown: the preference, therefore, was given to Smith.	350 00
49	Versailles to Brownstown, once a week, 50 miles: Accepted to John Boner, at - - - - - D. R. Midcap bid \$140. Boner was much more satisfactorily recommended than Midcap; it was therefore deemed most safe to give him the preference.	149 00
IN ILLINOIS.		
60	Maysville to St. Louis, 130 miles, twice a week on part, and once on part, two-horse stages: Accepted to Mills and Wetzell, at - - - - - E. B. Clemson bid \$990 per annum. Mills was the former contractor, and approved; his horses and stages were already on the route; therefore, the preference was given to him.	995 00
72	Vandalia to Carmi, once a week: Accepted to John Enochs, at - - - - - Robert Blackwell bid \$200 per annum. Blackwell was unknown, and not recommended; his bid was, therefore, rejected.	340 00
76	Peoria to Galena, once a week, 130 miles, in stages: Accepted to John D. Winters, at - - - - - Pinney Adams bid \$600 per annum. Adams proposed to carry on horseback; Winters proposed to carry it in stages: his bid was, therefore, accepted.	800 00
IN MISSOURI.		
87	Perryville to Gasconade court-house, once a week, 150 miles: Accepted to Edward M. Holden, at - - - - - Hugh Barclay bid \$600 per annum. Barclay was not sufficiently known, nor recommended; his bid was, therefore, rejected.	672 00
95	Fredericktown to Jackson, once a week, 50 miles: Accepted to William Dillard and R. L. Cobb, at - - - - - Spiva and Porter bid \$160 per annum. The recommendation of Spiva and Porter was not satisfactory; therefore, their bid was rejected.	195 00

## LIST OF CONTRACTS—Continued.

Route No.	Contracts.	Amount per annum.
IN TENNESSEE.		
97	Blountsville to Knoxville, thrice a week, 100 miles: Accepted to Rufus Stanley, at - - - - - Larkin Maxwell bid \$3,000 per annum. Maxwell was not satisfactorily recommended; his bid was, therefore, rejected.	\$4,950 00
116	Ashville, N. C., to Cheek's Cross Roads, once a week, 80 miles: Accepted to Samuel Newland, at - - - - - Ambrose Slater bid \$400 per annum. Slater's proposal was to carry on horseback; Newland's in stages: his proposal was, therefore, accepted.	780 00
119	Knoxville to Cumberland Gap, once a week, 82 miles: Accepted to John Hill, at - - - - - Hugh Barton bid \$288 per annum.	295 00
120	Hill was the former contractor, and approved; the preference, therefore, was given to him. Knoxville to Tazewell court-house, once a week, 40 miles: Accepted to John Hill, at - - - - - William McBee bid \$175 per annum.	180 00
140	Hill was the former contractor, and approved; the preference was, therefore, given to him. Carthage to Monroe, once a week, 61 miles: Accepted to J. Murphy, at - - - - - S. Hinds bid \$199 per annum.	215 00
165	Hinds was not sufficiently known, nor recommended; his bid was, therefore, rejected. Covington to Warehouse, Mi., once a week: Accepted to John H. Collins, at - - - - - R. Wilcox bid \$80 per annum.	85 00
170	Collins, the former contractor, approved; the preference, therefore, was given to him. Columbia to Jackson, once a week, 140 miles: Accepted to Stokes and Springer, at - - - - - James Jeffreys bid \$549 50 per annum. Jeffreys was not recommended; his bid was, therefore, rejected.	554 00
IN ALABAMA.		
195	Fort Mitchell to Montgomery, thrice a week, 90 miles: Accepted to William Walker, at - - - - - Walter B. Lucas bid \$2,900 per annum. Walker proposed to run post coaches, and so to increase the expedition as to gain one day in this and the route connecting this with Mobile, which would connect the New Orleans mail with the Atlantic cities one day quicker; it was, therefore, accepted as the most eligible bid.	4,330 00
200	Blakely to Mobile Point, once in two weeks, 60 miles: Accepted to Patrick Byrne, at - - - - - James W. Johnson bid \$310 per annum. Johnson had been a very inefficient contractor; his proposal was, therefore, rejected.	357 00
201	Claiborne to Washington court-house, 50 miles, once a week; from Claiborne to Coffeeville, once a week: Accepted to A. B. Cummings, at - - - - - R. R. Moore bid \$800 per annum. Cummings was the former contractor, and approved; Moore was not sufficiently known: the preference was, therefore, given to Cummings. From Mobile to New Orleans, in steamboats and stages; advertised April 15th, to be determined July 12, 1829: Accepted to James Reeside & Co., at - - - - - Addison W. Lane bid \$9,000 per annum. Several others bid lower than the accepted proposals, but the route required a large investment in steamboats, and no evidence was given of the ability of any of the underbidders to fulfil the contract. After the delay of a week to obtain such evidence, if it existed, the decision was made as above, because confidence was not warranted in any lower bid.	848 00
229	Woodville to Columbia, once a week, 95 miles: Accepted to William S. Fitler, at - - - - - Minor M. Whitney bid \$685 per annum. Fitler was the former contractor, and approved; the preference was, therefore, given to him.	700 00
255	Hampstead court-house to Conway, once in two weeks, 70 miles: Accepted to Joshua Morrison, at - - - - - Allen M. Oakley bid \$220 per annum. Morrison was the former contractor, and approved; therefore, the preference was given to him.	225 00

*A list of contracts, made in October, 1830, for the southern section of the United States, agreeably to proposals advertised, on which the lowest bids were not accepted, with the reasons assigned therefor in each particular case.*

Route No.	Contracts.	Amount per annum.
1,901	From Washington to Richmond, Virginia.	
1,902	Richmond to Petersburg.	
1,903	Petersburg to Warrenton, North Carolina.	
2,047	Petersburg to Halifax, North Carolina.	
2,101	Warrenton to Raleigh, North Carolina.	
2,102	Raleigh to Fayetteville.	
2,104	Fayetteville to Cheraw, South Carolina.	
2,105	Halifax to Raleigh.	
2,254	Cheraw to Columbia.	
2,255	Columbia to Augusta, Georgia.	
2,352	Augusta to Milledgeville.	
2,353	Milledgeville to Fort Mitchell, Alabama.	
	All the above routes were accepted in favor of John H. Avery, James Reeside, and Edwin Porter & Co., for the annual compensation of \$67,950; so improved as to gain 12 hours by increased expedition, to provide and transport an armed guard at their own expense, when required, and to convey all Government expresses without expense to the Department.	
	The lowest bids on the above routes were as follows:	
	No. 1,901, William Thompson, at \$5,000; he was unknown to the Department, and not recommended: therefore, his bid was rejected.	
	No. 1,902, Lewis Billings, at \$1,500; he was not sufficiently known, nor recommended: therefore, his bid was rejected.	
	No. 1,903, Lewis Campbell, at \$5,848; not recommended, and believed to be incompetent to the undertaking: his bid was, therefore, rejected.	
	No. 2,047, Lemuel Stoughton & Co., at \$2,500; they were not sufficiently known, nor recommended: therefore, their bid was rejected.	
	No. 2,101, Edward Haeston & Co., at \$4,450; not known, nor recommended: therefore, their bid was rejected.	
	No. 2,102, Lark Fox & Co., at \$4,365; Fox was insolvent, and the Department had no assurance that he would be able to furnish suitable horses and coaches for the route; his partner was not reported; he had once been an indifferent contractor: his bid was, therefore, rejected.	
	No. 2,104, Lark Fox & Co., at \$5,000; the remarks above (No. 2,102) are equally applicable to this.	
	No. 2,105, C. W. McKinstry, at \$1,773; his bid was for two-horse stages; it was determined to run four-horse post coaches. McKinstry was not satisfactorily recommended for so important a route: his bid was, therefore, rejected.	
	No. 2,254, C. W. McKinstry, at \$4,785; he was not satisfactorily recommended for so important a route.	
	No. 2,255, C. W. McKinstry, at \$5,525; the same remarks as above (No. 2,254) equally applicable to this.	
	No. 2,352, C. W. McKinstry, at \$5,950; same remarks as above.	
	No. 2,353, James M. Harris, at \$3,180; not sufficiently known, nor satisfactorily recommended.	
1,905	Washington city to Lynchburg, three times a week, 200 miles, four-horse post coaches: Accepted to William Smith, at - - - - - W. Hart bid \$4,977 per annum.	\$6,000 00
	Hart was not recommended; Smith was the former contractor, very highly approved, and had very recently, by his own enterprise, established a first rate line of four-horse post coaches on the whole route; the preference was, therefore, given to him.	
1,926	Morgantown to Wheeling, once a week, 64 miles: Accepted to John Hutchison, at - - - - - William W. Lazell bid \$200 per annum.	204 00
	Lazell was not sufficiently known, nor recommended; therefore, his bid was rejected.	
1,931	Back Creek Valley to Cumberland, three times a week, 51 miles, in four-horse post coaches: Accepted to M. Hill, at - - - - - William B. Burke bid \$1,500 per annum.	1,950 00
	Burke was a contractor, and proved incompetent to the undertaking.	
1,936	Winchester to Staunton, three times a week, 94 miles, four-horse post coaches: Accepted to D. S. Danner, at - - - - - William B. Burke bid \$2,000 per annum.	2,800 00
	Burke rejected for the reason stated above.	
1,940	Warrenton to Washington, once a week, 30 miles: Accepted to French Tharp, at - - - - - Gerrard Yates bid \$74 per annum.	120 00
	Yates's bid was for once a week; that of Tharp for three times a week.	
1,942	Dumfries to Warrenton, once a week, 40 miles: Accepted to Z. A. Kankey, at - - - - - Manasseh Russell bid \$109 per annum.	115 00
	Kankey was known and approved as a contractor; Russell was not recommended; therefore the preference was given to Kankey.	
1,965	New York to Wilmington, once a week, 84 miles: Accepted to Joel Yancey, at - - - - - William Weaver bid \$360 per annum.	373 00
	Weaver reserved the privilege of carrying newspapers out of the mail, which would probably make more than the difference in the revenue. Yancey was the former contractor.	
1,976	Lewisburg to Huntersville, once a week, 50 miles: Accepted to D. W. Sleeth, at - - - - - Philip Huffman bid \$160 per annum.	170 00
	Huffman's bid was to carry it differently from the advertisement, or from the wish of the Department.	

## LIST OF CONTRACTS—Continued.

Route No.	Contracts.	Amount per annum.
1,986	Giles court-house to Jeffersonville, once a week, 54 miles: Accepted to Abraham Garrison, at - - - - - James Wilson bid \$145 per annum.	\$150 00
	Wilson was not recommended; therefore, his bid was rejected.	
1,996	Fredericksburg to Yorktown, twice a week, 126 miles: Accepted to George Johnson, at - - - - - Robert Finnall bid \$900 per annum.	990 00
	Finnall was not recommended; his proposition was to carry on horseback; Johnson's was to carry it in sulkeys; Finnall's bid was therefore rejected, and Johnson's accepted.	
1,999	Bowling Green to King William court-house, once a week, 42 miles: Accepted to William Mullin, at - - - - - R. Hoowes bid \$160 per annum.	170 00
	Mullin was the former contractor, and well approved; he was, therefore, preferred.	
2,018	New London to Davis's store, once a week, 18 miles: Accepted to Francis Cloudis, at - - - - - Stephen Hicks bid \$50 per annum.	52 00
	Cloudis was the former contractor, and approved; the preference, therefore, was given to him.	
2,020	Halifax court-house to Danville, once a week, 38 miles: Accepted to Abel Lang, at - - - - - Benjamin C. West, sen., bid \$145 per annum.	158 50
	Lang bid for three routes on condition that he should obtain them all; and his bid was so much lower than any other on the other routes, that giving him this would save much more than the difference.	
2,027	Lynchburg to Danville, twice a week, 81 miles, two-horse stages: Accepted to William Smith, at - - - - - John S. Foster bid \$1,000 per annum.	1,600 00
	Foster would have required two days to run through; Smith proposed so to expedite as to run through in one day: his bid was, therefore, the best, and accepted.	
2,117	Winton to Edenton, once a week, 70 miles, sulkeys: Accepted to M. E. Sawyer, at - - - - - John Folk bid \$480 per annum.	560 00
	M. E. Sawyer bid for four routes in the same proposal, and made his bid conditional, that, unless this was given him, he should not take the others; and the whole, taken in the aggregate, were lower than the aggregate of the lowest bidders on them all; they were, therefore, all given to him.	
2,119	Woodville to Durant's Neck, once a week, 12 miles: Accepted to William B. Hallowell, at - - - - - John Weeks bid \$50 per annum.	52 00
	Mr. Hallowell was the former contractor, and approved; therefore, the preference was given to him, the difference being inconsiderable.	
2,123	Warrenton to Danville, Virginia, twice a week, 92 miles, two-horse stages: Accepted to Jeffreys & Crocket, at - - - - - Peter M. Conley bid \$1,500 per annum.	1,700 00
	Conley's bid was to carry the mail in a sulkey; Jeffreys & Crocket's to carry it in stages; therefore their proposals were the best, and accordingly accepted. It was advertised for stages.	
2,126	Enfield to Hillsbridge, once a week, equal to 18 miles: Accepted to Jesse Butts, at - - - - - Edwin S. Moore bid \$71 per annum.	72 00
	Butts was the former contractor, and approved; therefore, the preference was given to him, the difference being inconsiderable.	
2,128	Raleigh to Oxford, once a week, 47 miles, two-horse stages: Accepted to M. Dillard, at - - - - - Thomas B. Arendell bid \$300 per annum.	400 00
	Arendell proposed to carry on horseback; it was advertised for a stage route, and Dillard proposed to carry in stages; therefore, his bid was accepted.	
2,143	Raleigh to Salisbury, twice a week, 118 miles, four-horse post coaches: Accepted to George Williams, at - - - - - Thomas Alfred bid \$1,800 per annum.	3,000 00
	Alfred's bid was to carry the mail different from what was advertised, and different from what the Department wished; George Williams proposed to carry as the Department advertised, and so to expedite as to gain eight hours in time; therefore accepted.	
2,149	Raleigh to Haywood, once a week, equal to 34 miles: Accepted to Merritt Hutchins, at - - - - - W. Pope bid \$140 per annum.	150 00
	Pope reserved the privilege of carrying newspapers out of the mail, which would probably have made more than the difference in the revenue. Hutchins was the former contractor; therefore, his bid was accepted.	
2,165	Fayetteville, via Pocket Office, to Salisbury, once a week, 142 miles: Accepted to Duncan Murchison, at - - - - - Aaron H. Saunders bid \$574 per annum.	600 00
	Saunders had no recommendation; therefore, his bid was rejected.	
2,174	Raleigh to Newbern, twice a week, 120 miles, two-horse stages: Accepted to M. Dillard, at - - - - - D. A. Saltmarsh & Co. bid \$1,950 per annum.	2,000 00
	Dillard was the former contractor, and had his horses and stages on the route, performing well; the preference was, therefore, given to him.	
2,258	Cheraw, via Society Hill, to Marion court-house, three times a week, 59 miles, stages: Accepted to M. W. Hunter, at - - - - - C. W. McKinstry bid \$2,515 per annum.	2,633 00
	McKinstry was not sufficiently known; Hunter, the former contractor, well approved, and his property already on the route.	
2,265 and 2,266	Camden to Vance's Ferry, three times a week, 62 miles, four-horse post coaches: Accepted to John McLean, at - - - - - C. W. McKinstry bid \$7,000 per annum.	8,000 00
	McKinstry not satisfactorily recommended for so important a route.	

## LIST OF CONTRACTS—Continued.

Route No.	Contracts.	Amount per annum.
2,268	Sumpterville to Fulton, three times a week, 30 miles: Accepted to William M. Brooks, at Hartwell Macon bid \$600 per annum. Brooks proposed so to extend the route as to run from Camden, by Sumpterville and Fulton, to Vance's Ferry, which made his proposal the lowest in proportion to the service; it was, therefore, accepted.	\$800 00
2,275	Columbia to Ashville, once a week, 177 miles, two-horse stages: Accepted to Bowen & McLean, at C. W. McKinstry bid \$1,893 per annum. McKinstry not satisfactorily recommended.	2,000 00
2,363	Augusta to Carnesville, once a week, 120 miles, two-horse stages: Accepted to William Shannon, at Edward Bolen bid \$1,200 per annum. Shannon's proposal was to run a line of four-horse post coaches on the whole of that part of the route between Augusta and Petersburg; it was, therefore, the best, and accordingly accepted.	1,500 00
2,366	Milledgeville to Athens, once a week, 76 miles, two-horse stages: Accepted to Longstreet and Byrd, at M. B. Mitchell bid \$850 per annum. Longstreet & Byrd were the former contractors, and approved; their stages and property were on the route; the preference was, therefore, given them.	900 00
2,385	Macon to Covington, once a week, 90 miles, and one additional trip between Macon and Forsyth, in two-horse stages: Accepted to Ebenezer Eliason, jun., at William C. Parker bid \$980 per annum. Eliason proposed to extend the stage route from Forsyth to Thomaston, and thence on No. 2,388 to Columbus, which makes his bid much the lowest in proportion to the services to be performed.	1,195 00
2,388	Columbus to Thomaston, once a week, 61 miles: Accepted to Ebenezer Eliason, jun., at Reynolds & Harrison bid \$360 per annum. The proposal of Reynolds & Harrison was to carry the mail on horseback; that of Eliason to carry it in stages; it was, therefore, accepted.	450 00
2,392	Milledgeville to Tallahassee, Florida, once a week, 256 miles, in two-horse stages: Accepted to Mallett & Mott, at Abner Holliday & Co. bid \$2,600 per annum. The proposal of Mallett & Mott was to give such increased expedition as to run through in one day less time each way; therefore accepted.	3,000 00
2,398	Jacksonville to Tallahassee, Florida, once in two weeks, 163 miles: Accepted to Thomas Heir, at Richard T. Stanaland bid \$550 per annum. Heir was the former contractor, and proposed also to carry the mail to St. Mark's and to Jefferson court-house on lower terms than any other person, provided he got this route, which made his bid the best; it was, therefore, accepted.	595 00
2,473	Tallahassee to Pensacola, once a week, 320 miles: Accepted to Samuel Stowers, at Thomas Baltzell bid \$1,800 per annum. Baltzell's bid was for a horse mail; Stowers's is to carry it in stages.	3,000 00
2,040	Petersburg to Halifax court-house, once a week, 120 miles, sulkeys: Accepted to Thomas Townsend, at John Crute bid \$550 per annum. Crute refused to carry as advertised; his bid was, therefore, rejected.	580 00
2,109	Salem to York court-house, South Carolina, twice a week, 112 miles, four-horse post coaches: Accepted to J. & C. Moring, at Burke, Williams, & Co. bid \$2,800 per annum. Burke had been a contractor, and proved incompetent; his bid was, therefore, rejected. Moring was the former contractor, and well approved; the preference was, therefore, given to him.	3,360 00
2,113	Edenton to Washington, twice a week, 54 miles, sulkeys: Accepted to M. E. Sawyer, at John A. Warrington bid \$577 per annum. Warrington proposed to carry in sulkeys; Sawyer proposed to carry in four-horse post coaches; his bid was, therefore, the best.	864 00
2,114	Norfolk, Virginia, to Edenton, three times a week, 76 miles, four-horse stages: Accepted to M. E. Sawyer, at Abner Williams bid \$1,400 per annum. Williams's proposal was to run but twice a week between Elizabeth city and Edenton; Sawyer's was to run the whole route three times a week in four-horse post coaches, which was the best bid. Sawyer was also the former contractor, and had his horses and stages already on the route; the contract was, therefore, given to him.	1,560 00
1,919	Marietta, Ohio, to Point Pleasant, Virginia, once a week, 71 miles: Accepted to Elias Gates, at William Hardy bid \$245 per annum. Gates proposed to run twice a week between Marietta and Parkersburg, 12 miles, which made his bid the lowest in proportion to the service.	270 00
2,000	Bowling Green to Verdon, once a week, 23 miles: Accepted to M. Jones, at Charles Jones bid \$80 per annum. M. Jones was the former contractor, and approved; therefore, the preference was given to him.	88 00
2,005	Halifax court-house to Bennett's store, once a week, 16 miles: Accepted to Abel Lang, at William Everett bid \$65 per annum. Lang connected this bid with others, and the whole, taken together, were lower in the ag- gregate than the lowest of the others.	78 00

LIST OF CONTRACTS—Continued.

Route No.	Contracts.	Amount per annum.
2,008	Richmond, via Powell's tavern, to Charlottesville, three times a week, eight months, four-horse post coaches: Accepted to E. Porter & Co., at - - - - - Erastus Hathaway bid \$2,997 per annum. Hathaway's bid was for three trips a week; Porter's was for six trips a week for about half the route; it was, therefore, quite as low a bid as the other in proportion to the service. Hathaway was not known in the State, but Porter was the former contractor, highly approved, and his property already on the route; the preference was, therefore, given to him.	\$4,300 00
2,009	Richmond, via Short Pump, to Charlottesville, once a week, 93 miles: Accepted to Robert Maupin, at - - - - - Hutson Farris bid \$347 per annum. Farris was not recommended: his bid was, therefore, rejected.	365 00

I, No. 7.

An inventory of property found in the iron chest in the room formerly occupied by Abraham Bradley, Esq., late Assistant Postmaster General, taken on the 28th September, 1829, by order of the Hon. William T. Barry, Postmaster General.

Package endorsed "Bank Notes,"	Connecticut,	No. 1,	-	\$836 00	
Do.	New Jersey,	No. 2,	-	228 00	
Do.	Mississippi,	No. 3,	-	54 00	
Do.	Missouri,	No. 4,	-	159 00	
Do.	New York, (eastern,)	No. 5,	-	626 00	
Do.	Kentucky,	No. 6,	-	157 00	
Do.	New York, (western,)	No. 7,	-	170 00	
Do.	Indiana, Illinois, and Michigan,	No. 8,	-	67 00	
Do.	North Carolina,	No. 9,	-	1,090 62½	
Do.	Maine,	No. 10,	-	46 00	
Do.	Ohio,	No. 11,	-	304 00	
Do.	New Hampshire,	No. 12,	-	171 50	
Do.	Pennsylvania,	No. 13,	-	699 00	
Do.	Plattsburg,	No. 14,	-	31 00	
Do.	South Carolina,	No. 15,	-	84 75	
Do.	Vermont,	No. 16,	-	127 00	
Do.	Tennessee,	No. 17,	-	54 50	
Do.	Virginia,	No. 18,	-	960 00	
Do.	Massachusetts,	No. 19,	-	725 00	
Do.	Georgia,	No. 20,	-	363 18	
Do.	Delaware,	No. 21,	-	108 00	
					\$7,061 65½
In portfolio, package No. 22, A. Bradley's check on Patriotic Bank, July 3, 1829, favor of O. B. Brown,				118 00	
J. Schmidt's check on Frederick County Bank, September 7, 1829, favor of William T. Barry,				222 49	
Phineas Bradley's check on Patriotic Bank, May 14, 1829, favor of William Jackson,				10 00	
J. S. Scott's due-bill, dated 24th January, 1829,				5 00	
W. B. Barnes's certificate of cash deposited in Bank of Marietta, 21st December, 1828, by Nathan Bent,				40 00	
Bank notes,				925 50	
William Prout's check on Patriotic Bank, 2d April, 1829, favor of J. Haskell,				105 00	
Bank notes,				2,099 00	
Two halves of \$50 notes,				50 00	
					3,574 99
Alexander Kerr's certificate of deposit in the Metropolis Bank, 9th July, 1829, by William Jones,				1,140 27	
Bank notes, package No. 23,				3,772 00	
Specie,				17 37½	
Specie in desk,				1 72	
Half \$5 Hagerstown Bank note,				2 50	
					4,933 86½
<i>Notes of broken banks.</i>					
Package endorsed Gloucester,	No. 7,	-	-	\$661 00	
Do. Massachusetts,	No. 8,	-	-	374 00	
Do. Various, New York, &c.	No. 9,	-	-	133 00	
Do. Franklin Bank Alexandria,	No. 10,	-	-	40 00	
Do. Detroit,	No. 11,	-	-	85 00	
Do. Banks stopped payment,	No. 12,	-	-	379 62	1,672 62
<i>Packages of bank notes endorsed "counterfeit."</i>					
No. 1, package marked New Orleans,				\$400 00	
No. 2, do. Small notes,				3 26	
No. 3, do. Various banks,				97 00	
No. 4, do. do.				173 00	
No. 5, do. do.				345 00	
42	o				

## INVENTORY—Continued.

No. 6, package marked	In a dead letter,	-	-	-	\$20 00		
No. 13, do.	do. do.	dubious,	-	-	500 00		
No. 14, do.	Counterfeits,	-	-	-	85 00		
No. 15, do.	do.	-	-	-	78 00		
No. 16, do.	do.	-	-	-	300 00		
No. 17, do.	do.	-	-	-	43 00		
No. 18, do.	do.	-	-	-	55 00		
No. 19, do.	do.	-	-	-	95 50		
No. 20, do.	do.	-	-	-	125 00		
No. 21, do.	do.	-	-	-	38 00		
No. 22, do.	do.	-	-	-	141 00		
No. 23, do.	do.	-	-	-	92 00		
No. 24, one counterfeit \$10 note, and one fifteen shilling bill Pennsylvania,		-	-	-	12 00		
No. 25, counterfeits found in desk,		-	-	-	31 00		
						\$2,633 76	
							4,306 38
							\$19,876 89

The undersigned have the honor to state, that the foregoing is a statement of all that appears to them to be of value contained in the iron chest remaining in the room lately occupied by Abraham Bradley, Esq., late Assistant Postmaster General; and would remark, that, from the great variety of distant bank notes contained in the twenty-two parcels numbered from 1 to 22, there may be some spurious bills; and respectfully suggest the propriety of submitting them for the examination of more competent judges; and that, with a view to their certain identification in future, the initials (A. B.) have been marked in red ink on each note.

Very respectfully submitted by your obedient servants,

JOHN SUTER.  
M. T. SIMPSON.

Honorable WILLIAM T. BARRY, *Postmaster General.*

No. 8, B.

SIR:

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, *January 31, 1831.*

In relation to the appointment of Joseph Ficklin as postmaster at Lexington, Kentucky, I would respectfully suggest that the inquiry of the committee involves considerations relating to the official conduct of one of my predecessors, which, I presume, it is not now the purpose of the committee to bring under investigation. Did the records of this Department, or my own personal knowledge, furnish any facts tending to impeach his official conduct, or to show that, in the case referred to, he acted against the sanctioned usages of the Department, I should, unless there was some distinct charge against the Postmaster General who made the appointment, hesitate as to the propriety of communicating the evidence implicating him to the committee.

But, as neither the records of this Department, nor any facts within my knowledge, tend to criminate the late worthy citizen and faithful public officer, R. J. Meigs, in relation to said appointment; and as I would not hesitate to give any evidence in my possession touching this subject, which might be supposed to implicate others, I state, unreservedly, that I have no information or knowledge "that any contract was made with the said Ficklin, before or at the time of his appointment, for a part of the profits of said office; or that the said Ficklin has advanced moneys to any person on account of his appointment, or for the purpose of indemnifying any person or persons for any liability to the United States."

If the committee will have the kindness to communicate to me the source and character of the information they possess relative to the supposed contract, it will not only afford me satisfaction, but it will be considered a matter of duty to give them all the aid in my power in making further investigation, so far as the transaction may be supposed to implicate any person in official connexion with the Department.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
W. T. BARRY.

Honorable JOHN M. CLAYTON,  
*Chairman of the Com. of the Senate on the condition of the P. O. Department.*

SIR:

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, *January 31, 1831.*

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 18th and of the 27th instant.

The preparation of the statements necessary to a reply to the interrogatories formerly submitted by the committee was immediately commenced, and has been uninterruptedly prosecuted by the Department. It has required, not only the application of all the disposable force of the Department, delaying some of its important current business, but has employed, unremittingly, several additional clerks. When the work is completed, it will be forthwith submitted to the committee.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
W. T. BARRY.

Honorable JOHN M. CLAYTON,  
*Chairman of the Com. of the Senate on the condition of the P. O. Department.*

C.

SIR:

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, *February 22, 1831.*

I have the honor to transmit, in answer to the resolution of the 19th instant by the select committee of the Senate, of which you are chairman, the enclosed communication of my senior Assistant, and to state that I have no present recollection of any conversation or circumstances occurring between myself and any subordinate of my office, "about the time the late postmaster at Poughkeepsie was removed, in relation to said removal."

I am, sir, your very obedient servant,  
W. T. BARRY.

Hon. JOHN M. CLAYTON, *Chairman of Select Committee, &c. &c.*

SIR:

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, *February 21, 1831.*

In answer to the request of the honorable select committee of the Senate, of which Mr. Clayton is chairman, communicated this morning, I have the honor to state, that the only circumstance which occurred, directly, between Mr. Abraham Bradley and myself, within my present recollection, relative to the removal of the late postmaster at

Poughkeepsie, New York, was an inquiry of me, by Mr. A. Bradley, whether a change had been made in that office to which I answered in the negative, previously to the change, but at what period I cannot recollect. If the circumstances attending the consideration and decision given by you in that case be within the scope of the inquiry, I have the honor to state, that the numerous and various letters and papers respecting a new appointment at that office were four several times under your consideration; that I had made, by your directions, three several briefs or exhibits of the substance of the documents which had been received during six months previous to the change, being applications and memorials in favor of the different candidates, and for and against the postmaster; that a recommendation of Mr. A. Bradley in favor of one of the candidates (not the successful one) appears in the file; and that a copy of a reply to the same candidate, by Mr. A. Bradley, appears also in the file, as follows, (omitting the names, by your direction,) to wit:

“ Copy of a letter from Mr. Bradley, Assistant Postmaster General, to ———, dated April 22, 1829.

“ I am favored with your letter relative to the post office at Poughkeepsie, and find that your application is on file; and, to the other testimonials in your favor, I have added mine. The subject does not appear to have been acted upon, and I cannot, of course, conjecture what will be done. The opinion and wishes of ——— have much weight.

“ I am your obedient servant, “ ABRAHAM BRADLEY.”

It may not be inappropriate for me to state, that I was solicitous to preserve the late incumbent in office, if it could be done consistently with your views of propriety, on a faithful exhibit of the case.

In the last instance of your examination of the papers, which had been before you two or more days, I received, about the 6th of July, 1829, your order, endorsed by your hand, as in all other cases, without one exception within my knowledge, to appoint the present incumbent; and the papers were accordingly prepared, and the appointment issued on the same day.

I am, sir, with the highest respect, your obedient servant,

CHARLES K. GARDNER, *A. P. M. G.*

HON. W. T. BARRY, *Postmaster General.*

D.

SIR:

GENERAL POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, *February 23, 1831.*

To the inquiries of the committee, contained in your letter of the 17th instant, I have the honor to reply: On the 1st September last, a proposition was made, in writing, by Abner McCarty and Billingsly Roberts, both of Brookville, Indiana, to carry the mail in stages, twice a week each way, from Cincinnati, Ohio, by Carson's, Miami, Clark's, Harrison, (Indiana,) New Trenton, Brookville, Fairfield, Bath Springs, Liberty, and Brownsville, to Richmond, 82 miles, at \$15 per mile, \$1,230; also, from Lawrenceburg, Indiana, by Elizabethtown, to Harrison, where it would intersect the above route, 16 miles, at \$15 per mile, \$240; also, once a week each way, in stages, from Brookville, by Connorsville, to Centreville, Indiana, 36 miles, at \$7 50 per mile, \$270; making, together, the sum of \$1,740. The mail was before carried on horseback over these routes; but it was desirable, both for the safety of the mail and for the convenience of the citizens of that region, to increase the stage transportation of the mail, and also its frequency, by giving two mails a week where they had enjoyed but one. No other proposition was made by any person for performing the services proposed by them; and, as their terms were as reasonable as could be expected under any circumstances, the proposition was accepted, and a contract made with them for the same, dated October 14, 1830.

These are all the circumstances within the knowledge of the Department respecting said contract.

Several other persons proposed to carry the mail in stages from Hamilton to Richmond, but none at a lower rate than \$15 per mile for two trips per week. The finances of the Department would not justify the establishment of all the stage routes proposed; and, in making the selection, it was deemed much more important to make Cincinnati the point from which the direct intercourse should pass to Brookville, and other parts of Indiana, than Hamilton. The relative magnitude and business of the two places will justify this conclusion.

For carrying the mail between Madison and Indianapolis, Edward P. Johnson was the lowest bidder when the routes were advertised, and therefore became the original contractor. No extra allowance has ever been made him for services on that route. He was also the original contractor for transporting the mail between Indianapolis and Lawrenceburg, 90 miles. For this last route he has received an additional allowance, at the rate of \$700 a year, for carrying the mail in stages; the allowance commencing on the 25th of May, the day when he commenced the transportation in stages.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. T. BARRY.

HON. JOHN M. CLAYTON,

*Chairman of the Committee of the Senate to examine into the condition of the P. O. Department.*

E.

*Letters of Judge McLean.*

SIR:

WASHINGTON, *February 26, 1831.*

In answer to the resolution of the special committee of the Senate on the Post Office, requesting me “ to furnish the committee with such information as it may be in my power to give of the actual state of the available funds of the Department, at the time of my resignation of the office of Postmaster General; and whether my estimate of the losses of the Department, in my last report, was founded on any actual examination of the state of the balance outstanding at that time, or how that estimate was made; and what was the mode of keeping the accounts of the Department during my administration of its affairs; and whether there existed any want of checks to prevent fraud in the management of the revenue of the Department at that time; also, to state the character of Abraham Bradley, late Assistant Postmaster General, as an officer and a man, since I have become acquainted with him;” I have the honor to state, that I possess no information respecting the available funds of the Department when I left its superintendence which is not contained in my official reports, and a report made by my successor, showing the receipts and expenditures of the Department, from the 1st of July, 1828, to the 1st of April, 1829. During this time it was under my direction, with the exception of about three weeks in March.

My last report exhibited the fiscal operations of the Department for the year ending on the 1st of July, 1828.

The following statement is copied from these reports:

By my report in 1827, there appeared to be a surplus of money on hand, amounting to the sum of	\$370,033 37
For the year 1828, the expenditures of the Department exceeded its receipts the sum of	\$25,199 03
To this sum was added the following amount, paid under a special law, which did not constitute a part of the ordinary expenditures of the Department,	12,729 24
	37,928 27
	\$332,105 10

From this amount there should be deducted a sum which, by mistake, was twice credited to the Richmond post office,	3,653 03
	<u>\$328,452 07</u>

There should, also, be deducted from this balance the following sums, for the excess of expenditures above the receipts within the quarters designated, from the 1st of July, 1828, to the 1st of April, 1829:

The quarter ending on the last day of September, - - - -	\$7,603 70
The quarter ending on the last day of December, - - - -	17,331 90
The quarter ending on the last day of March, 1829, - - - -	14,377 30
	<u>39,312 90</u>
	<u>\$289,140 17</u>

To show the exact amount of the expenditures of the Department above its receipts, during the three quarters stated, there should be deducted from this sum an amount paid for the new Post Office building, paving, &c. &c., which, not being a charge growing out of the transportation of the mail, should be charged to the Treasury,	5,432 15
	<u>\$33,880 75</u>

It appears from the above exhibit that, when I left the Department, there was in deposit, in the hands of postmasters, &c., \$289,140 17. Of this sum, \$147,990 23 accumulated during my connexion with the Department, after paying all current expenses, and large sums for other objects than the ordinary expense of the Department; and also the balance against it the first year of my administration, and the balances of the last year, and up to the 1st of April, 1829. The residue of the \$289,140 17 consisted of an estimate made of the old debts. Indeed, the entire sum might properly be called an estimate; making an allowance for losses which might occur in collecting not only the old debts, but the balances which had recently accrued. This allowance, though large, is not believed to have been more than sufficient to cover all defalcations in collecting sums due to the Department on the 1st of April, 1829.

For several years previous to 1828, Congress had established post routes only every other year. In 1827, they established two hundred and seventy routes, which were carried into operation in the beginning of the year 1828. In this year a bill was also passed establishing two hundred and twenty-one routes, which were put in operation in the beginning of the year 1829.

I am also requested by the select committee to say "whether I did not make a written communication to the present Postmaster General, of which the following is a true extract:"

"MARCH 31, 1829.

"The expenditures of the Department will this year exceed the receipts, as was the case last year; but the increase of receipts will show the rapid advancement of the Department. It was deemed good policy to permit the expense to go beyond the receipts, in order that a part of the surplus of former years might be absorbed. It is the true policy to keep the funds active, and never suffer a large surplus to accumulate.

"The above remarks are made, because some persons are ignorant enough to suppose that the Department is sinking, provided its receipts do not, in the current year, equal or exceed the expenditure. This is sometimes the case when the receipts exceed those of the past year one hundred thousand dollars."

I have no recollection of having written such a letter, and, not being favored with a perusal of the original, I cannot answer positively on the subject; but, from the circumstance of the extract being presented to the committee, and as my handwriting is well known, I cannot doubt that I did write such a letter.

It was a friendly communication to my successor, for whose success in the management of the Department I felt a deep interest. I must have been anxious that he should understand the state of the Department, and not be led to erroneous conclusions from existing facts. Had I written the letter for the public eye, in some parts of it I should have used a different phraseology. It was not, however, a private communication.

I say now, as I have always said when speaking on the subject, that I do not consider an efficient administration of the Department is shown by the annual balance in its favor. Its funds should be actively employed in extending the operations of the mail. They should not be permitted to accumulate in the hands of postmasters and in banks. The revenue is increased, in a compound ratio, by every judicious extension of the mail, and the public interest is advanced.

It is not practicable always to graduate the expenditures by the receipts; but when a considerable balance accumulates in favor of the Department, the expenditures should be increased over the receipts, so as to lessen or absorb the balance. The receipts and expenditures should be so regulated as to be nearly equal within a given period.

There may be a large annual balance in favor of the Department, under a very bad administration of its affairs; and there may be an annual balance against it, though under the control of a most efficient agency. The true policy is to avoid embarrassment on the one hand, and the accumulation of a large balance on the other, unless the surplus be wanted for other objects.

During the war there was a large addition to the rates of postages, for purposes of revenue; and a considerable sum was paid by the Department into the Treasury. A large surplus fund could be produced at any time, by restricting the operations of the mail to productive routes.

In answer to the inquiry respecting Mr. Bradley, I have to state, that, from the time I became intimately acquainted with him, I have had the highest confidence in his integrity. Having been long in the Department, and conversant with its details, he felt a strong preference for the rules he had been accustomed to observe in the performance of his duties, and was generally averse to changes.

During my connexion with the Department, his time was faithfully and assiduously devoted to the public service. In private life, so far as I know, Mr. Bradley is without reproach. The fiscal concerns of the Department were chiefly under his immediate management; he superintended all collections and payments. And, in answer to the inquiry made by the committee on this subject, I submit, from memory, the following statement, which is believed to be substantially correct:

Postmasters were required to make deposits in banks, where they could do so with convenience; and were expressly instructed not to transmit money to the Department, where they could not make deposits, but to retain the amount in their hands until it was drawn for. As the funds of the Department were in the hands of postmasters, and in banks, payments were made almost exclusively by drafts and checks.

1st. Payments by drafts on postmasters.

Two clerks, and sometimes a greater number, were employed in making out these drafts. Preparatory to the issuing of them, the sum to be drawn for in the hands of a postmaster was stated in a column opposite to his office, which was arranged on the route of the contractor to whom payment was to be made. For this sum a draft was made out by one of the clerks; and, before it was transmitted, it was signed by the Assistant Postmaster General, charged in the account of the contractor to whom it was to be sent, and noted as a credit to the postmaster on whom it was drawn. When the draft was presented by the contractor, and paid by the postmaster, a blank receipt, which was attached to it, was signed by the contractor, and it was then transmitted to the Department: when received, it was referred to the chief clerk, who saw that the credit was properly entered in the account of the postmaster, and charged in the account of the contractor.

2d. Payments by checks on banks.

Checks, I believe, were frequently made out by the Assistant Postmaster General, and sometimes by clerks, in the same manner as drafts on postmasters. On the margin of the check book were entered the amount of the check,

the date, on what bank drawn, and in whose favor. This was copied into the cash book, and the checks were charged in the account of the contractors to whom they were sent. These checks, when paid, were returned to the Department by the bank, with a credit in its account for the payment. This account was rendered by the bank monthly, except where the amount deposited was very small, in a regularly kept bank book, which was compared by the clerks with the books of the Department, and all errors corrected. If the charge had not been correctly made in the account of the contractor, it was corrected by the account kept by the bank. Checks were drawn payable to the contractor by name, or to his order, which showed how the amount was applied, and pointed the clerk to the account where the charge was made. But if, by mistake at any time, a check on public account was drawn payable to bearer, without showing the special disposition of the money, and it had not been charged before it was forwarded, when returned by the bank it was charged to the private account of the drawer. It is believed that no instance of this kind occurred with the Assistant during my administration, and but two with myself. In the absence of Mr. Bradley, I signed checks. It was not possible to draw a check which would not appear in the regular order of business on the books of the Department.

### 3d. Payment of salaries.

In the other Departments of the Government the officers are paid monthly, by warrants obtained from the Treasury; but, in the Post Office Department, for a great number of years, and during my administration, they were paid monthly out of the funds of the Department; and at the end of the quarter a warrant was obtained for the amount of their salaries, and it was deposited to the credit of the Department. As the Department always had a surplus of funds on hand, this mode of payment did not subject it to the least inconvenience or injury, and it saved the labor of obtaining monthly warrants on the Treasury. It is believed that not a dollar was lost to the public by this mode of payment during my connexion with the Department. If, through inadvertence, or the monthly account of each clerk not being posted, he received a few dollars more or less, at the close of the month the error was corrected.

Contractors and others, through mistake, may sometimes receive more than they are entitled to at the close of the quarter, and at other times less. In making payments on many hundred accounts, errors may occur with the most accurate accountants.

The money used in the payment of salaries belonged to the Department, and was subject to the order of the Postmaster General. It was not covered by any appropriation, and, indeed, never can be, but must always be applied under the responsibility of the head of the Department.

### 4th. Moneys received by the Assistant.

In disregard of their instructions, postmasters sometimes transmitted money in their quarterly returns. This was frequently done when postmasters resigned their offices, and lived remote from any bank where they could make a deposit.

The funds thus transmitted were often in notes which the bank would not receive on deposit; and they were used by the Department to pay contractors living in the part of the country where the notes were current.

This money was first received by the clerk who receives and opens the quarterly returns; he noted opposite the office, in a book provided for the purpose, the receipt of the return, and the amount of any money enclosed. The money received he deposited weekly, I believe, with the Assistant Postmaster General, who deposited it in the iron chest. Such parts of the money as would be received on deposit were generally deposited in bank.

The book of the clerk showed the amount handed to the Assistant weekly; and from this book the entries were copied by the book-keepers, and credits given to the respective postmasters.

It was in the power of the Assistant to show whether he had deposited or paid out the sums thus received. In a few cases, sums were paid to the Assistant by postmasters in the neighborhood of the General Post Office. These cases are believed to have been very rare; but, when any payment was thus made, a receipt was given, and a credit entered on the cash book, and to the postmaster's account.

### 5th. Accounts of the Department.

The books of the Department are balanced quarterly, and quarterly returns are made to the Treasury. These books show the receipts and disbursements of every quarter. Not a dollar is expended within the quarter, as has already been shown, which does not appear on the books; and the amount of the balance for or against the Department also appears. If the balance be in favor of the Department, the books will show whether it be in the hands of postmasters, or in deposit; if against it, the general balance is, of course, reduced so much. This general balance is composed of various items, every one of which appears on the books.

The Postmaster General is made responsible for, and is charged in the Treasury with, the whole revenue of his Department. No other branch of the Government has any control over it, unless Congress make a special appropriation of a part of it. Although it may be in deposit, or in the hands of postmasters, every dollar is subject to the order of the Postmaster General, and he must exhibit vouchers to the Treasury for every dollar expended.

The responsibility of the Postmaster General is similar to that of a paymaster in the army, who disburses a large amount of money annually. He is charged at the Treasury with the sums paid to him, and for which he can only obtain a credit by exhibiting proper vouchers. The security of the Government consists mainly in the integrity of the officer, and his obligation to account to the Treasury. His safety may depend upon the accuracy and integrity of the disbursing agents he employs.

I believe the above sketch embraces the scope of your inquiries. It has been as accurately drawn as my recollection of the facts would enable me to draw it.

With great respect, I have the honor to be your obedient servant,

JOHN McLEAN.

Hon. JOHN M. CLAYTON, *Chairman, &c.*

SIR:

WASHINGTON, *March 1, 1831.*

In answer to your letter of this day, I have the honor to state, that Mr. Abraham Bradley, during my administration of the Post Office Department, never made, to my knowledge, any additional allowances to contractors for increased services. He had no power to make such allowances.

I am requested also to state whether, in the "estimate in my last report, the balance due from the late postmaster at Philadelphia, and the counterfeit and uncurrent money in the Department, were considered as available funds, or as lost."

In my report I had no special reference to the amount that the late postmaster at Philadelphia owed when he was removed from office. I certainly could not have estimated that amount to be lost, nor can it be so estimated now.

The Department held three bonds given by Mr. Bache, with sureties, at the time of his removal.

The security to the last bond was not satisfactory, and it was returned to him for additional names. Before he perfected this bond, he was removed from office.

On this bond a suit was commenced, and the Department failed to recover, as I understood, on the ground that the bond had not been accepted, and was returned to Bache.

The sureties to the first bond he gave when appointed postmaster were ample to indemnify the Department; but it appeared that, on his giving a second bond with good sureties, a release of the first bond was executed by my predecessor and given to the obligors. Of this I had no knowledge until after the removal. This bond was forwarded, I believe, to the district attorney, to be acted on as the law required. I was unwilling to determine on the sufficiency of the release.

On the second bond a suit was commenced, which, I understand, is still pending.

To a recovery on this bond, I know of no substantial objection. The bond last required from the postmaster was never perfected; and, if it had been, the sureties on the second bond would not have been released.

The third bond was required as additional security, and not for the purpose of releasing any obligation to the Department which then existed. I cannot doubt that a judgment will be obtained on the second bond; and, since

the receipt of your letter, I have made inquiry of a gentleman well acquainted with the principal surety in this bond, and was informed that he would probably be able to pay the whole or the greater part of the sum for which he may be made responsible. Under such circumstances, can this debt be estimated as lost? If it can, then all debts, for which suit is brought by the Department, and doubts are entertained as to the extent of the ability of the surety to pay, may be counted as lost.

The counterfeit or uncurrent paper referred to in your letter was not taken into my estimate. I am not aware that any amount of such paper was received during my connexion with the Department, unless it was in dead letters. I mean by *uncurrent paper* such as will not pass in the place where it was emitted.

It is possible, however, that occasionally a note or two of this kind might have been received.

During the war, and until I became connected with the Department, it was the practice of postmasters, in different parts of the country, to remit their quarterly balances to the Department. By this mode of transacting the business, in the deranged state of the currency at that time, it was to be expected that paper of no value would often be transmitted in payment. Most of the uncurrent or counterfeit notes in the Department were probably received during this period. Such paper was often received in dead letters. I recollect of \$5,000 being received at one time in some two or three letters, all counterfeit, and on the same bank. Paper of this kind was probably deposited in the iron chest.

That, from the above causes, a considerable sum of worthless paper should have accumulated in the moneyed operations of the Department for forty years, within which time it collected and disbursed, in small sums, some \$30,000,000, is not extraordinary.

By my report of 1826 it appeared that suits were then pending, or judgments obtained, for the sum of \$149,500. No part of this amount was included in the balance then reported, as that balance was stated to be the sum "which was subject to the order of the Department." No part of this sum was included in the balances reported in 1827 and 1828, and I have supposed that this allowance was sufficient to cover bad debts, from the fall of 1826 to the 1st of April, 1829, including the full amount due to the Department at that time.

The books of the Department will show what amount of bad debts has been ascertained since November, 1826. This amount, compared with the above sum, will test the accuracy of the estimate. I am aware that there must have been many bad debts included in the sum of \$149,500. The debts ascertained to be bad from 1st July, 1823, to November, 1826, were stated to be \$27,814 24. In the same report, an estimate of \$30,000 was made to cover credits due for services rendered. This sum, with the debts then ascertained to be bad, was also deducted from the old balances. If a less amount than this sum was collected and paid in satisfaction of the claims referred to, the balance should be added to the other sum, to cover losses.

As remarked in my letter of the 26th instant, I do not believe that the allowance made, though large, will be more than sufficient to cover defalcations in collecting the outstanding balances. It may, possibly, fall short of the amount.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Hon. JOHN M. CLAYTON, *Chairman, &c.*

JOHN McLEAN.

F.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, *March 2, 1831.*

SIR:

In reply to your letter of last evening, I have the honor to state, that my communication, to which you refer, was written the day it bears date, to wit, Saturday, the 26th February; and the causes of its not being sent to you at an earlier period than Tuesday morning, were, that a farther examination or revision of a portion of its voluminous appendix was directed early on Monday morning, which revision was interrupted by the personal application of two members of the committee to take the testimony of clerks, examine books, &c., and at which the officer required for that service was obliged to attend; and that it was not supposed the committee could act on Monday, as *four* of its members were engaged at the funeral of General Noble, as pall-bearers and mourner, on that day. As it was presumed the chairman would *precisely* note the time of the delivery of the letter, it was not deemed necessary to change the date. I enclose the full copies requested by the honorable select committee in your last communication.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. T. BARRY.

Hon. JOHN M. CLAYTON, *Chairman of the Select Committee, &c.*

SIR:

WASHINGTON, *March 31, 1829.*

Before I left Washington I expected to have the pleasure of taking you by the hand, and introducing you to the gentlemen of the Post Office Department. But, as I am deprived of this pleasure, I cannot, in justice to yourself and the public service, refrain from recommending the continuance of the Assistant Postmasters General, who have been long identified with the Department, and have been faithful to the trust reposed in them.

I name these gentlemen to you, because I have understood that efforts are making to remove one or both of them. I should extremely regret such a step, as well on your own account as that of the public. With the operations of the Department I am well acquainted. I am anxious that its reputation shall be sustained; and I am convinced that this cannot be done if the above gentlemen be removed. This remark is made with a perfect knowledge of all the facts. After you shall have acquired a full knowledge of the office, their services may not be so important; though I confess, with my experience and knowledge of the business, I should not, were I to remain in the Department, think of changing the Assistants.

The expenditures of the Department will this year exceed the receipts, as was the case last year; but the increase of receipts will show the rapid advancement of the Department. It was deemed good policy to permit the expense to go beyond the receipts, in order that a part of the surplus of former years might be absorbed. It is the true policy to keep the funds active, and never suffer a large surplus to accumulate. The above remarks are made, because some persons are ignorant enough to suppose that the Department is sinking, provided its receipts do not in the current year equal or exceed the expenditure. This is sometimes the case when the receipts exceed those of the past year \$100,000.

With sincere regard, yours,

JOHN McLEAN.

To the POSTMASTER GENERAL.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, *March 2, 1831.*

The foregoing is a true copy from the original letter.

J. GEO. WHITWELL, *Clerk.*

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, *March 2, 1831.*

The only copy of a letter from Mr. Abraham Bradley, which is on the files of the Department, relating to the Poughkeepsie post office, is annexed to a letter from Poughkeepsie, signed "David V. N. Radcliff," and is referred to in the letter of said Radcliff as "a letter which Jacob Van Ness has received from Mr. Bradley, the Assistant Postmaster General, a copy of which is herewith sent," and is precisely in the words and figures following to wit:

"Copy of a letter from Mr. Bradley, Assistant Postmaster General, to Jacob Van Ness, dated April 22, 1829.

"I am favored with your letter relative to the post office at Poughkeepsie, and find that your application is on file; and, to the other testimonials in your favor, I have added mine. The subject does not appear to have been acted upon, and I cannot, of course, conjecture what will be done. The opinion and wishes of General Van Ness have much weight.

"I am your obedient servant,

"ABRAHAM BRADLEY."  
G. D. HANSON.

True copy:

GENTLEMEN:

G.

WASHINGTON, February 26, 1831.

I have examined the letter of General Noah Noble. It seems it was not intended for my view, but I shall not inquire how it came to be presented. I have heard much about the transactions detailed in it, and, so far as General Noble undertakes to state the facts, I believe them to be true. But whether there has been any improper conduct on the part of the Postmaster General, I cannot say; for I profess to have no knowledge of the internal pecuniary operations of the office. There has been much feeling excited in consequence of the manner in which the old contractors were disposed of, and the new ones initiated, in that part of the country to which the contracts relate: a full and candid development of the whole affair might, for aught I know, satisfy the minds of the people there; and I think it due to them that it should be done, as well as to satisfy the complainants, who may imagine themselves unfairly dealt by. I cannot, of my own knowledge, state any special facts which impugn the character of the head of the Department.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN TEST.

To the SPECIAL COMMITTEE on the Post Office concerns.

H.

SENATE CHAMBER, March 2, 1831.

I regret that my former response to the letter of the committee, delivered on the same day on which I received that letter, has been mislaid. My time does not now permit me to answer so fully as I did then.

As attorney for the United States in and for the Kentucky district, I prosecuted a suit on the bond of John Fowler against him and his sureties, of whom William T. Barry was one. The suit was decided in favor of the defendants, on the ground that the bond given by John Fowler and his sureties to the Postmaster General of the United States for the time then being, and his successors in office, was not authorized by the laws of the United States; that the bond was not suable in the name of the Postmaster General of the United States; that if the bond had any validity, it was only as a private and personal security to the individual who was then Postmaster General, to secure him against any individual damage which he might sustain by Fowler's breach of the condition. The main point decided by the court was in conformity to an opinion of Mr. Associate Justice Johnson, in his circuit; which opinion had been published in a newspaper, and was cited and read to the court of the United States in and for the district of Kentucky.

Immediately after the decision of the court in refusing to sustain an action on the bond, I communicated the fact to Mr. McLean, the Postmaster General, together with the points decided, and the case quoted as decided by Judge Johnson. In answer to my letter, Mr. McLean informed me that means would be taken to have the decision of Judge Johnson reversed in the Supreme Court. To my letter in the Post Office Department, written when the transaction was fresh in my memory, I beg leave to refer the committee, as containing a more full explanation of the grounds of the decision of the court in favor of the defendants, and also as to the time when that decision was pronounced. This took place many years ago, and, so long as I remained in the office of district attorney, I received no further directions from the Postmaster General in relation to that bond, or the debt due from John Fowler.

With great respect, &amp;c.

GEORGE M. BIBB.

HON. MR. CLAYTON, Chairman of the Select Committee on the Post Office.

I, No. 15.

*Five depositions, taken in the Post Office Department, relative to erasures and insertion of Abraham Bradley's name.*

DEAR SIR:

TUESDAY MORNING, half-after 10.

I have the honor to enclose the depositions made by five gentlemen of the Department in pursuance of the inquiries put by the sub-committee under your direction yesterday morning.

I am, sir, with great respect, your obedient servant,

C. K. GARDNER.

HON. FELIX GRUNDY.

*Proceedings before Messrs. Grundy and Holmes, a sub-committee of the investigating committee of the Senate in the General Post Office, February 28, 1831.*

Deposition of John Taylor.

JOHN TAYLOR, a clerk in the office, being sworn, says:

Question. Did you assist in making out the abstract of mail contracts marked A, which has heretofore been presented to the Senate, and now presented to you?

Answer. I did, and was assisted by Mr. Dundas, Mr. Burke, and Mr. Blair.

Question. In the contract made with Harrell, (page 11, contract No. 191,) how came the name of Abraham Bradley, Assistant, acting Postmaster General, to be introduced?

Answer. That case is in the handwriting of Mr. Dundas, who says Mr. Barry's name was originally inserted, and was erased by him, and Mr. Bradley's name introduced, which was done in pursuance of a consultation between witness and Mr. Brown, because the allowance appeared to have been made before Mr. Barry entered on the duties of his office, and when Abraham Bradley was the acting Postmaster General. The alteration was made by direction of witness, for the reason above stated.

Question. Why was Mr. Barry's name entered in the first place?

Answer. It was an error on my part, having his name inserted in the first place, believing that the Postmaster General never died in the eye of the law, and without reflecting on that provision of the Post Office law which authorizes the senior Assistant to act as such in the absence of the Postmaster General. When the first case occurred, similar to the one before me, Mr. Brown was absent. Mr. Dundas and myself had a conversation about it, and differed in opinion; the entry was, however, made according to my idea of the case. Afterwards, on Mr. Brown's return, I stated the point to him, who decided that all allowances made while Mr. Bradley was acting Postmaster General should be entered in his name, and the alterations were accordingly made. In obtaining the opinion of Mr. Brown, there was no particular case stated to him; he decided the principle, and we conformed our acts thereto.

Question. From what book or document did you make that part of the abstract of which you are now speaking?

Answer. From the pay list, leger, and journal. The principle we acted on throughout, after obtaining Mr. Brown's decision, was, that all allowances entered on the journals and ledgers between the dates of Mr. McLean's resignation and Mr. Barry's taking the oath of office, were entered as if made by Mr. Bradley; of course, all allowances posted on the 1st April, 1829, were entered on our abstract as if made by him. In the case of Harrell, the first entry of the additional allowance on the leger is 1st April, 1829, and was by us, of course, presumed to have been made by Mr. Bradley. The ledgers were our sole and only guide, and I referred to no other books for the dates of the allowances. The dates of the commencement of the additional services were obtained from Mr. Suter's pay list.

Question. At what time did you make out the abstract?

Answer. We were working at it for some months; I, myself, from about 1st November last to 1st February.

JOHN TAYLOR.

FEBRUARY 28, 1831.

*Deposition of William H. Dundas.*

WILLIAM H. DUNDAS, being sworn, says: That he recollects all the facts stated in the deposition of John Taylor, and concurs in his statement of them. Mr. Taylor being already engaged in the work when this deponent came to the office for the purpose of assisting him to further its progress, and presuming that said Taylor was acquainted with the manner in which the abstracts should be made out, he (this deponent) derived all his instructions from him. In making out the abstract, I had reference to the pay list for the date of the commencement of the service, and to the ledger for the date of the additional allowance; and during the examination I met with the following case, viz:

191. J. T. Harrell, Georgetown to Charleston, 1st January, 1827,	-	-	-	\$1,500 00
Expediting mail, per letter to him 13th April, 1829.				
Expediting mail, per letter to him 15th April, 1818.				
From 2d May, 1828, -	-	-	-	\$498 18

But, as above stated, I had reference only to the date of the service, viz: May 2, 1828; and it appears from the ledger that the first allowance for this service was entered there on the 1st of April, 1829, which I considered my warrant for so stating it in the abstract.

WILLIAM H. DUNDAS.

*Deposition of John Suter.*

Question. State the circumstances in relation to the allowance made J. T. Harrell for expediting the mail between Georgetown and Charleston, and the rule adopted in entering additional allowances on the pay lists and books of the Department.

Answer. A letter addressed by P. Bradley, Esq., late Assistant Postmaster General, to J. T. Harrell, (a copy of which is hereto annexed,) was handed to me by Mr. Harrell on the 13th of April, 1829, on which I examined the papers therein referred to, (no entry having been made on the contract,) and made an entry on the pay list of the additional allowance as follows:

"Increased speed, (see letters to him 13th April, 1829, and 15th April, 1828,) from 2d May, 1828, \$498 12," [per quarter.]

The rule necessarily adopted by the book-keepers is, in the months of March, June, September, and December, to carry all allowances then noted on the pay lists to the journals, under dates of the 1st January, 1st April, 1st July, and 1st October preceding, for services ordered previous to the last named days, although the rate of compensation may not have been decided on at the dates under which the credits are given, but between those and the times at which they are carried into the journals. This accounts for Mr. Harrell's being credited under date of 1st April, 1829, for the increased expedition previous to that date, although the allowance was not fixed until the 13th of April, 1829.

*Copy of the letter above referred to.*

SIR:

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, April 13, 1829.

The Postmaster General has examined the several documents in support of your claim to extra pay for expediting the mail between Georgetown and Charleston, South Carolina, and, as connected with the subject, has read the letters of the Hon. Messrs. Drayton and Hamilton in your favor.

The result of his inquiry is, that your claim to the sum of \$1,992 50 be credited to you from the period the service began.

Respectfully,

P. BRADLEY.

MR. JOSIAH T. HARRELL, now at Washington City, D. C.

Question. State what you know in relation to the allowance made John McLean for a seventh or daily mail between Camden and Augusta.

Answer. When this allowance was made, Mr. McLean was receiving, for expediting the mail between Camden and Augusta, at the rate of \$3,444 28 per annum, at which rate he was paid from 15th July to 31st December, 1828. On the 1st day of January, 1829, the seventh or daily mail was put in operation, for which he was allowed \$2,000 per annum, the allowance for increased expedition to cease from the time the seventh or daily mail was put in operation.

JOHN SUTER.

*Deposition of Obadiah B. Brown, Chief Clerk.*

OBADIAH B. BROWN, chief clerk, being sworn, says: When directed by the Postmaster General to cause the statement of the allowances (marked A) to be made, I first instructed Mr. John Taylor to commence the work, and afterwards, by consent of the Postmaster General, employed Mr. Dundas to assist him. The directions which I gave were, to call upon Mr. Suter, the pay clerk, for his pay list, which would exhibit the payments actually made, and on what contracts they were made; from which reference could be had to each particular contract. Mr. Taylor soon after informed me that, in many cases, the additional allowances were not entered on the contracts; and when they were so entered, in most instances the date of entry was omitted, and he needed instruction as to the proper date. I then directed him to take the date of entry to the credit of the contractor as the only criterion that could be given. Some time after this he asked further instruction as to the proper person who should be regarded as having made the allowance at the different periods. I directed him to enter all allowances made from the 1st July, 1823, to the 6th March, 1829, inclusive, to the name of John McLean, who was Postmaster General during that period; to enter all allowances made from the 7th March to the 5th April, 1829, to Abraham Bradley, who was, by law, acting Postmaster General during that period; and from the 6th of April, 1829, the day when William T. Barry took charge of the Department, to enter all allowances to his name. In the case (No. 191) of Mr. Harrell, the service appears to have been ordered by Mr. McLean, and the allowance made on the 13th of April, 1829, by Mr. Barry. The entry on the transcript to the name of Mr. Bradley is an error which I was not apprized of, never having seen it till this morning, as I was confined by sickness when the report was made; but the error must have arisen from the following circumstance: The entry of the allowance was made on Mr. Suter's pay list, with no other date of entry than a reference to a letter of April 13, 1829, to Mr. Harrell. The entry from the pay list into the book of accounts for so much of the additional allowance as accrued for services rendered prior to the 1st April, 1829, was made under date of April 1, 1829, instead of the date when the allowance was actually made, 13th April, 1829. It was not known to me, and of course could not have been anticipated by the persons employed in making the statement, that the date of an entry to the credit of a contractor for additional allowance was ever made antecedent to that allowance. From examination, however, such appears to have been the ancient custom of the Department in similar cases; and a custom which, if incorrect, as I believe it to be, appears not yet to have been changed.

O. B. BROWN, Chief Clerk.

GENERAL POST OFFICE, February 28, 1831.

*Deposition of Charles K. Gardner, Assistant Postmaster General.*

Question. Did you understand that Mr. A. Bradley wished the postmaster at Poughkeepsie turned out of office?  
 Answer. I answer that I did not so understand Mr. Bradley. I did not see the recommendation of Mr. Bradley, nor the copy of his letter to one of the candidates, now on file, until after the change in that office.

Question. State all the material circumstances relating to the non-establishment of a post office at East Oswego, or Oswego court-house?

Answer. I answer that the late Postmaster General once determined to establish a new office at East Oswego, and ordered an appointment in December, 1828; but, finding that the toll bridge constituted no real obstacle to intercourse between the citizens of that side of the river and the post office in the main village of Oswego, only half a mile apart, and other reasons, he recalled the order. The present Postmaster General has never, to my knowledge, ordered or directed the establishment of such office; and I am certain he never expressed to me an intention to do so. It appears, on the contrary, from the records, that he denied the application.

Question. What was done with the key of the *iron chest*, from the time it was delivered up by Mr. A. Bradley, until the money was counted by Mr. Suter and others; also, when was the key delivered up by Mr. Bradley?

Answer. I was present at the house of Mr. Barry, (Postmaster General,) on the evening of the removal of Mr. A. Bradley, on or about the 14th September, 1829, when a young gentleman, the son of Mr. Bradley, as I presumed, came in, and delivered to Mr. Barry a large key, stating that his father would be in the city in a few days, and "deliver the rest." Mr. Barry handed the key at the instant to me, stating "This belongs to you." I placed it in my pocket, and in the morning brought it with me to the office, having determined not to interfere with any books or papers in Mr. Bradley's room, except in the presence of a witness, and not at all with the iron chest. I placed the key in a drawer in my desk, which was under lock and key; the next day, I think, Mr. Barry handed to me a duplicate of that key, which I placed with the former in my desk; and, on or about the 16th, I had all the keys I so received locked in a separate case, and the key of that case (a peculiar one) placed in the hands of a third person, in whose hands it remained till the day of the inventory on the 28th of the same month. Mr. Bradley having declined to attend, though invited, for the inventory, Mr. Barry appointed two impartial persons of the Department, to wit, Messrs. Simpson and Suter, for this duty; and they, on the day last mentioned, assisted by two others, friends of Mr. Bradley, took an inventory of all the papers, notes, and property of value, in the said iron chest. The keys, on the morning of the 28th September, 1829, were taken, in my presence, from the case before mentioned, and handed to Messrs. Suter and Simpson, or one of them, under whose direction the chest was opened after Mr. Bradley left the office, on that day, as I firmly believe. I know that I never opened the chest, until after the said inventory was taken; and believe it to have been impossible, from my knowledge of the safety of the keys, that any person living opened the same within the whole period above stated.

C. K. GARDNER.

J. No. 16.

WASHINGTON, December 24, 1830.

SIR:

On the 15th instant, a select committee, composed of five members, was appointed by the Senate, in pursuance of a resolution directing them "to examine and report the present condition of the Post Office Department; in what manner the laws regulating the Department are administered; the distribution of labor; the number of clerks, and the duties assigned to each; the number of agents, and where and how employed; the compensation of contractors; and, generally, the entire management of the Department; and whether further, and what, legal provisions be necessary to secure the proper administration of its affairs."

In the discharge of the duties devolved upon them by this resolution, the committee have unanimously resolved to request information from the Postmaster General on the following subjects, viz:

1st. State the amount of the incidental expenses of the Department from July 1st, 1826, to July 1st, 1827; from July 1st, 1827, to July 1st, 1828; from July 1st, 1828, to July 1st, 1829; and from July 1st, 1829, to July 1st, 1830; with the various items of such expenses during each of those years.

2d. By your last report, it appears that the expenditures of the Department for the year ending July 1st, 1830, have exceeded those for the preceding year by the sum of \$150,575 38. The committee desire to know, distinctly, what are the "improvements in mail facilities," or other causes, which have occasioned this increased expenditure; on what routes the transportation of the mail has been increased from July 1st, 1829, to July 1st, 1830, as stated in said report; and what contracts have been made for this purpose. They desire, also, to ascertain how much the amount of revenue has been augmented, by the same causes, in the same time.

3d. The state of the funds of the Department on the 1st of October last; the amount, if any, then due from it, and to whom due, with the means of payment; also, the state of the funds when you came into office, the pecuniary responsibilities of the Department at that time, and the means of payment.

4th. The number of clerks employed by the Department, their duties, their respective salaries, and out of what fund those salaries are paid; whether in any, and, if so, in what cases their salaries are not arranged according to law; whether any extra allowance has been made by you to the chief clerk in your Department, and for what cause; and, if any such extra allowance has been made, by what authority it has been paid, and out of what fund.

5th. What extra allowances have been made by you to contractors; and, if any, for what services, and at what times? What sum was agreed to be paid for the transportation of the mail between Washington and Baltimore from the 1st of January to the 1st of December, 1829; from the 1st of December, 1829, to the 1st of January, 1830; from the 1st of January, 1830, to the 1st of April, 1830; from the 1st of April, 1830, to the 1st of July, 1830; and from the 1st of July to the 1st of October, 1830? State by whom, on the part of the Government, any and every such contract entered into during either of those periods was made, and the time when it was made.

6th. State what postmasters have become defaulters to the Government since your appointment as Postmaster General, with the times when their delinquencies respectively occurred; the balance due from each; and what steps have been taken to collect it.

7th. In cases of contracts made by you for carrying the mail, have any proposals to carry it for a higher sum been accepted by you, in preference to proposals for a lower sum? If so, state the cases particularly, the different proposals, and the names of those who made them, with your reasons for accepting the higher bid. State, also, the practice of the Department in similar cases heretofore.

8th. What was the system of receipts and disbursements of money when you came into the Department? What were the checks to prevent an improper application of its funds? And what are the alterations which you have made in that system?

9th. Set forth, in a separate statement, the number of agents employed by the Department, their respective names, places of residence, duties, and compensations.

You will please designate what portion, if any, of the information which you may communicate the public interest may, in your judgment, require should not be published.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN M. CLAYTON, *Chairman.*HON. WILLIAM T. BARRY, *Postmaster General, Washington.*

SIR:

WASHINGTON, January 17, 1831.

I have the honor to inform you that the committee appointed by the Senate to examine the present condition of your Department have directed me to inquire of you—

1. What postmasters have been removed since you came into office, and for what causes? Please to give their names and places of residence, when removed, with the time and causes of their removal; classifying the causes for brevity's sake.

2. When application has been made to remove a postmaster for reasons stated, has it been your practice to remove on evidence *ex parte*, or to give him an opportunity to answer?
3. Have you overdrawn on postmasters since you came into office, and to what amount, and for what reasons? and what amount thus overdrawn has been paid? and what has been the former practice on that subject in your Department?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

JOHN M. CLAYTON, *Chairman.*

HON. WILLIAM T. BARRY, *Postmaster General, Washington.*

SIR:

WASHINGTON, *January 28, 1831.*

I have the honor to inform you that the committee appointed by the Senate, on the 15th ultimo, to examine the present condition of your Department, have adopted the following resolution:

“*Resolved*, That the Postmaster General be requested to state any information he may think proper to communicate respecting the appointment of Joseph Ficklin, postmaster at Lexington, Kentucky; whether any contract was made with said Ficklin, before or at the time of his appointment, for a part of the profits of said office; or whether said Ficklin has advanced moneys to any person on account of his appointment, or for the purpose of indemnifying any person or persons for any liability whatever to the United States.”

The committee having received no communication from you in reply to their inquiries of the 24th December and 17th January, desire to be informed within what time they may expect your answer to those inquiries.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN M. CLAYTON, *Chairman.*

HON. WILLIAM T. BARRY, *Postmaster General, Washington.*

SIR:

WASHINGTON, *February 15, 1831.*

The select committee appointed to examine and report the condition and management of your Department desire you to be officially informed that the Senate have, by a vote this day, resolved to interdict the inquiry respecting the *causes* of removals of postmasters, and that your answer to the interrogatory on that subject is therefore dispensed with.

I have the honor to be your obedient, humble servant,

JOHN M. CLAYTON, *Chairman.*

HON. WILLIAM T. BARRY, *Postmaster General.*

SIR:

WASHINGTON, *February 17, 1831.*

Your attention is invited to the following extract from the proceedings of the committee appointed by the Senate to examine and report the condition of your Department:

“*IN COMMITTEE, February 17, 1831.*

“It being suggested by a letter to a member of the committee that some impropriety had existed in relation to a contract made by the Post Office Department for the transportation of the mail on four routes in Indiana, which contract was made with Abner McCarty and Billingsly Roberts:

“*Resolved*, That the Department communicate to this committee all the circumstances respecting said contract; also, what extra allowance (if any) has been made to Edward Johnston for the transportation of the mail between Indianapolis and Madison, and between Indianapolis and Lawrenceburg, in the State of Indiana.”

I am authorized to add, that Mr. Hendricks, a member of the committee, will furnish you with any explanation you may desire in regard to the inquiries contained in this communication.

I have the honor to be your obedient servant,

JOHN M. CLAYTON, *Chairman.*

HON. WILLIAM T. BARRY, *Postmaster General, Washington.*

SIR:

WASHINGTON, *February 17, 1831.*

I have the honor to inform you that a committee appointed by the Senate to examine and report the condition and management of the Post Office Department have this day adopted a resolution, of which the following is a copy:

“*Resolved*, That a letter be addressed to the honorable John McLean, requesting him to furnish the committee with such information as it may be in his power to give of the actual state of the available funds of the Department at the time of his resignation of the office of Postmaster General; and whether his estimate of the losses of the Department in his last report was founded on any actual examination of the state of the balances outstanding at that time, or how that estimate was made; what was the mode of keeping the accounts of the Department during his administration of its affairs; and whether there existed any want of checks to prevent fraud in the management of the revenue of the Department at that time; also, to state the character of Abraham Bradley, late Assistant Postmaster General, as an officer and a man, since Mr. McLean became acquainted with Mr. Bradley.”

With great respect, I have the honor to be your obedient servant,

JOHN M. CLAYTON, *Chairman.*

HON. JOHN McLEAN, *Washington.*

SIR:

WASHINGTON, *February 19, 1831.*

The committee appointed by the Senate to examine and report the condition of your Department have this day adopted the following resolution:

“*Resolved*, That the present Postmaster General and the senior Assistant Postmaster General be requested to state to this committee whatever information they, or either of them, may possess respecting the circumstances which may have occurred between them and Mr. Abraham Bradley about the time the late postmaster at Poughkeepsie was removed, in relation to said removal, apart from the causes of it.”

I have the honor to be your obedient servant,

JOHN M. CLAYTON, *Chairman.*

HON. WILLIAM T. BARRY, *Postmaster General, Washington.*

SIR:

WASHINGTON, *February 26, 1831.*

The select committee of the Senate on the affairs of the Post Office Department have directed that you “be requested to accompany your response to the interrogatories heretofore put to you, with a statement whether you did not make a written communication to the present Postmaster General, of which the following is an extract:

“*MARCH 31, 1829.*

“The expenditures of the Department will this year exceed the receipts, as was the case last year; but the increase of receipts will show the rapid advancement of the Department. It was deemed good policy to permit the expense to go beyond the receipts, in order that a part of the surplus of former years might be absorbed. It is the true policy to keep the funds active, and never suffer a large surplus to accumulate. The above remarks are made because some persons are ignorant enough to suppose that the Department is sinking, provided its receipts do not, in

the current year, equal or exceed the expenditures. This is sometimes the case when the receipts exceed those of the past year one hundred thousand dollars."

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN M. CLAYTON, *Chairman.*

Hon. JOHN McLEAN, *Washington.*

SIR:

WASHINGTON, *March 1, 1831.*

Your communication in reply to the interrogatories of the select committee appointed by the Senate to inquire into the management of your Department, dated *February 26, 1831*, was *this day* delivered to me by Mr. Gardner, Assistant Postmaster General, at one o'clock, P. M.

The committee direct me to request you to furnish them with *full* copies of the letter of the honorable John McLean, dated *March 31, 1829*, and of the letter of Abraham Bradley relating to the office at Poughkeepsie, from which extracts heretofore furnished from the Department have been made, and laid before the committee.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN M. CLAYTON.

Hon. WILLIAM T. BARRY, *Postmaster General, Washington.*

SIR:

WASHINGTON, *March 1, 1831.*

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th of February, which was yesterday delivered to me, and to inform you that the committee of the Senate on the management of the Post Office Department have this day directed me to request you to state whether Abraham Bradley, while Assistant Postmaster General, made any (and what) allowances to contractors; and whether, in your estimate in your last report, the balance due from Bache, the postmaster at Philadelphia, and the counterfeit and uncurrent money in the Department, were considered as available funds, or as lost.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

JOHN M. CLAYTON, *Chairman.*

Hon. JOHN McLEAN, *Washington.*

K, No. 17.

*Journal of the proceedings of the Select Committee on the present condition of the Post Office Department.*

FEBRUARY 1, 1831.

Present, all the members.

Mr. Holmes desired to have Abraham Bradley, a witness summoned in obedience to an order of the committee, sworn.

Mr. Woodbury objected to swear and examine the witness at all, until some explanation is given of the object of his inquiries, showing its pertinency and propriety as connected with the reference to this committee.

Mr. Holmes then proposed to examine the witness first, by asking him the following question:

"How long were you Assistant Postmaster General, and what were the duties assigned you in the Department?"

Mr. Holmes objected to giving any further explanation of the object of his question than the question itself conveyed, and insisted on his right to have the witness examined.

The question being taken, it was decided that the question of Mr. Holmes be put to the witness by the following vote:

Yeas, Messrs. Holmes, Hendricks, and Clayton; nays, Messrs. Grundy and Woodbury.

Mr. Bradley, the witness, was then sworn by the chairman to make true answers to such questions as should be put to him by the committee.

The question of Mr. Holmes was then put and answered, as appears by the deposition.

Mr. Holmes then proposed the following question:

"Were you removed from your office; and when; and, if you know, for what cause or causes?"

Mr. Grundy objected to the question.

Mr. Hendricks moved to adjourn, and the committee adjourned.

Yeas, Messrs. Grundy, Hendricks, and Woodbury; nays, Messrs. Holmes and Clayton.

Abraham Bradley's deposition, so far as it was taken at the first meeting, was as follows:

Question. How long were you Assistant Postmaster General, and what were the duties assigned you in the Department?

Answer. I was Assistant Postmaster General about thirty years; was appointed in the first quarter of the year 1800, and continued till about the 14th or 16th September, 1829. I was the treasurer of the Department, and, until about five years ago, had charge of the contracts for conveyance of the mail. Phineas Bradley then took charge of this last-mentioned duty. I had also the superintendence of all the business, except making appointments, (which was done by the Postmaster General,) until P. Bradley was appointed second Assistant Postmaster General, when he took charge of the mail contracts, as I have stated.

FEBRUARY 3.

The committee met; and the witness, Abraham Bradley, not attending, in consequence, as was supposed, of the inclemency of the weather, adjourned.

FEBRUARY 4.

The committee met.

Present, Messrs. Clayton, Grundy, Holmes, and Woodbury.

Mr. Clayton presented the following resolution, and asked its adoption:

*Resolved*, That Joseph W. Hand, solicitor of the Post Office Department, be requested to attend the committee with the book showing what balances of accounts have been collected, and to give information as to the actual state of the available funds of the Department.

Mr. Grundy objected to the resolution, and moved to amend it so that it should read as follows:

*Resolved*, That the Postmaster General be requested to inform the committee what balances of accounts have been collected, and to give information as to the actual state of the available funds of the Department.

After debate, the amendment was rejected.

Yeas, Messrs. Grundy and Woodbury; nays, Messrs. Clayton and Holmes.

The question was then taken on the resolution, and it was lost.

Yeas, Messrs. Clayton and Holmes; nays, Messrs. Grundy and Woodbury.

On motion of Mr. Grundy, the committee adjourned.

FEBRUARY 5.

The committee met: present, all the members.

Question by Mr. Holmes to Abraham Bradley, the witness:

Did you write a letter to the President, stating certain facts in regard to the management of the Post Office Department? and have you a copy of that letter?

This question was objected to by Mr. Grundy; and, after debate, it was decided that it should be put, by the following vote:

Yeas, Messrs. Clayton, Hendricks, and Holmes; nays, Messrs. Grundy and Woodbury.

The interrogatory was then again proposed to Abraham Bradley by Mr. Holmes.

Did you write a letter to the President, stating certain facts in regard to the management of the Post Office Department? and have you a copy of that letter?

Answer. I did.

Question. Do you state, upon your oath, that all the allegations contained in that letter are true?

Answer. The chief part of them are true, to my own knowledge. The rest I know from the books of the office, and from the information of others, whom I believe. The letter was left with my son, to be delivered to the President, and with a request to substantiate the facts by documents, which were referred to in a memorandum, put also in the hands of my son. He informs me he did not deliver it in person, but put it into the hands of the servant at the door, with a note to the President on the subject; which letter I offer to produce.

Question by Mr. Clayton. Are the matters and things stated in that letter, which relate to your own act and deed, true, of your own knowledge? And are such as relate to the act and deed of any other person or persons true, as you believe?

Answer. They are.

Mr. Holmes now moved that a copy of the letter be received.

Mr. Grundy moved, as a substitute for the above question, the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the letter is not to be received as evidence; and that the witness now proceed to state the matters within his knowledge, refreshing his memory from the letter, if he chooses to do so.

Yeas, Messrs. Grundy, Hendricks, and Woodbury; nays, Messrs. Clayton and Holmes.

Mr. Holmes. Do you know of Mr. Barry being indebted to the Government?

Answer. In the year 1818, John Fowler, then postmaster at Lexington, Kentucky, was indebted to the General Post Office.

To the answering of this question Mr. Grundy objected, because the records of the office are better testimony of this fact; and the records have been called for by the committee. Objection voted for by Messrs. Grundy and Woodbury, and overruled by the residue of the committee.

The chairman then produced two communications from the Postmaster General, dated January 31, 1831, the reception of which he mentioned in committee yesterday, and proposed going for them, if it were thought necessary; but this was not required.

Witness resumed: His sureties were applied to; they begged indulgence to be released from the bond on paying part of the money, and renewing the bond; all this was agreed to and done, and a new bond was given for \$10,000, joint and several, to which there were a number of sureties, among whom was William T. Barry. Mr. Fowler continued in office some time after, until he became indebted to a greater amount than that of his bond. He was removed from office, and the bond put in suit against all the sureties that were living; the court decided in favor of the sureties. The case was afterwards opened; it was called; the United States attorney did not appear, and the suit was dismissed, that the United States might begin *de novo*.

Question by Mr. Grundy. Have you not derived all the information you possess from the books, papers, and correspondence of the Department on the foregoing subject?

Answer. The principal part is; the dunning letters were not usually copied into the books, nor were the letters to the sureties. The bond was sent to the district attorney, and had not been returned when he left the office. For proof of this, see Post Office ledger L, vol. 6, and suit book, and letters from the officers conducting the suit. Joseph W. Hand can produce the books and correspondence on this subject.

Question by Mr. Grundy. After the bond was given in which Mr. Barry was security, did not Mr. Fowler regularly pay up, quarterly, to the Department, a sufficient sum, as having been received by him in the preceding quarter, to cover the receipts of the preceding quarter? and was not one question in controversy with the securities this: they insisting that these payments should be applied to their bond, and you insisting that these payments should be applied to the old bond?

Answer. I believe that Mr. Fowler did pay as much as the amount of the bond after the last bond was given; whether he paid it regularly or not, I cannot say, and this was a point in controversy in the case; but it was a uniform usage in the office to consider the old debt first paid where no designation was made. There was one case in which a different principle was adopted, and the moneys applied to the last bond by some order; but how it terminated, I know not. It was the case of Solomon Southwick, of Albany.

Mr. Grundy. Who were securities in the old bond?

Answer. James Morrison and others; Mr. Barry not being one.

Question by Mr. Grundy. Was not the old bond delivered up to the securities in it, under an impression or understanding on your part that the securities in the new bond could be rendered answerable for the preceding delinquency?

Answer. Yes; but it was not given up until after a sum equal to the old bond was paid.

Question by Mr. Grundy. At what time was the old bond given up? and does that appear by any book or memorandum in the office?

Answer. I cannot tell, but it was a good while after the new bond was given.

Question by Mr. Grundy. When Mr. Morrison applied to the Postmaster General to give up the old bond, did not you and the Postmaster General contend, for a long time, that it ought not to be surrendered to him, upon the ground that the securities in the new bond ought not to be liable for all the moneys then owing by Fowler?

Answer. I think that was not the ground of contention; but the ground was, that the Department might have two strings to its bow.

Question. Was not George M. Bibb the district attorney who had that bond in charge?

Answer. I think so; the books will show.

Question by Mr. Woodbury. Were the payments by Fowler credited, at the time received, on the old bond or not?

Answer. They were not credited on the bonds at all; we opened an account with every postmaster, and moneys received were credited on the books, and without any reference on the books to the bonds.

Question by Mr. Woodbury. Was it the practice of the Department to give up bonds while a contest existed as to the liability of the sureties?

Answer. It has never been so, except in two or three cases; and in those cases (this case included) the Postmaster General was satisfied that the old debt was paid. The suit book and bond book for that period will elucidate the subject of the indebtedness of the Postmaster General; Mr. Hand has them.

Question by Mr. Woodbury. Was it the practice in the Department to give up bonds in any case?

Answer. It was not, but there were a few exceptions; I recollect but one other case, and that I cannot designate.

Question by Mr. Woodbury. Who applied to the Department to have this bond given up, except Mr. Morrison? and were the sureties in the new bond notified of the application before the old bond was given up?

Answer. No person, to my knowledge, applied but Major Morrison; the sureties to the new bond were not notified.

Question by Mr. Clayton. Did Fowler ever direct that the money paid by him should be applied to any particular bond?

Answer. He did not, to my knowledge; but the Department applied the money to the old bond, according to usage in such cases.

Question by Mr. Grundy. Until James Morrison applied to give up the old bond, had you made any specific application of the moneys received from Fowler after the execution of the new bond, either on the old bond, or any book, record, or paper in your Department?

Answer. This is matter of opinion: we had nothing but the general running open account, until suit was brought, which was long after the old bond was given up; but we balanced all our accounts every six months, and we considered payments as applied to the old bonds till they were satisfied; but there was no specific entry on the subject. The balance remaining against Fowler when suit was brought was upwards of \$10,000.

FEBRUARY 17.

Committee met: all present. Examination of A. Bradley continued.

The following was moved by Mr. Grundy, and adopted by the committee:

It being suggested, by a letter to a member of the committee, that some impropriety had existed in relation to a contract made by the Post Office Department for the transportation of the mail on four routes in Indiana, which contract was made by the Department with Abner McCarty and Billingsly Roberts—

*Resolved*, That the Department communicate to this committee all the circumstances respecting said contract; also, what extra allowance (if any) has been made to Edward Johnston for the transportation of the mail between Indianapolis and Madison, and between Indianapolis and Lawrenceburg, in the State of Indiana.

Question by Mr. Holmes. Were you removed from office? when, and by whom?

Answer. I was removed from office on the 14th of September, 1829, by Mr. Barry.

Question. How many in the General Post Office had been previously removed? Name them, if you can.

Answer. One—Andrew Coyle; Bestor, Grey, my brother, the other Assistant Postmaster General, and Wagman, a short time since.

Question by Mr. Holmes. How long was your brother Assistant Postmaster General?

Answer. He has been in the office, in different capacities, since 1799, until the date of his removal, Sept., 1829.

Question by Mr. Woodbury. Is your brother now, or has he ever been, to your knowledge, interested, either directly or indirectly, in any mail contract?

Answer. He is not now, nor has he been for ten years past, to my knowledge. He was once, while a clerk in the office, interested in a contract, with the approbation of the Postmaster General—Mr. Granger or Mr. Meigs, I am not certain which. He is now agent for the new contractors on the stage and steamboat route from Mobile to New Orleans; the contractors are Stockton and others. William A. Bradley, son of Phineas Bradley, is interested, but I think his name does not appear as one of the contractors.

Question by Mr. Holmes. How long had Mr. Coyle been a clerk in the office?

Answer. I cannot say; a long time.

Question by Mr. Holmes. Do you know from Mr. Barry, or otherwise, that the President has directed in any case of removals?

Objected to, and overruled by Messrs. Grundy, Hendricks, and Woodbury.

Question by Mr. Holmes. Has any other officer in the Post Office Department directed and regulated the removals without the knowledge of Mr. Barry? and, if so, who?

Objected to by Messrs. Grundy and Woodbury.

Answer. I cannot say with certainty, but I think that Mr. Gardner has: he has, without the active and intelligent knowledge of the Postmaster General; and I infer it from this fact, that the postmaster at Poughkeepsie wrote a letter to me, inquiring whether it was likely he should be removed. At his request, I called on the Postmaster General. He told me he had received a letter from him that morning himself on the subject, and that it was determined he should not be removed; and authorized me to inform him. So I went on to Mr. Gardner, who kept the book of appointments, and inquired of him: he said a new appointment was made out yesterday. Several other instances of a similar character induced this opinion, but I cannot remember them now.

Question by Mr. Woodbury. Can you state when any of the other instances you name took place, or where the deputies resided, or the name of one of them?

Answer. I cannot now; but I think if you will suspend the question to another meeting, I can.

Question by Mr. Grundy. How many assistants and clerks belonged to the General Post Office at the time of your removal?

Answer. I think about forty-three, and one employed half the time, including messengers.

Question. Of the clerks left in the Post Office at the time of your removal, how many of them were favorable, and how many unfavorable, to the present administration?

Answer. I had with them very little conversation about politics; about one-fourth of them were friendly to the present administration, as I suppose.

Question by Mr. Holmes. How many of those friendly to the present administration have been removed by Mr. Barry?

Answer. None of them, to my knowledge, except Mr. Waggaman, of whose politics I am not certain; and I do not know that he was removed. My impression was, that he was friendly to General Jackson.

The following resolution was adopted by the committee:

*Resolved*, That a letter be addressed to the Hon. John McLean, requesting him to furnish the committee with such information as it may be in his power to give of the actual state of the available funds of the Department at the time of his resignation of the office of Postmaster General, and whether his estimate of the losses of the Department in his last report was founded on any actual examination of the state of the balances outstanding at that time, or how that estimate was made; what was the mode of keeping the accounts of the Department during his administration of its affairs; and whether there existed any want of checks to prevent fraud in the management of the revenue of the Department at that time; also, to state the character of Abraham Bradley, late Assistant Postmaster General, as an officer and a man, since Mr. McLean became acquainted with Mr. Bradley.

Mr. Grundy objected, wishing the witness present: objection overruled by Messrs. Clayton, Hendricks, and Holmes, on the ground that the witness may be requested to attend next Tuesday.

Committee having considered their arrangements, resolved that the committee meet again on Saturday next at 11 A. M.

This 17th February, 1831, Mr. Woodbury delivered to the committee the affidavits, &c. in the case of the southern contract, referred to by Mr. Gholson.

FEBRUARY 19.

Committee met.

Mr. Grundy proposed the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the present Postmaster General, and the senior Assistant Postmaster General, be requested to state to this committee whatever information they, or either of them, may possess, respecting the circumstances which may have occurred between them and Mr. Abraham Bradley, about the time the late postmaster at Poughkeepsie was removed, in relation to said removal, apart from the causes of it.

Mr. Bradley corrects the answer heretofore made as to the number of clerks, &c. friendly to the administration; and says that there were seventeen in favor of the present administration, twenty-one in favor of the late administration, and five neutrals, at the time Mr. Barry came into office, according to the best estimate he can make. He understood the question heretofore to refer to the time Mr. Barry came into office.

Question by Mr. Grundy. Who has assisted you, since you were last before this committee, in ascertaining the number and politics of the different clerks in the Post Office?

Answer. My son, Joseph H. Bradley, and I made out the estimate together. He was better acquainted with their politics than myself.

Mr. Holmes. What is the mode of proceeding at the office in regard to the removal of an officer under Mr. Barry's administration? State the whole proceeding.

Answer. The process was so various that it is difficult to describe it. If the post office was at a distance, it was usually on the exhibition of depositions and petitions, and sometimes on verbal communications, and sometimes simply on petition. Under the former administration, it was uniformly the practice to give notice to the person accused of the charges, if they implicated his character; and frequently, under the present administration, the like notice has been given.

A new county seat was established in Oneida county, New York; the citizens petitioned for the establishment of a post office at the court-house, and recommended a Mr. Grant, a nephew of mine. About a month after the

application, he wrote me that he had heard nothing from the petition. I showed the letter to the Postmaster General, and stated the case: he said the appointment should be made. I informed Mr. Gardner: he said there was another office in the township, four miles off; and that Oswego Falls post office was only divided from it by a navigable stream, over which, he supposed, there was a bridge or ferry. Some time after, I received another letter from Mr. Grant stating that he had not heard from the Department. I showed it to the Postmaster General, and stated the case again: the Postmaster General said it should be made, and I might tell Mr. Gardner so. I told him so, but no appointment was ever made. There are sundry other cases I can name.

After debate, adjourned to February 22, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

FEBRUARY 22.

Committee met at 10 o'clock. Present: Messrs. Grundy, Holmes, Hendricks, and Woodbury.

*Ordered*, That the chairman summon John Test to appear on Thursday.

Mr. Bradley appeared, and it was proposed to proceed with his examination, which was objected to by Mr. Holmes, because of the absence of Mr. Clayton. Committee then adjourned till 11 A. M. on Thursday next.

At 11 o'clock Mr. Clayton attended, that being the hour of meeting for the committee; and none of the other members were then in attendance except Messrs. Clayton and Hendricks.

FEBRUARY 24.

Committee met: all present.

Mr. Test, summoned to appear this morning, attended; and, after some communication with the committee on the Indiana contracts, was requested to attend again to-morrow morning.

The chairman presented the letter of the Postmaster General, containing a communication to him of C. K. Gardner, Assistant Postmaster General, which was received by the chairman since the last meeting, and stated he had received no other communications from the Department.

The chairman also communicated a letter from Mr. A. Bradley, dated the 22d of February, 1831, on which no order was taken.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

FEBRUARY 25.

Present: Messrs. Clayton, Grundy, and Hendricks.

On motion of Mr. Grundy,

*Ordered*, That Mr. C. K. Gardner appear to-morrow, and give testimony in relation to his statement.

The chairman communicated a letter from the Postmaster General, dated the 23d of February, in relation to the Indiana contracts, and received by him since the last meeting of the committee.

Question by Mr. Clayton to Mr. Bradley, the witness. Did any, and what part of the counterfeit money and the notes of broken banks, which were in the Department, consist of notes which had been found in dead letters?

Answer. A part of them were found in dead letters; but what the amount received in that way was, and what was the amount received for postage, I cannot accurately say.

Question by Mr. Clayton. Was the estimate of the available funds of the Department ever predicated on any actual calculation of losses in the accounts outstanding, or how was it made?

Answer. The amount of the outstanding accounts was more than \$600,000. Mr. McLean did not attempt to predicate his estimate of the portion of this which would be lost on any actual calculation or inquiry as to what specific accounts would be lost in the general collection; but he only said that in the winding up of a firm, with debts to this amount, one-half might safely be calculated as good. He, therefore, assumed a loss of fifty per cent., without going into any minute calculation. It was impossible to arrive at an exact estimate in every case of these accounts, because, in 1827, when the estimate was made, some of them had been standing nearly forty years. But, at the time, the solicitor and I thought this estimate of losses entirely too much; and he and I took up the suit book, and made a calculation founded on the best estimate we could make. We had the advantage of all the correspondence with the different district attorneys engaged in collecting these accounts, from which we judged what was desperate and what available, as far as their information, and the other information we had, could enable us.

Mr. McLean thought these data sound enough for general purposes, and may not have resorted to the same means of calculation; though he, of course, had access to them. The result of the calculation made by the solicitor and myself was, that the losses would only amount to \$165,000, instead of \$300,000. Two years after, we made another estimate, and found the losses would be \$172,000.

Adjourned to February 26.

FEBRUARY 26.

Present: Messrs. Grundy, Hendricks, Holmes, and Woodbury.

Oath administered by Mr. Grundy, by order of the committee, to Colonel Gardner, to the truth of his statement to the Postmaster General, communicated to us, about the Foughkeepsie removal.

Commenced examination of Abraham Bradley.

Present as above, and Mr. Clayton.

Question by Mr. Grundy. Did you ever advance any moneys in anticipation to any officers in the Department out of the funds of the Department?

Answer. Never knowingly, to my recollection, since the law prohibited it. I do not recollect any instance where it has been done, even by mistake.

Question by same. Have you ever overpaid Mr. Barry?

Answer. Never; and he never got too much, to my knowledge. I could not overpay him out of the public funds, because they were in his keeping. The moneys were deposited in the public bank, to his credit as Postmaster General, and I kept the check-book; but his check commanded all the funds in bank, without taking it from the check book. His word is the key of the strong box, or any part of its contents.

Question by the same. In settling your own account, did it ever appear there was a large balance against you; and, if so, how much, and when?

Answer. Some eight or ten years ago, I found a deficiency of cash in my hands, about \$3,000, and I sold a house and paid it: afterwards, three or four years ago, there was another sum of between \$4,000 and \$5,000 deficient, and I paid that off. Whether these deficits arose from some error in the accounts, or omissions to charge payments, I know not. I was careful not to overdraw, and believe the money is still due to me.

Question by same. How long was Mr. Bache, of Philadelphia, (being a deputy postmaster,) a defaulter before his removal?

Answer. I think he fell in arrear soon after the close of the war, say 1815 or 1816; but he paid up from time to time, as explained in answer to another question.

Question by same. When was he removed?

Answer. I should think, three or four years ago.

Question by same. How many bonds were taken by the Department in his case?

Answer. I think, three or four.

Question by same. Who were the sureties in each?

Answer. It is not in my power to tell all, but Mr. Conrad was on his last bond.

Question by same. Was either bond given up?

Answer. Not to my recollection; but Mr. McLean endeavored to get a new bond: it was returned executed by some person he deemed insufficient: he sent it back to get additional security; and before it was returned to the Department, it became necessary to remove Mr. Bache, and a contest arose as to the validity of the bond.

The witness begs leave to add, that, on a former occasion, there was an endeavor to attach blame on Governor Meigs, on Judge McLean, and, perhaps, on himself, for this loss; and he made an explanation to the following purport:

The facts, as he always understood them, were, that Mr. Bache bought property at a high price when speculations ran high; property fell, and left him *minus*, and his sureties also. The public moneys in his hands were applied to his relief by himself; new payments were obtained from him, by means of his friends, on promise of keeping him in office; new sureties were required: a check was endeavored to be placed on his cash, so that his salary might be appropriated towards the extinguishment of the debt. Great pains were taken by Mr. Meigs and Judge McLean, not to say by witness also, to recover the debt; but all were unavailing. He was kept in office in the hope that, by these means, the deficit would be efficiently paid off; that is, from proper motives; and, as soon as all hope of the accomplishment ceased, he was removed. It was one of those unavoidable occurrences, in his opinion, against which human prudence could not guard or remedy; and that both of those Postmasters General were entitled to much credit for their great exertions on the occasion.

Mr. Bradley wishes to stop evidence and make a statement. He says, by permission of chairman, he has looked into document marked A, referred to committee, and finds cases where he is stated to have made extra allowances when he did not make them at all. Ordered to send for document.

Question by Mr. Grundy. Were any of Mr. Bache's sureties released?

Answer. Not to my recollection.

Question by same. By what means did Bache's defalcation of \$22,000 happen in the Department, without being noticed at an earlier period?

Answer. It did not happen, but it was always noticed; and, when first noticed, as it was every quarter when it happened, (for he frequently paid up,) he was called on to make it up; and he did make it up, or nearly so, on being pressed, and then would fall in arrear again in a few quarters, and was then pressed again; and thus the affair progressed, till finally his endorsers, as we understood, refused to renew his notes, and the public became the loser.

Question by same. Was not William A. Bradley, a son of Doctor Bradley, a partner in the Mobile contract?

Answer. He was interested, in some way, in that and other contracts, (three, I believe,) by being a member of the companies who took the contracts; but he was not named in the contracts.

Question by same. At the time the Mobile and New Orleans contract was made, was not Doctor Bradley, the father, at the head of the bureau or office for making mail contracts?

Answer. He was.

Question by same. Did he not advise that contract to be made?

Answer. I was not present, and cannot say, except that he told me he informed the Postmaster General that the price was too much. Previous to making that contract, several gentlemen proposed for \$30,000 a year, and the Postmaster General had partly agreed to it; and I, with great difficulty, persuaded him to annul the engagement, and advertise for other bidders, which he did. In doing this, I had occasion to show that the mail was then carried for \$6,000 per year, and that the receipts of the office at New Orleans did not pay for the transportation to that city. The new contract was to be carried in steamboats; it was previously carried in other boats: and the new contract was nearly a day improved in speed.

Question by same. How much money was left by you in the iron chest?

Answer. I do not know.

Question by same. Did you leave any account of the sums in the said chest when you quit the office? and, if so, in what books?

Answer. I suppose an estimate might be made of the moneys there, by taking up several books, viz: the check book, the receiver's receiving book and cash book, and the various bank books.

Question by same. Is there not now retained in the General Post Office a brother-in-law of Mr. Agg, the editor of the National Journal?

Answer. He was there the last time I heard from thence, and I suppose he is still there. He is one of the five gentlemen whom I supposed was of no party, or did not meddle with politics.

Received a letter from Mr. Test, of the House of Representatives, of this date, on the subject of contracts in Indiana, to which the attention of the committee has been invited. Put on file.

Voted, Messrs. Holmes and Grundy be a sub-committee to examine Post Office books about contracts.

Adjourned to Tuesday morning, 10 o'clock, A. M.

FEBRUARY 28.

The committee met.

Mr. Bradley continued: There are in the Postmaster General's return to Mr. Burnet's resolution, as I find, forty-nine cases of extra allowances to contractors marked down as made by me, as Assistant or acting Postmaster General. In thirty-six of these cases there has been an erasure, and my name has been inserted. I cannot recollect that I made the allowance in one of those thirty-six cases. In the cases of Harrell, of Reeside, and of Mallett, with others, I know I did not make the allowance. The case of Harrell is mentioned in my letter to the President. I went with the sub-committee to the Post Office, and found there, by the books and papers, that the *time* in the case of Harrell, which is stated on the return to be 2 hours, was but 1½ hour. He was to carry the mail in that case 1½ hour sooner, and the return says it was to be done 2 hours sooner. The extra and additional allowance was \$1,992 50 per annum, mail to go from Georgetown to Charleston, South Carolina. The original contract was for \$6,000; the extra allowance increased it to \$7,992 50. From the return to Mr. Burnet's resolution you cannot form any opinion, in three-fourths of the cases I have looked at, of the propriety of the charges, because the return does not contain the facts inquired of as to the additional services. I have not examined more than half the cases, and those hastily. The book will show for itself.

Question by Mr. Woodbury. Is the computation of allowance right or wrong in the Charleston case?

Answer. It is wrong, certainly. It should be  $\frac{1}{24}$  and half of  $\frac{1}{24}$  of \$6,000. The allowance was \$1,992 50; and, according to law, it should have been only \$375. That difference in the sum is not produced by the mistake named above, of 1½ hour for 2 hours, but by some other cause. In the case of the Baltimore and Washington contract, the original contract was to carry the mail through in 5 hours, for \$1,800. The extra compensation was \$3,200; the allowance should be only one-tenth.

NOTE.—Here, for want of time, the committee could not proceed further with Mr. Bradley's evidence.

MARCH 1.

Committee met: Mr. Hendricks absent on Committee on Roads and Canals.

The chairman laid before the committee the communication of the Hon. John McLean, received since the last adjournment; which was read and examined.

No information having been yet furnished by the Postmaster General, in reply to the interrogatories in the letters of the 24th of December and the 18th January last, and the session being about to terminate on the day after to-morrow, the impossibility of reporting on the information when it shall be furnished was considered; and it seemed to be by all believed that a report, investigating the affairs of the Department, would be at this session impracticable.

The following resolutions, offered by Mr. Clayton, were considered and adopted:

Resolved, That the Postmaster General be requested to furnish the committee with full copies of the letter of John McLean, of March 31, 1829, and of Abraham Bradley, relative to the Poughkeepsie office, from which extracts, furnished from the Department, have been made and laid before the committee.

Resolved, That the Hon. John McLean be requested to state whether Abraham Bradley, while Assistant Postmaster General, made any (and what) allowances to contractors; and whether, in his estimate in his last report, the balance due from Bache, the postmaster at Philadelphia, and the counterfeited and uncurrent money in the Department, were considered as available funds, or as lost.

After debate, adjourned.

MARCH 2.

The committee met.

Mr. Bradley, the witness, attended.

Question by Mr. Woodbury. Were not the extra clerks employed by Mr. Barry, while you were in the office under him, employed in necessary writing in the office?

Answer. Generally so: there might have been exceptions.

Question by Mr. Woodbury. Did not the business of the office increase so as to require additional clerks, either permanent or extra, as often as every six months?

Answer. Every year, or oftener.

Here, for want of time, it became impossible to proceed with Mr. Bradley's evidence; so his deposition was left unfinished.

The chairman offered a report to the committee, which was rejected: Yeas, Messrs. Clayton and Holmes; nays, Messrs. Grundy, Woodbury, and Hendricks.

After debate, adjourned.

21st CONGRESS.]

No. 110.

[2d SESSION.

REMONSTRANCE AGAINST CERTAIN MISSTATEMENTS CONTAINED IN THE REPORT WHICH THE POSTMASTER GENERAL MADE TO THE SENATE, ON THE 7TH FEBRUARY, 1831, IN RELATION TO EXTRA ALLOWANCES MADE TO CONTRACTORS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE, MARCH 3, 1831.

*To the honorable the Senate of the United States: The memorial of Abraham Bradley, late Assistant Postmaster General, most respectfully represents:*

That, after his removal from office, he, as is well known to the Senate, presented to the President of the United States a letter, in which, among other things, he stated that Mr. Barry, the present Postmaster General, had made an extra allowance to a Mr. Harrell, a mail contractor, and to others, as this memorialist conceived, without warrant of law.

A copy of this letter having been called for, it was presented by this memorialist to the present select committee of the Senate on the Post Office Department.

During the last session of Congress a call was made on that Department, at the instance of one of the Senators from Ohio, for information relative to the extra allowances which had been made to mail contractors.

The response of the Department to that call was submitted to the view of this memorialist, as containing matters in which he was deeply concerned. Upon examining it, to ascertain if his recollection of Harrell's case was correct, he was immeasurably astonished to find that the extra allowance was there charged to have been made by him, acting as Postmaster General. It was evident that the document had been originally different; that an erasure had been made, and the name of this memorialist inserted. Induced by this to examine further, he found that *forty-nine* cases of extra allowance were in that document charged to have been made by him; *thirty-six* of these were similar to the case of Harrell. The original document had been mutilated, and the name of A. Bradley, acting as Postmaster General, carefully inserted.

Your memorialist called the attention of the committee to these circumstances as evidence of an attempt to impeach his testimony, and to load his official conduct with opprobrium, being public documentary proof from the books of the Department that he had squandered the public funds during the few days he had acted as Postmaster General, between the 10th of March, when Mr. McLean left the office, and the 5th of April, when Mr. Barry came into it; and that, in order to screen himself, he had charged these things upon the latter gentleman.

The committee kindly authorized a sub-committee to accompany this memorialist to the Department yesterday, the 28th instant, to ascertain whether his statements were correct.

Your memorialist confidently appeals to those gentlemen in support of the fact, that it satisfactorily appeared to them that in this case of Harrell, as well as in every other case but one, in which an erasure had been made, Mr. Barry was originally and properly charged; and that it was then asserted that these erasures had been made *by mistake*, and his name inserted *by mistake*. The gentlemen had not time to pursue this inquiry, and no examination was made into those cases originally charged to your memorialist.

In whatever manner these mutilations of the original document may have occurred, and these false amendments to it made, *by mistake* or not, the effect must be, if it go to the world, to injure, if not to destroy, a reputation upon which your memorialist, after nearly forty years of public service, must mainly rely for support.

The Senate has, as he has been informed, directed this report to be printed. If this should be done, and it should, with all its falsehood and injurious tendency be spread before the people, under the sanction of the Senate of the United States, your memorialist submits that great injustice must necessarily follow to him.

He therefore prays that such order may be taken by the Senate as will secure his rights, and especially preserve the reputation which documents published by the authority of the Senate should always possess.

And your memorialist, as in duty bound, &c.

ABRAHAM BRADLEY.

MARCH 1, 1831.