

GENERAL POST OFFICE, *February 10, 1819.*

SIR: I had the honor to receive yours, enclosing a resolution of the Senate, instructing the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads "to inquire into the expediency of authorizing the Postmaster General to employ an armed guard for the protection of the mails of the United States, on such mail routes as he may deem necessary."

I have, in reply, to state the following facts and considerations, which naturally produce two separate views of the subject: one, of augmentation of expense; and the other, an uncertainty of securing the mails by the employment of armed guards. The resolution proposes to leave it discretionary with the Postmaster General on what mail routes to employ such guards.

It may not be easy to decide at what point to commence or to terminate the employment of guards; and it will be impossible for the pecuniary receipts of the Department to defray the expenses on any considerable portion of the stage routes alone, on which stages run more than ten thousand miles per day; even the stage fare of the guards would be very expensive. The qualifications of such guards should be, fidelity, vigilance, and courage; for the use of which they have always demanded, and received, high compensation.

On the complete exercise of those qualities would depend the whole security of the mail, as the guard would possess a complete power over the mail carrier and the mail; and, if unfaithful, might effect the most extensive depredations on its contents; and, in proportion to the numbers employed, would be the hazard of their unfaithful conspiracy against the safety of the mails. If the system of employing armed guards be once adopted, it could never, with safety, be abandoned; such abandonment would operate as an inducement to attempt, so far as the opinion (of the efficacy of guards) might prevail, with those who might be disposed to seize the mails. If one portion of roads only should be guarded, it would seem that while such were protected, the guardless portions were devoted to the chance of enterprise. It is obvious that if there should be a guard of two, it would require four, as two must sleep at quarters while the others were on duty; and a guard of two might be surprised and overcome by three, which would be numerically a fourth less than the whole guard actually employed. In fine, it may be asked who is to guard the guards?

The cessation of wars in Europe, and other causes, have produced a migration to our shores of numbers of desperate characters, and others necessitous and urged by poverty, which, added to profligates of our own nation, are dispersed in the community; and, being indisposed to self-support by honest means, with a dexterous audacity, depredate on the property of others, public and private. There have been (since the establishment of the Post Office Department,) not more than three different occasions when guards have been employed for a short time; during which the expenses have been very great. Almost every citizen has an interest in the safe transportation of the public mails, is indignant at its robbery, and much more so when committed by violence: hence, the efforts always made by the citizens to apprehend such as rob the mails, to which they are also stimulated by suitable rewards.

Since I have been at the head of this Department, not one instance of a violent robbery of the mail has occurred, where the perpetrators have escaped apprehension, conviction, and punishment.

It may not be desirable in this nation to see the employment of an armed physical force to protect the operations of civil Government, to the distrust of the civic virtues and moral energies of the people, unless in cases of emergency, and unless the efforts of those virtues and energies should fail of their proper consequences, and demonstrate that a reliance on them would be fruitless and deceptive.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. J. MEIGS, JUN.

The CHAIRMAN of the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads.

15th CONGRESS.]

No. 39.

[2d SESSION.

## RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES OF THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, FROM ITS ESTABLISHMENT.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, FEBRUARY 20, 1819.

Mr. HUBBARD, from the committee on so much of the public accounts and expenditures as relates to the Post Office, respectfully reported:

That they have examined into the state of the accounts and expenditures of the General Post Office, as minutely as time and their other relative duties would permit.

The first object to which your committee turned their attention, was to ascertain the actual state of the funds of this Department, by examining into the accounts of moneys received and expended from year to year, since the establishment of the Post Office, and the disposal made of the proceeds thereof.

Second, To ascertain the nature and character of all expenditures, and whether the several claims upon the Department were supported by sufficient vouchers; and the various expenditures and payments justified by law; and

Third, Whether any, and what, retrenchments could probably be made in the Post Office Department, without detriment to the public interest; and whether any, and what, alterations in the organization of the Department would add to the accountability of its officers, and contribute to the security of the public revenue accruing from the postage of letters.

With a view to facilitate the object of these inquiries, your committee addressed the letter, marked A, to the Postmaster General; to which letter an answer was received, marked B. Your committee also directed a letter to the Register of the Treasury; the answers to which are subjoined, and marked D and E.

The table No. 1 shows the produce and expenditures of the present Post Office establishment from its commencement in 1789 to January 1, 1818, (a period of about thirty years,) including a statement of the payments made to the Treasury up to the 1st day of January, 1819. The books of the office show an outstanding balance on the 1st of October, 1818, of \$542,884 83; consequently, this statement is intended only to exhibit the amount of postages due the General Post Office, and the apparent yearly nett revenue during the period aforesaid. Of this outstanding debt near one-half has been paid over to contractors for carrying the mail, who have not yet received credit for the services rendered on the books of the office. Such is the great increase and multiplication of post routes, and the extent of country over which post roads are established, stretching from one extreme of the United States to the other; so great the number of Post Offices, (already amounting to three thousand six hundred,) and those daily increasing, many of which do not afford an average balance of one dollar per quarter, that it has hitherto been deemed advisable, for reasons satisfactory to your committee, to permit the balances in offices remote from the General Post Office to accumulate, and remain in the hands of the Postmaster, until drawn for to meet local expenditures. Considering the hazard of remitting small sums by mail, the difficulty of making those remittances in paper, current at

the seat of Government, and the convenience of having a fund upon which to draw in favor of distant contractors, the payment of whose claims would otherwise subject the General Post Office to the risk of a double remittance; this regulation, properly restricted, seems to your committee salutary and necessary.

The amount of the outstanding debts appears to be large; but when it is considered that this sum has been accumulating for thirty years, that the sum total of postages charged amounts to near twelve millions of dollars; also, taking into consideration the difficulty and delays attending collections, the losses by bankruptcies, and other casualties, to which a system of such magnitude and wide extent must almost necessarily be subject, it is not surprising that heavy balances should still be due to the General Post Office. The quarterly returns from Postmasters for the year 1818 not having been all received, the amount of postages for that year cannot be stated.

Table No. 2 exhibits a statement of the amount of the annual receipts and expenditures of the General Post Office, from 1814 to 1818, inclusive, with the amount paid into the Treasury in each year.

Statement No. 3 contains a list of all deposits made on account of the General Post Office in the banks of the District of Columbia, with the date of each deposit, from January 1, 1814, to December 31, 1818, inclusive; and the amount of draughts made on said banks by the General Post Office during that period.

*The following is a statement of receipts and expenditures of the General Post Office, from the 1st day of Jan., 1814, to the 1st day of January, 1819, viz:*

Cash remaining on hand unexpended January 1, 1814,	-	-	-	-	-	\$71,264 94
Cash received in the year 1814,	-	-	-	-	\$540,906 37	
Cash received in the year 1815,	-	-	-	-	643,443 97	
Cash received in the year 1816,	-	-	-	-	759,743 33	
Cash received in the year 1817,	-	-	-	-	722,232 74	
Cash received in the year 1818,	-	-	-	-	711,880 69	
Receipts of cash in the years 1814, 1815, 1816, 1817, and 1818,	-	-	-	-	-	3,378,207 10
						<u>3,449,472 04</u>
Expenditures in the year 1814,	-	-	-	-	545,215 88	
Expenditures in the year 1815,	-	-	-	-	512,214 90	
Expenditures in the year 1816,	-	-	-	-	601,330 14	
Expenditures in the year 1817,	-	-	-	-	669,501 13	
Expenditures in the year 1818,	-	-	-	-	729,137 70	
						3,057,399 75
Payments made to the Treasury during the same period,	-	-	-	-	-	<u>379,340 44</u>
Aggregate of expenditures and of moneys paid into the Treasury, for the five years ending January 1, 1819,	-	-	-	-	-	3,436,740 19
Leaving a balance in the General Post Office, on the 1st day of January, 1819, of	-	-	-	-	-	<u>\$12,731 85</u>

The aggregate amount of nett revenue from the origin of the establishment up to 1st of January, 1818, as far as the same has been ascertained, after deducting the compensation to Postmasters, cash paid for the transportation of the mail, and all contingent and incidental expenses, is estimated at \$1,588,264; the aggregate of payments into the Treasury amounted, on the 1st day of January, 1819, to \$1,181,728, leaving \$406,536, which constitutes a part of the outstanding debt before mentioned; the nett revenue being stated from the quarterly returns of the Postmasters, and not from the balances actually received at the General Post Office. The nett revenue for the year 1818 is not yet ascertained, the quarterly returns of the Postmasters not having yet been all received.

In prosecuting their inquiries, your committee were in hopes to have been enabled to examine, in detail, all contracts with mail carriers, the various charges allowed, and items of expenditure, in order to judge of their propriety. It also appeared important to your committee to satisfy themselves of the character and amount of the several claims from time to time paid and discharged by the General Post Office, and of all its expenses of whatever nature, as well with a view to determine whether the said expenditures were justified by law, and "whether any, and what, provisions are necessary to be adopted to provide more perfectly for the proper application of the public moneys, and to secure the Government from demands unjust in their character, or extravagant in their amount," as to report whether, in the opinion of your committee, any, and what, retrenchments could be made in the said expenditures, without detriment to the public interest; but, after a patient and laborious investigation, your committee were reluctantly compelled to abandon the object. They were convinced, from research, that to examine the immense mass of receipts and other vouchers, offered for their inspection, to compare them with the corresponding entries in the books of the office, and make the necessary computations, could only be effected by many months' vigilant attention and labor. This part of the inquiry, therefore, which your committee had marked out for themselves, was abandoned as impracticable. Provision, however, is made by law for the protection of the public revenue accruing through the Post Office, and guarding against any abuses of trust. By the act regulating the Post Office Department it is made the duty of the Postmaster General, once in three months, to render to the Secretary of the Treasury a quarterly account of all receipts and expenditures, to be adjusted and settled as other accounts, and duplicates of all contracts for carrying the mail are required to be lodged in the office of the Comptroller of the Treasury; these accounts, it appears, have been settled to the 31st December, 1814, and those for the year 1815 are in a course of examination; they are now rendered, as appears by the letter marked B, up to June 30, 1816. By the letter marked B, it appears that the accounts of the General Post Office have been rendered to the Treasury to the 31st of March, 1816, including Postmasters' accounts to December 31, 1815, and that they are in a state, with very little additional labor, to be rendered to the 30th of September, 1818. It is to be hoped, therefore, that by the next session of Congress the House will have satisfactory information upon the several subjects herewith submitted.

Your committee beg leave to suggest that the only revenue accruing from this Department arises from the collection of postages. The moneys are remitted to the Postmaster General, whose duty it is to pay all expenses which arise in conducting the Post Office. The act regulating the Post Office makes this duty imperative. It is believed that this is the only Department under our Government which is by law obliged, or even permitted, to receive and disburse moneys. By a letter from the Secretaries of the several Departments, respecting the accountability of public officers and agents, laid before the House of Representatives by the chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, January 21, 1817, this feature in the organization of the Post Office Department is considered as anomalous and defective; and in order to subject the payment of money in that Department to the checks to which all other payments of public money are subjected, they recommend that the sums arising from the postage of letters be paid directly into the Treasury. Your committee think there is great force in these suggestions, and that many advantages would result from the proposed alteration. They therefore respectfully submit to the consideration of the House the propriety of so amending the act regulating the Post Office establishment, as to make it the duty of the Postmaster General to pay over all moneys received, at the General Post Office, for postages, forthwith to the Treasurer, who shall receipt the same; and that all disbursements shall be made upon warrants drawn by the Postmaster General, the account or demand having first been duly certified by the Postmaster General, or senior assistant, and audited and allowed by the proper accounting officers of the Treasury, as other accounts are adjusted and settled. For this purpose your committee beg leave to report a bill.

## A.

WASHINGTON, February 1, 1819.

SIR: In addition to the request which I had the honor to make on Saturday last, I am instructed to ask for information on the following points, viz:

1st. What is the aggregate annual amount of postages received at the several Post Offices in the United States, at the end of each year, since the establishment of the General Post Office Department, as appears by the returns of the respective Deputy Postmasters?

2d. What are the several annual amounts of receipts and expenditures of the General Post Office, from the said several Postmasters, since January, 1814, and what was the amount of receipts then on hand?

3d. Have the quarterly returns all been received up to the 1st of January, 1819; if not, to what period have they been returned?

4th. What is the aggregate amount of compensation paid to the several Deputy Postmasters in the United States? what of moneys paid for the transportation of the mail within the United States; and what is the aggregate of incidental expenses?

5th. To what period have the General Post Office accounts been rendered to the Secretary of the Treasury? what have been the respective sums paid over to the Treasury Department; and what are the dates of the respective payments?

6th. What appears to be the balance due the General Post Office for postages, on the first day of January, 1819? and what was the amount of cash remaining in the General Post Office on that day, or up to this time?

7th. Up to what time are the respective accounts of the Deputy Postmasters examined and posted?

8th. What is the amount of annual nett receipts of the General Post Office; and if, after payments to the Secretary of the Treasury, any balances have remained, or moneys have been subsequently received, what is the amount? and what disposition has been made of the same from time to time?

9th. Have moneys of the General Post Office been deposited in any bank or banks at the seat of Government? and what has been the practice of the Department in relation to deposits; are they made in one particular bank? if not, please inform in what banks deposits are made, and the amount deposited in each, with the date of each deposit?

10th. Are any of the Deputy Postmasters authorized or directed to make deposits, to the credit of the General Post Office, in the State banks, or in any of the offices of discount and deposit of the United States Bank?

11th. What inconvenience would arise from directing the proceeds of the Deputy Post Offices in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Charleston, to make weekly deposits to the credit of the General Post Office, transmitting to the General Post Office, as remittances, receipts for each deposit?

I am aware of the practice of the Department in permitting country Postmasters to retain balances due the General Post Office, sometimes during the lapse of several quarters, owing to the difficulty of remitting small sums in current paper, and to the convenience these several funds afford of making draughts in favor of mail contractors, to whom the General Post Office may be indebted. Please to explain in few words your ideas of this policy, and state, if you please, the amount of one of the smallest quarterly balances due the United States from any one or more Post Office, or Post Offices, in any section of the Union.

I hope these several inquiries will receive your early attention, and that I may be favored with an answer to them with as little delay as possible.

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

T. H. HUBBARD.

Hon. R. J. MEIGS, Jun., *Postmaster General.*

## B.

GENERAL POST OFFICE, February 11, 1819.

SIR: I have the honor to state, in answer to the several questions which you have proposed to me,  
1. That the enclosed table, marked No. 1, contains an account of the annual produce of the Post Office Department; the amount of the compensation of Postmasters; the incidental expenses; the expense of transporting the mail; the nett revenue; and the amount paid into the Treasury in each year, from 1789 to 1817, inclusive. This table was prepared for a printed publication, and the several items are expressed to the nearest dollar, only omitting the parts of a dollar.

2. The annual amounts of the receipts and expenditures of the General Post Office for the years 1814 to 1818, inclusive, are contained in table No. 2.

3. Accounts are received from most of the Post Offices, up to October 1, 1818, and many up to the 31st of December, 1818; the former are examined, and the latter in a course of examination. The number not rendered from different offices, to the 30th of June last, was 1,184; many of them are rendered since, but it would take more time than you have allowed to ascertain the number now deficient.

4. Answers to these questions are contained in table 1.

5. The accounts of the General Post Office have been rendered to the Treasury up to the 31st of March, 1816, including Postmasters' accounts to December 31, 1815.\* They are in a state to be rendered to the 30th of September, 1818, with but little additional work, excepting the deficiency of a few receipts for each quarter. It has hitherto been found impracticable to obtain all the necessary vouchers within two or three years after the payments have been made. On that account they have rarely been sent to the Treasury in a shorter time. This arises from the distance where many of the contractors reside, and who are paid through draughts upon Postmasters and other remittances.

6. The books of this office show an outstanding balance on the 1st of October, 1818, of \$542,884 83. This balance was not all of it actually due at that time, some of it having been paid to contractors on account for services rendered, but who had not received credit for the service, owing to the price not being fixed; other considerable payments to contractors, which were then in advance, are balanced by services since that period.

7. Postmasters' accounts have been examined up to the 30th of September, 1818, but are not posted into the ledger later than to the 30th of June last. The books of the office are, in other respects, posted up to the 1st ultimo.

8. Answers to these questions are contained in No. 2 and No. 9.

9. No. 3 contains a list of all deposits made on account of this office in banks of the District of Columbia, with the dates of deposit, from January 1, 1814, to December 31, 1818, inclusive.

10. The Postmasters at the principal or most productive offices deposit their balances in the Bank of the United States, or its branches, to the credit of this office; and all the Postmasters in the State of Connecticut deposit their quarterly balances in the branch bank at Middletown. But this plan has not hitherto been extended further, on account of the difficulty of procuring such notes as the United States Bank will receive. It is proposed to extend the regulation to other offices as soon as it is practicable.

11. No inconvenience would arise from directing the Postmasters at Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore, to deposit the Post Office moneys collected by them every week, deducting first their commissions and expenses; but the greater part of the postages are paid monthly at those offices, and a deposit at the end of each month would be sufficient.

12. There are many Post Offices very remote from this office, and from places of commerce, which, although a convenience to the neighborhood, produce very little postage. It has been the practice, in such cases, to allow

\* Since the above was written, another quarter's accounts has been rendered, including the transactions of this office to June 30, 1816.



No. 2—Continued.

January 1, 1816,	Moneys on hand,	-	-	-	-	\$18,184 40
	Amount of receipts in 1816,	-	-	-	-	759,743 33
	Amount of expenditures in 1816,	-	-	-	\$601,330 14	777,927 73
	Amount paid to the Treasury in 1816,	-	-	-	158,852 03	
	Balance on hand,	-	-	-	17,745 56	777,927 73
January 1, 1817,	Moneys on hand,	-	-	-	-	17,745 56
	Amount of receipts in 1817,	-	-	-	-	722,232 74
	Amount of expenditures in 1817,	-	-	-	669,501 13	739,978 30
	Amount paid to the Treasury in the same year,	-	-	-	20,418 31	
	Balance on hand,	-	-	-	50,058 86	739,978 30
January 1, 1818,	Moneys on hand,	-	-	-	-	50,058 86
	Amount of receipts in 1818,	-	-	-	-	711,880 69
	Amount of expenditures in 1818,	-	-	-	729,137 70	761,939 55
	Amount paid to the Treasury in the same year,	-	-	-	20,070 00	
	Balance on hand,	-	-	-	12,731 85	761,939 55

No. 3.

List of deposits in the Union Bank of Georgetown, from 1st January, 1814, to 31st December, 1818.

January 1, 1814,	To balance on hand,	-	\$64,948 29	Jan. 1, 1814. By am't of checks,	\$90,794 60
January 1, "	To deposit,	-	10,000 00	Balance carried down,	55,904 45
January 1, "	ditto,	-	1,028 57		
January 20, "	ditto,	-	8,430 60		
January 27, "	ditto,	-	2,920 60		
January 28, "	ditto,	-	3,000 00		
January 29, "	ditto,	-	6,556 92		
January 31, "	ditto,	-	1,172 29		
February 5, "	ditto,	-	220 00		
February 8, "	ditto,	-	1,000 00		
February 9, "	ditto,	-	2,485 00		
February 15, "	ditto,	-	17,000 00		
February 16, "	ditto,	-	11,800 00		
February 22, "	ditto,	-	1,804 37		
March 2, "	ditto,	-	3,168 57		
March 15, "	ditto,	-	1,126 00		
March 17, "	ditto,	-	1,729 34		
March 21, "	ditto,	-	3,700 00		
March 24, "	ditto,	-	1,811 13		
March 31, "	ditto,	-	2,797 97		
			\$146,699 05		\$146,699 05
April 1, "	To balance brought down,	-	\$55,904 45	June 30, 1814. By am't of checks,	\$94,641 08
April 7, "	To deposit,	-	7,461 78	Balance carried down,	30,782 88
April 9, "	ditto,	-	2,500 00		
April 11, "	ditto,	-	834 97		
April 12, "	ditto,	-	1,656 30		
April 21, "	ditto,	-	200 00		
April 25, "	ditto,	-	8,371 14		
May 2, "	ditto,	-	8,933 63		
May 5, "	ditto,	-	17,994 00		
May 10, "	ditto,	-	2,387 26		
May 13, "	ditto,	-	4,110 27		
May 26, "	ditto,	-	437 40		
May 26, "	ditto,	-	3,250 98		
May 30, "	ditto,	-	1,658 97		
June 4, "	ditto,	-	2,966 29		
June 4, "	ditto,	-	1,000 00		
June 17, "	ditto,	-	715 00		
June 24, "	ditto,	-	5,041 52		
			\$125,423 96		\$125,423 96
July 1, "	To balance brought down,	-	\$30,782 88	Sept. 30, " By am't of checks,	\$62,166 48
July 9, "	To deposit,	-	4,121 31	Balance carried down,	27,445 15
July 11, "	ditto,	-	4,511 03		
July 12, "	ditto,	-	222 00		
July 18, "	ditto,	-	3,992 96		
July 19, "	ditto,	-	1,500 00		
July 21, "	ditto,	-	636 71		

## No. 3—Continued.

July 25, 1814,	To deposit, - -	\$2,967 00		
July 26, "	ditto, - -	974 68		
July 29, "	ditto, - -	7,900 00		
August 2, "	ditto, - -	2,234 02		
August 19, "	ditto, - -	1,300 05		
August 20, "	ditto, - -	5,500 00		
September 9, "	ditto, - -	1,093 04		
September 16, "	ditto, - -	5,798 20		
September 20, "	ditto, - -	2,025 00		
September 28, "	ditto, - -	3,076 07		
September 28, "	ditto, - -	5,831 15		
September 28, "	ditto, - -	5,845 53		
		<u>\$89,611 63</u>		<u>\$89,611 63</u>
October 1, "	To balance brought down,	\$27,445 15	Dec. 31, 1814. By checks this qr.	\$72,902 88
October 13, "	To deposit, - -	980 00	Balance carried down,	6,209 77
October 13, "	ditto, - -	9,746 26		
October 19, "	ditto, - -	6,784 81		
October 26, "	ditto, - -	2,525 45		
November 1, "	ditto, - -	1,946 31		
November 9, "	ditto, - -	5,500 00		
November 10, "	ditto, - -	273 00		
November 11, "	ditto, - -	5,551 32		
November 17, "	ditto, - -	4,913 00		
November 21, "	ditto, - -	1,025 00		
November 24, "	ditto, - -	3,397 07		
December 8, "	ditto, - -	3,475 28		
December 13, "	ditto, - -	1,000 00		
December 14, "	ditto, - -	1,118 00		
December 19, "	ditto, - -	230 00		
December 27, "	ditto, - -	700 00		
December 30, "	ditto, - -	2,082 00		
December 31, "	ditto, - -	500 00		
		<u>\$79,112 65</u>		<u>\$79,112 65</u>
January 1, 1815,	To balance brought down,	\$6,209 77	Mar. 31, 1815. By checks this qr.	\$49,154 79
January 5, "	To deposit, - -	6,200 00	Balance carried down,	20,162 14
January 7, "	ditto, - -	16,395 00		
January 14, "	ditto, - -	930 00		
January 16, "	ditto, - -	1,084 11		
January 25, "	ditto, - -	1,000 00		
January 30, "	ditto, - -	600 00		
January 30, "	ditto, - -	450 00		
January 30, "	ditto, - -	8,822 89		
February 7, "	ditto, - -	837 94		
February 8, "	ditto, - -	1,235 00		
February 9, "	ditto, - -	400 00		
February 23, "	ditto, - -	13,097 34		
March 2, "	ditto, - -	1,458 19		
March 4, "	ditto, - -	1,742 50		
March 13, "	ditto, - -	374 00		
March 20, "	ditto, - -	2,000 00		
March 21, "	ditto, - -	100 00		
March 21, "	ditto, - -	5,980 19		
March 21, "	ditto, - -	400 00		
		<u>\$69,316 93</u>		<u>\$69,316 93</u>
April 1, "	To balance brought down,	\$20,162 14	June 30, " By checks this qr.	\$157,425 70
April 1, "	To deposit, - -	1,233 96	Balance carried down,	18,246 36
April 14, "	ditto, - -	2,525 85		
April 17, "	ditto, - -	7,590 54		
April 18, "	ditto, - -	1,575 00		
April 18, "	ditto, - -	218 00		
April 29, "	ditto, - -	11,325 84		
May 2, "	ditto, - -	5,000 10		
May 4, "	ditto, - -	5,000 00		
May 4, "	ditto, - -	5,000 00		
May 5, "	ditto, - -	764 48		
May 6, "	ditto, - -	6,270 19		
May 6, "	ditto, - -	777 50		
May 6, "	ditto, - -	209 31		
May 10, "	ditto, - -	7,050 29		
May 12, "	ditto, - -	611 60		
May 17, "	ditto, - -	514 39		
May 23, "	ditto, - -	703 00		
May 23, "	ditto, - -	6,687 00		
May 27, "	ditto, - -	2,193 00		
June 28, "	ditto, - -	1,060 25		
June 30, "	ditto, - -	4,196 47		
July 1, "	ditto, - -	2,137 73		
July 17, "	ditto, - -	6,500 00		
July 19, "	ditto, - -	8,049 50		
July 26, "	ditto, - -	4,169 56		
July 28, "	ditto, - -	4,000 00		
August 2, "	ditto, - -	3,000 00		

No. 3—Continued.

August 15, 1815,	To deposit, - - -	\$13,423 59		
August 25, "	ditto, - - -	2,008 25		
September 2, "	ditto, - - -	6,528 40		
September 6, "	ditto, - - -	7,340 15		
September 25, "	ditto, - - -	6,539 22		
September 27, "	ditto, - - -	7,907 78		
September 30, "	ditto, - - -	12,348 97		
		<u>\$175,672 06</u>		<u>\$175,672 06</u>
October 1, "	To balance brought down,	\$18,246 36	Dec. 31, 1815. By checks this qr.	\$103,029 11
October 10, "	To deposit, - - -	1,000 00	Balance carried down,	9,909 17
October 18, "	ditto, - - -	7,346 11		
October 19, "	ditto, - - -	270 40		
November 1, "	ditto, - - -	6,494 97		
November 3, "	ditto, - - -	6,414 39		
November 6, "	ditto, - - -	10,682 40		
November 11, "	ditto, - - -	2,896 04		
November 18, "	ditto, - - -	2,260 36		
November 21, "	ditto, - - -	24,087 50		
November 29, "	ditto, - - -	3,539 65		
November 30, "	ditto, - - -	771 00		
December 15, "	ditto, - - -	2,958 12		
December 26, "	ditto, - - -	2,714 57		
December 27, "	ditto, - - -	1,500 00		
December 29, "	ditto, - - -	16,121 45		
December 29, "	ditto, - - -	4,945 90		
December 30, "	ditto, - - -	689 06		
		<u>\$112,938 28</u>		<u>\$112,938 28</u>
January 1, 1816,	To balance brought down,	\$9,909 17	May 23, 1816. By checks, -	\$59,558 72
January 2, "	To deposit, - - -	500 00	Balance carried down,	24,579 01
January 11, "	ditto, - - -	5,857 63		
January 16, "	ditto, - - -	1,776 00		
January 25, "	ditto, - - -	9,282 00		
January 25, "	ditto, - - -	1,270 00		
January 29, "	ditto, - - -	1,559 50		
February 27, "	ditto, - - -	1,768 15		
March 28, "	ditto, - - -	12,296 33		
March 30, "	ditto, - - -	8,673 96		
April 2, "	ditto, - - -	2,150 00		
April 8, "	ditto, - - -	1,527 84		
April 15, "	ditto, - - -	1,814 00		
April 22, "	ditto, - - -	5,344 68		
April 30, "	ditto, - - -	2,700 00		
May 7, "	ditto, - - -	1,812 50		
May 11, "	ditto, - - -	1,300 00		
May 14, "	ditto, - - -	3,032 00		
May 14, "	ditto, - - -	5,288 30		
May 22, "	ditto, - - -	5,275 67		
May 23, "	ditto, - - -	1,000 00		
		<u>\$84,137 73</u>		<u>\$84,137 73</u>
May 24, "	To balance, - - -	\$24,579 01	Oct. 11, " By checks from } May 24th, }	\$86,810 30
May 27, "	To deposit, - - -	8,705 69		
May 27, "	ditto, - - -	2,360 00		
May 28, "	ditto, - - -	5,000 00		
May 30, "	ditto, - - -	1,336 00		
June 1, "	ditto, - - -	1,185 00		
June 4, "	ditto, - - -	1,683 96		
June 6, "	ditto, - - -	2,758 00		
June 8, "	ditto, - - -	2,956 00		
June 14, "	ditto, - - -	1,250 00		
June 18, "	ditto, - - -	4,748 16		
June 28, "	ditto, - - -	2,058 50		
July 2, "	ditto, - - -	1,934 24		
July 3, "	ditto, - - -	500 00		
July 3, "	ditto, - - -	2,600 00		
July 18, "	ditto, - - -	6,008 50		
August 1, "	ditto, - - -	353 48		
August 1, "	ditto, - - -	1,510 49		
August 5, "	ditto, - - -	251 00		
August 12, "	ditto, - - -	6,061 55		
August 20, "	ditto, - - -	57 00		
August 21, "	ditto, - - -	2,854 09		
August 29, "	ditto, - - -	211 00		
September 2, "	ditto, - - -	2,696 20		
September 17, "	ditto, - - -	318 87		
September 18, "	ditto, - - -	192 45		
		2,641 11		
	Balance,	<u>\$86,810 30</u>		<u>\$86,810 30</u>

## No. 3—Continued.

October 17, 1816,	To deposit, - -	\$2,739 48	Oct. 11, 1816. By balance bro't } forward, -	\$2,641 11
October 19, "	ditto, - -	80 69	Dec. 31, " Checks, -	15,516 77
October 23, "	Rd. Mills, - -	1,000 00	Balance carried down, -	8,402 63
October 24, "	To deposit, - -	5,197 87		
October 25, "	ditto, - -	2,045 84		
October 25, "	ditto, - -	1,237 61		
October 28, "	ditto, - -	637 50		
November 5, "	ditto, - -	1,225 00		
November 9, "	ditto, - -	70 00		
November 11, "	ditto, - -	4,391 40		
November 19, "	ditto, - -	2,494 46		
December 19, "	ditto, - -	1,000 00		
December 27, "	ditto, - -	200 00		
December 30, "	ditto, - -	4,240 66		
		<u>\$26,560 51</u>		<u>\$26,560 51</u>
January 1, 1817,	To balance brought down,	\$8,402 63	June 30, 1817. By checks since } 1st January, -	\$85,811 50
January 16, "	To deposit, - -	395 39	Balance carried down, -	12,401 48
January 18, "	ditto, - -	2,136 00		
January 20, "	ditto, - -	235 03		
February 4, "	ditto, - -	1,200 00		
February 6, "	ditto, - -	4,001 54		
February 13, "	ditto, - -	7,627 57		
February 25, "	ditto, - -	2,613 65		
March 11, "	ditto, - -	9,049 56		
March 14, "	ditto, - -	9,000 00		
March 28, "	ditto, - -	1,585 98		
April 12, "	ditto, - -	1,141 52		
April 24, "	ditto, - -	10,000 00		
April 26, "	ditto, - -	2,690 00		
April 30, "	ditto, - -	1,580 00		
April 30, "	ditto, - -	6,813 15		
May 3, "	ditto, - -	1,255 25		
May 15, "	ditto, - -	5,698 55		
May 22, "	ditto, - -	400 00		
May 29, "	ditto, - -	699 99		
May 31, "	ditto, - -	11,000 00		
June 14, "	ditto, - -	3,002 17		
June 20, "	ditto, - -	542 00		
June 24, "	ditto, - -	7,143 00		
		<u>\$98,212 98</u>		<u>\$98,212 98</u>
July 1, "	To balance brought down,	\$12,401 48	Dec. 31, 1817. By checks since } 1st July, -	\$101,598 91
July 1, "	To deposit, - -	1,477 40	Balance carried down, -	32,700 86
July 14, "	ditto, - -	300 00		
July 14, "	ditto, - -	3,355 07		
July 16, "	ditto, - -	1,282 22		
July 22, "	ditto, - -	800 00		
July 22, "	ditto, - -	1,623 93		
July 22, "	ditto, - -	5,073 37		
July 26, "	ditto, - -	6,565 00		
July 30, "	ditto, - -	18,700 00		
August 6, "	ditto, - -	4,279 74		
August 7, "	ditto, - -	582 33		
August 18, "	ditto, - -	2,875 36		
August 20, "	ditto, - -	1,721 00		
September 26, "	ditto, - -	4,543 51		
October 7, "	ditto, - -	1,000 00		
October 7, "	ditto, - -	820 00		
October 9, "	ditto, - -	1,171 23		
October 13, "	ditto, - -	21,546 72		
October 21, "	ditto, - -	818 00		
October 25, "	ditto, - -	400 00		
October 28, "	ditto, - -	6,421 03		
October 30, "	ditto, - -	869 00		
November 1, "	ditto, - -	1,180 00		
November 11, "	ditto, - -	4,137 72		
November 14, "	ditto, - -	6,565 00		
November 18, "	ditto, - -	2,721 00		
November 19, "	ditto, - -	383 00		
November 26, "	ditto, - -	1,286 35		
November 28, "	ditto, - -	253 00		
December 9, "	ditto, - -	1,621 00		
December 9, "	ditto, - -	7,036 00		
December 12, "	ditto, - -	1,548 88		
December 13, "	ditto, - -	800 00		
December 18, "	ditto, - -	1,500 00		
December 19, "	ditto, - -	2,134 84		
December 20, "	ditto, - -	3,000 00		
December 23, "	ditto, - -	80 00		
December 27, "	ditto, - -	461 43		
December 30, "	ditto, - -	965 00		
		<u>\$134,299 77</u>		<u>\$134,299 77</u>



No. 3—Continued.

January 1, 1818,	To balance brought down,	\$32,700 86	Mar. 31, 1818. By checks this qr.	\$47,868 70
January 14, "	To deposite, - - -	1,000 00	Balance carried down, -	12,063 41
January 15, "	ditto, - - -	1,820 00		
January 16, "	ditto, - - -	3,450 00		
January 17, "	ditto, - - -	1,150 00		
January 23, "	ditto, - - -	4,813 50		
January 23, "	ditto, - - -	1,375 00		
January 28, "	ditto, - - -	880 00		
March 2, "	ditto, - - -	800 00		
March 6, "	ditto, - - -	5,437 50		
March 6, "	ditto, - - -	4,287 25		
March 17, "	ditto, - - -	2,000 00		
March 25, "	ditto, - - -	218 00		
		<b>\$59,932 11</b>		<b>\$59,932 11</b>
April 1, "	To balance brought down,	\$12,063 41	June 30, 1818. By checks,	\$29,658 75
April 6, "	To deposite, - - -	469 98	Balance carried down, -	8,154 88
April 12, "	ditto, - - -	1,194 62		
April 21, "	ditto, - - -	1,600 00		
April 28, "	ditto, - - -	3,000 00		
May 19, "	ditto, - - -	5,069 08		
May 20, "	ditto, - - -	7,522 14		
May 27, "	ditto, - - -	3,985 63		
June 5, "	ditto, - - -	2,227 77		
June 20, "	ditto, - - -	681 00		
		<b>\$37,813 63</b>		<b>\$37,813 63</b>
July 1, "	To balance brought down,	\$8,154 88	Sept. 30, 1818. By checks this qr.	31,785 52
July 3, "	To deposite, - - -	1,704 99	Balance carried down,	13,629 57
July 3, "	ditto, - - -	1,098 53		
July 3, "	ditto, - - -	10,080 00		
July 20, "	ditto, - - -	2,580 00		
July 20, "	ditto, - - -	2,451 38		
July 29, "	ditto, - - -	682 62		
August 10, "	ditto, - - -	4,693 27		
August 12, "	ditto, - - -	2,930 00		
August 18, "	ditto, - - -	4,022 92		
September 13, "	ditto, - - -	4,138 00		
September 26, "	ditto, - - -	2,878 50		
		<b>\$45,415 09</b>		<b>\$45,415 09</b>
October 1, "	To balance brought down,	\$13,629 57	Dec. 31, " By checks this qr.	\$34,876 91
October 6, "	To deposite, - - -	665 53	Balance carried down,	6,958 70
October 8, "	ditto, - - -	1,300 00		
November 7, "	ditto, - - -	5,412 88		
November 9, "	ditto, - - -	2,000 00		
November 16, "	ditto, - - -	5,268 88		
December 5, "	ditto, - - -	4,076 00		
November 28, "	ditto, - - -	900 00		
November 30, "	ditto, - - -	856 00		
December 11, "	ditto, - - -	2,341 53		
December 21, "	ditto, - - -	71 00		
December 21, "	ditto, - - -	4,270 97		
December 26, "	ditto, - - -	1,003 25		
December 29, "	ditto, - - -	80 00		
		<b>\$41,875 61</b>		<b>\$41,875 61</b>
	Balance, -	\$6,958 70		

List of deposites in the Bank of Washington, from 1st January, 1814.

January 1, 1814,	To balance on hand, -	\$6,866 20	1814. By checks to Nov. 11, -	\$13,942 76
April 2, "	To deposite, - - -	4,000 00	Balance carried down, -	4,999 94
July 2, "	ditto, - - -	5,000 00		
November 2, "	ditto, - - -	3,000 00		
November 5, "	ditto, - - -	76 50		
		<b>\$18 42 70</b>		<b>\$18,942 70</b>
November 11, "	To balance brought down,	\$4,999 94	By checks to January 16, 1818, -	\$8,095 84
April 25, 1815,	To deposite, - - -	870 00	Balance carried down, -	10,135 10
May 3, "	ditto, - - -	40 50		
July 22, "	ditto, - - -	1,000 00		
December 9, 1817, }	ditto, - - -	520 50		
	ditto, - - -	10,800 00		
		<b>\$18,230 94</b>		<b>\$18,230 94</b>
January 16, 1818,	To balance brought down,	\$10,135 10	March 25. By checks,	\$10,135 10

## List of deposits in the Patriotic Bank from June 1, 1816.

Date	To	Amount	By	Amount
June 1, 1816,	To deposit,	\$2,500 00	December 31, 1818. By checks,	\$9,938 79
June 1, "	ditto,	1,518 00	Balance,	214 21
December 2, "	ditto,	755 00		
December 19, "	ditto,	1,000 00		
January 16, 1818,	ditto,	900 00		
February 14, "	ditto,	2,650 00		
February 1, "	ditto,	50 00		
March 25, "	ditto,	780 00		
		<b>\$10,153 00</b>		<b>\$10,153 00</b>

## List of deposits in the Office of Discount and Deposite from May 7, 1818.

Date	To	Amount	By	Amount
May 7, 1818,	To cash,	\$6,986 25	December 31, 1818. By checks,	\$26,430 34
May 13, "	ditto,	50 00		
August 1, "	ditto,	7,915 00		
October 14, "	ditto,	7,465 00		
November 9, "	ditto,	2,000 00		
November 27, "	ditto,	1,979 00		
		<b>\$26,395 25</b>		

## D.

## TREASURY DEPARTMENT, REGISTER'S OFFICE, February 3, 1819.

SIR:

In reply to the letter you honored me with, in relation to the General Post Office accounts, I beg leave to state that they are rendered to the Treasury to the close of the year 1815, and are now under examination by the accounting officers. In the course of a few days we shall have prepared for the accounts of receipts and expenditures, now printing for the year 1817, an exhibition of the Post Office accounts for the year 1810, similar to the statement D, for 1809, rendered in the printed public accounts for 1816. Also a statement, in an abstract form, of the Post Office accounts, as settled by the Fifth Auditor of the Treasury, for the years 1811 and 1815, inclusively, and which are under the usual form of examination in the office of the First Comptroller of the Treasury. I beg leave to refer to the enclosed annual statement of moneys paid into the Treasury.

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

JOSEPH NOURSE, Register.

Hon. T. H. HUBBARD.

## Statement exhibiting the revenue which accrued from postage on letters, newspapers, &amp;c. during the year 1810.

	Balances due on adjustment.	Gross amount of postage.	PAYMENTS FOR					Nett amount of postage.	Balance due on adjustment.
			Transportation of the mail.	Contingent expenses of the General Post Office, &c.	Compensation to Deputy Postmasters, including incidental expenses.	Way and ship letters.	Total Amount.		
1st quarter, 1810,	229,780 60	132,853 66	79,500 34	1,969 61	39,333 99	1,130 81	121,934 75	10,918 91	240,699 51
2d do. do.	240,699 51	145,593 61	105,532 51	2,373 27	45,097 37	1,830 39	154,833 54	-	231,459 58
3d do. do.	231,459 58	139,015 88	104,642 12	8,863 52	39,764 80	1,816 31	155,086 75	-	215,398 71
4th do. do.	215,388 71	134,291 82	75,939 09	2,570 68	38,675 12	1,951 29	119,136 18	15,155 64	230,544 35
Dollars,	229,780 60	551,754 97	365,614 06	15,777 08	162,871 28	6,728 80	550,991 22	26,074 55	230,544 35

Nett revenue as above,	-	-	-	\$26,074 55
Deduct excess of expenditure, viz:	In second quarter,	-	\$ 9,239 93	
	In third quarter,	-	16,070 87	
			<u>25,310 80</u>	
			<u>\$763 75</u>	

## Abstract of payments made into the Treasury, by the Postmaster General, from 1809 to 1818, inclusive.

1809,	-	-	-	1815,	-	-	\$135,000 10
1810,	-	-	-	1816,	-	-	149,787 74
1811,	-	-	\$ 37 70	1817,	-	-	29,271 91
1812,	-	-	85,039 70	1818,	-	-	20,070 00
1813,	-	-	35,000 00				
1814,	-	-	45,000 00				
				Total,			<u>\$499,307 15</u>

From a comparison of the payments made into the Treasury by the Postmaster General, as above stated, with the statement thereof rendered to the committee from the General Post Office, there is a variation, which the following will explain:

In the years 1814 and 1815 both statements agree, but in 1816 and 1817 a variation appears of \$110 69, thus:

The General Post Office, for 1816, is	-	-	-	\$158,852 03
The General Post Office, for 1817, is	-	-	-	20,418 31
				<u>179,270 34</u>
The Treasury amount of 1816, as above, is	-	-	\$149,787 74	
The Treasury amount of 1817, as above, is	-	-	29,371 91	
				<u>179,159 65</u>
			Difference,	<u>\$110 69</u>

The difference of \$110 69, although paid into the Treasury by the General Post Office, had not been covered by warrant, so as to come on the Treasury books.

*Warrants drawn by the Secretary of the Treasury on the Postmaster General.*

1816.	March 31.	Warrant No. 2,560,	-	-	\$66,087 74
	June 30.	Warrant No. 2,667,	-	-	67,000 00
	Sept. 30.	Warrant No. 2,713,	-	-	16,700 00
					<u>\$149,787 74</u>
1817.	March 31.	Warrant No. 2,820,	-	-	\$19,999 50
	June 30.	Warrant No. 2,866,	-	-	9,272 41
	Dec. 31.	Warrant No. 2,950,	-	-	100 00
					<u>\$29,371 91</u>

E.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, REGISTER'S OFFICE, February 9, 1819.

SIR: I have now the honor to transmit you the statements referred to in my letter of the 3d instant, remarking that the accounts rendered by the General Post Office have been settled, in the office of the Fifth Auditor, to the 31st December, 1814. Those for the year 1815 are now in a course of settlement in that office.

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

JOSEPH NOURSE, Register.

Hon. T. H. HUBBARD, House of Representatives.

Statement exhibiting the revenue which accrued from postage on letters, newspapers, &c. during the years 1811, 1812, 1813, and 1814.

Postmaster General.	Balances due on 1st January.	Gross amount of postage.	PAYMENTS FOR		
			Transportation of the mail.	Contingent expenses of the General Post Office.	Compensation to Deputy Postmasters, including incidental expenses.
Gideon Granger, 1811,	\$229,328 91	\$587,266 73	\$325,297 66	\$ 9,343 50	\$176,254 94
Gideon Granger, 1812,	213,637 21	649,152 89	336,000 86	14,961 42	195,690 75
Gideon Granger, 1813,	310,277 87	703,220 73	395,062 39	17,421 86	219,817 14
Return J. Meigs, 1814,	313,086 88	730,953 13	475,108 13	14,757 11	234,566 43

STATEMENT—Continued.

Postmaster General.	PAYMENTS FOR			Payments made into the Treasury on warrants, included in the accounts of the Treasurer and Postmaster General.	Balance due at the end of each year.
	Way and ship letters.	Total amount.	Nett amount of postage.		
Gideon Granger, 1811,	\$7,025 56	\$517,920 73	\$69,346 00	\$85,037 70	\$213,637 21
Gideon Granger, 1812,	5,819 50	552,512 23	96,680 36	39 70	310,277 87
Gideon Granger, 1813,	3,110 33	635,411 72	67,809 01	65,000 00	313,086 88
Return J. Meigs, 1814,	1,943 19	726,374 86	19,964 66	15,000 00	302,665 15
	Nett revenue for the year 1814, as above,	-	-	-	\$19,964 66
	Deduct excess of expenditure,	-	-	-	15,386 39
	True nett revenue,	-	-	-	<u>\$4,578 27</u>

NOTE. The above exhibits the receipts and expenditures of the General Post Office, for the years above mentioned, as settled quarterly in this office, up to the 1st January, 1815; the accounts for which year are now in hand, and are all that have been rendered to the Treasury Department from the General Post Office.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, FIFTH AUDITOR'S OFFICE, February 5, 1819.

Stated by

DAVID EASTON.

To JOSEPH NOURSE, Esq., Register of the Treasury.