

8th CONGRESS.]

No. 13.

[1st Session.]

MAIL FROM WASHINGTON TO NEW ORLEANS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, JAN. 12, 1804.

Mr. THOMAS made the following report:

The Committee on the subject of the Post Office and Post Roads, to whom was re-committed their report* relative to a post route from the city of Washington to Natchez and New Orleans, with instructions to inquire and report what is the most convenient, safe, and proper route, for carrying the mail between the city of Washington and New Orleans, therein designating the principal settlements and towns through which, in the opinion of the committee, the same ought to pass, report:

That, as this route must pass through the Mississippi Territory, a distance of nearly four hundred miles, wholly to uninhabited by citizens of the United States, except on the Tombigbee river, without this country being first explored, it is not in the power of your committee to designate the most proper route through it, with any degree of precision; equal difficulty occurs, for the same reason, in determining whether it ought to pass on the east, or on the west side of the Alleghany mountains; because, until this unimproved territory has been explored for the purpose of laying out a road, it is uncertain at what place it ought to intersect the frontier settlement of Tennessee or Georgia. However, as the result of the best information which the committee have been able to obtain, pursuant to the instructions of the House, they submit as their opinion the following resolution:

Resolved, That the mail ought to be carried on the present route, as established by law, from the city of Washington to Knoxville, in Tennessee, (this route is represented to pass by Culpeper Court House, Orange Court House, through Charlottesville, Waynesborough, Lexington, Pattonsburgh, Fincastle, by Montgomery Court House, Wythe Court House, through Abington, Jonesborough, and by Hawkins Court House, to Knoxville) from thence by Tellico Block House, and through the Cherokee nation of Indians, and the settlement on the Tombigbee river, to New Orleans.

And further, that a post route ought to be established from the said settlement on the Tombigbee to Natchez.

*See No. 11.

8th CONGRESS.]

No. 14.

[1st Session.]

RECEIPTS FROM POSTAGE FOR THREE YEARS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, ON THE 1ST DAY OF MARCH, 1804.

GENERAL POST OFFICE, *March 1, 1804.*

SIR:

I have the honor herewith to transmit a detailed report of the amount of postage in each State, for three successive years, commencing with the 1st of October, 1800, and ending on the last day of September, 1803, together with the expense of transporting the mails on all roads in each State, and the amount of commissions of Postmasters, as well as the other expenses in relation to the Post Offices, in three books, marked A, B, C,* together with a summary report of the same, marked D, all in obedience to the resolution of the House of Representatives, passed on the 5th of December last.

I have the honor to be, with great esteem and respect, your most humble servant,

GIDEON GRANGER.

The Honorable NATHANIEL MACON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States.

* The statements A, B, and C, are not to be found.