

17th CONGRESS.]

No. 46.

[1st SESSION.]

INVESTIGATION.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, APRIL 29, 1822.

Mr. SANDERS made the following report:

The Select Committee, to whom was referred the investigation of the affairs of the Post Office Department, have had, according to order, the same under consideration, and beg leave to report:

That, as the attention of the committee was directed to no specific object, but to the fiscal affairs of the Post Office Department generally, they have endeavored to give to their examination such a direction as they considered most likely to elicit any improper transactions in the Department, if any such existed, and, at the same time, to exhibit its concerns in such a point of view as would best enable the House to judge of its management and condition.

The investigation, however, which the committee have been enabled to make, has been of too partial a character to prove satisfactory, even to themselves; the lateness of the period at which it was commenced, the preliminary calls which they found it necessary to make, added to their other duties on the House, forbid their going into that extensive inquiry into the different contracts, receipts, and expenditures of the Department, which would have required their exclusive attention for weeks, but from which alone a full, fair, and correct report of its various transactions can ever be made. Partial abuses may be examined and exposed, and thus lead to the correction of others of more consequence, though more difficult to discover. The points of inquiry to which the attention of the committee has been especially directed, and the facts which they have been enabled to collect, may not prove without their use. These points are as follows, viz:

- I. Whether duplicates of all contracts and proposals, made and entered into with the Department, have been lodged with the Comptroller of the Treasury?
- II. Whether, in any instance, contracts have been improperly given to one person in preference to another?
- III. Whether the public money has been improperly advanced to contractors, or other persons in the service of the Department, in anticipation of their services?
- IV. Whether certain Deputy Postmasters have made due returns of the expenses incident to their office, and whether they have not been allowed for extravagant expenditures?
- V. Whether the Postmaster General has taken timely steps for the recovery of the different sums due the Department from Deputy Postmasters?

1. With respect to the first point of inquiry, the committee called on the Comptroller of the Treasury to be furnished with the duplicates of certain contracts, and the proposals, for the purpose of examining the same, which they were unable to obtain. They then addressed a letter to the Comptroller of the Treasury for the purpose of knowing on what principle the accounts of the Postmaster General were audited and settled. In reply, they learned that, from the practical construction given to the act for regulating the Post Office establishment, the receipts and not the contracts were taken as the criterion of settlement, and the Post Office accounts audited accordingly. If the duplicates of contracts and the proposals were merely to be deposited for safe-keeping with the Comptroller, and not as vouchers to direct him in passing upon the different payments made by the Postmaster General, it could be a matter of but little consequence whether the requisites of the law, in this particular, were complied with or not. The committee now learn that a different mode of settlement is determined on, and, though it may be attended with some difficulty and delay, it certainly will produce more correctness and responsibility. (See letter A.)

2. On the second point of inquiry, the committee learned, from rumor, that contracts had been improperly obtained from the Department, and afterwards sold out to considerable profit; but, from a careful examination of the books in which are entered the different proposals, though they find many instances in which the contract was not given to the lowest bidder, still they have not been enabled to discover any one which particular circumstances might not have justified.

3. On the third point of inquiry, as to moneys advanced contractors and other persons in the service of the Department, in anticipation of their services, the committee find that, on the 1st day of January last, there were on the Post Office books unliquidated accounts, for moneys and draughts thus advanced, to the amount of - \$54,354 00
That, since that time, there has been repaid by services rendered, - - - - - 17,288 75
That, of this sum, there was advanced by the late Postmaster General, - - - - - 13,707 49
That most of these advances may have been properly made in aid of Post Office contracts, though, in some instances, no such reason could have existed; that, of this amount, there will probably be lost something short of ten thousand dollars.

In connexion with this subject, the attention of the committee has been directed to the transportation of the mail between Philadelphia and New York, and the employment of Chester Bailey, as agent and contractor with the Department. They find, so early as 1811, the mail between those cities was carried under the immediate contract of the Department, under the superintendence of Chester Bailey as agent, and with the property of the United States purchased for that purpose. That, for the year 1814, as will appear from the annexed account of Chester Bailey, (marked B,) the expense of transporting the mail between Philadelphia and Jersey city, to have been \$9,154 20; that the Postmaster General contracted with Chester Bailey (see letter of Postmaster General, marked C,) for the transportation of the mail on the same route, at six thousand and five hundred dollars, giving him the use of the United States' property; that this arrangement continued until 1818, when Chester Bailey agreed to take at valuation the United States' property, and continue the carriage of the mail at the same price; that the property was valued to him by two contractors at \$2,885, much less than the cost, or what must have been its real value; that since that time the mail has been carried by contract at six thousand five hundred dollars per annum. It further appears, that there has been paid to Chester Bailey for various services as agent of the Department, \$10,042 53; that he receives an annual salary of eight hundred dollars, as agent, besides his travelling expenses when called on by the Department in discharge of such duties as may be required of him. Whatever necessity may have existed for his employment whilst the mail between Philadelphia and New York was carried at the expense of the Department, the committee can perceive no such necessity to exist at present.

4. The act regulating the Post Office Establishment declares that in no instance shall Deputy Postmasters receive a larger compensation than two thousand dollars, after deducting the expenditures incident to their office. It further provides, that every Deputy Postmaster, whose receipts shall amount to one thousand dollars, shall make an annual return of the expenses incident to his office. The act does not, in express terms, give to the Postmaster General a control over these expenses, many of which appear highly extravagant, and ought to be curtailed. From the annexed returns, (marked D,) it will be seen, that the commissions of forty-one Deputy Postmasters, and the contingent expenses allowed for their offices, amount to - - - - - \$112,066 75
To which should be added the extra compensation of the Deputy Postmaster in Washington, one of the number, - - - - - 1,000 00

Making, - - - - - \$113,066 75

The last object of inquiry with the committee was for the purpose of knowing whether the Postmaster General had directed suits, in all cases of failure, on the part of Deputy Postmasters, within the time prescribed by law, and,

if not, whether he had charged himself with the amount of their accounts for failing to do so. This was a fact difficult to ascertain, as well from the multiplicity of Deputy Postmasters, the number against whom suits had been brought, and the particular time of instituting the same. The committee find, from the balances, as stated on the books of the Post Office Department, there appears due to the General Post Office, up to the 1st day of January last, \$424,462 24½
That of this sum there was due from Deputy Postmasters in office, and who had gone out of office, 370,108 24½
That of this sum there was in suit, as near as could be ascertained, 100,000 00

But whether these suits were instituted in the time prescribed by law, the committee have not been enabled to ascertain. In conclusion, the committee will submit a brief comparative view of the receipts and expenditures of the Department, between a former and the last year.

The receipts of the Post Office Department, for the year 1816, were,	-	-	-	\$961,782 00
For transportation of the mail,	-	-	\$521,970	
Compensation and incidental expenses,	-	-	282,452	
			804,422 00	
Balance in favor of the Department,	-	-	-	157,360 00
The receipts for the year 1821 were,	-	-	-	1,029,102 00
For transportation of the mail,	-	-	\$814,998 06	
Compensation and incidental expenses,	-	-	365,063 00	
			1,180,061 00	
Against the Department,	-	-	-	\$150,959 06

On the 31st of December last there were six hundred and ninety-three contracts for the carriage of the mail on one thousand and forty-eight post routes; but whether these increased objects of expenditure, or the want of a proper degree of management in the Post Office concerns, has produced this large difference, the committee will not undertake to decide.

As the investigation of the committee has resulted in what may require legislative enactments, and as they have no power to report by bill, they submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee appointed to investigate the affairs of the Post Office Department be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE, *March 11, 1822.*

SIR:

I have had the honor to receive your letter, dated the 7th instant, in which you inform me that "the Committee of Investigation into the Post Office affairs, are desirous of knowing whether, in receiving the duplicate of contracts and proposals entered into with that Department, I feel it my duty, under the existing law, to compare the amounts contracted for with what is actually paid; and whether, in the change of any contract where more is given, any information is lodged in my office; and, if not, by what authority the Postmaster General is credited by such expenditures."

In answering the inquiries you have made, it may be proper to observe, that the Post Office laws, so far as respected the manner of settling the accounts of the General Post Office at the Treasury, had received a practical construction long anterior to my coming into office, which was on the 1st of March, 1815; at which time the accounts of the General Post Office had only been settled up to the third quarter of 1808, inclusive. The manner in which the accounts were settled was to credit the General Post Office with the amount of all the moneys stated to have been expended for carrying the mail, for which receipts for that specific object were produced. These receipts were uniformly considered the true criterion by which to judge of the amount actually expended for carrying the mail. No comparison was made between the amount called for in the contracts and the sums expended according to the receipts produced. And taking it for granted, after so long a practice had obtained, that the law had received a correct interpretation, these accounts have been constantly settled upon the same principles, since my coming into office, until lately. A call from a committee of the House of Representatives, at the last session of Congress, though not embracing the nature of the inquiry you have made, nevertheless led me necessarily to a comparison between the amount contracted for in carrying the mail, and the sums actually paid for the same object, as appeared by the receipts produced, the latter being much greater. This circumstance called my attention specially to the examination of the Post Office laws, which, although silent as to any special use directed to be made of the duplicate contract, required by law to be filed in the Comptroller's office, I was, nevertheless, induced to believe, from a full view of the whole laws, that the mode of settlement which had been so long adopted was erroneous, and I accordingly concluded to consult the Secretary of the Treasury upon the subject, (as is the uniform practice of the Treasury in all cases of doubt, or where a change of any former practice is contemplated,) and we accorded in opinion, that the contracts ought to be the criterion by which to judge of the true amount of the sums for which the General Post Office could properly receive credit on account of money paid for transportation of the mail, although receipts to a greater amount than that called for in the contract might be produced; and instructions were accordingly given to the Fifth Auditor of the Treasury (who reports upon these accounts to my office) to compare the amounts contracted for with what is actually paid, which the receipts will prove, and to make the former, and not the latter, as heretofore, the criterion by which to allow the General Post Office credit for transportation of the mail. No report from the Auditor has yet been made, under this mode of examination; but he has informed me, verbally, that very great difficulties occur in progressing with the settlements according to this mode, from the want of the duplicate contracts, which are absolutely necessary in settling the accounts according to the mode now contemplated, and which are not to be found in the Comptroller's office. The foregoing information has only been recently received, but application will be made for the duplicates to be furnished in all cases where they have not been furnished; and every exertion will be made to progress with the mode of settlement which has been decided upon. But whether we shall be able to carry it into full effect, without some change in the present Post Office laws, I am at present unable to say.

In answer to the question you ask, whether in the change of any contract when more is given, any information is lodged in my office, and, if not, by what authority the Postmaster General is credited by such expenditures, I have to observe, that I do not know of any information having been lodged in my office, in cases where a change of the terms of the original contract has taken place; and the grounds upon which the Postmaster General has hitherto received credit has been the evidence of his payments made for carrying the mail, according to the receipts which have been produced, predicated upon the principle upon which the accounts of the General Post Office had been settled since its first establishment.

I have the honor to be, with considerations of high respect, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH ANDERSON, *Comptroller.*

The Hon. R. M. SANDERS, *House of Representatives.*

Dr.

Mr. Chester Bailey, mail contractor and agent, in account with the General Post Office.

Cr.

July 30, 1807,	To cash paid him,	-	-	\$300 00	Nov. 30, 1807,	By amount of his account for carrying a daily mail between Fredericksburg and Monticello, August 1 to September 25, 1807,	-	-	\$974 23
Sept. 26, 1807,	To cash paid him,	-	-	600 00	May 31, 1809,	By amount of his account of expenses and agency in transporting the mail between Chillicothe and Frankfort, January 20 to March 1, 1809,	-	-	1,251 11
Nov. 30, 1807,	To cash paid him,	-	-	74 23	June 20, 1809,	By his expenses to Baltimore and back again,	-	-	7 18
Dec. 31, 1808,	To cash paid him,	-	-	525 00	June 20, 1809,	By payment to S. Speake, for selling a horse,	-	-	2 57
Jan. 4, 1809,	To cash paid Phineas Bradley,	-	-	5 50	Aug. 29, 1809,	By cash received for a horse and saddle sold to Mr. Hughes,	-	-	103 25
Feb. 8, 1809,	To cash sent him as agent at Chillicothe,	-	-	400 00	March 31, 1809,	By cash received for his services as clerk,	-	-	60 00
July 3, 1809,	To cash paid him,	-	-	130 00	Jan. 10, 1811,	By cash received of A. Bradley,	-	-	19 70
Aug. 2, 1809,	To cash paid him,	-	-	50 00	April 1, 1811,	By transporting the mail, Philadelphia and Trenton, January 1 to April 1, 1811,	-	-	375 00
Oct. 3, 1809,	To cash paid him,	-	-	100 00	July 1, 1811,	By transporting the mail, Philadelphia and Trenton, April 1 to July 1, 1811,	-	-	375 00
Oct. 10, 1809,	To cash to purchase two teams for New York mail stage line,	-	-	2,000 00	Oct. 1, 1811,	By transmitting the mail, Philadelphia and Trenton, July 1 to Oct. 1, 1811,	-	-	375 00
Oct. 18, 1809,	To cash sent him,	-	-	243 23	Oct. 1, 1811,	By his salary as agent, from January 1 to October 1, 1811, is three quarters, at \$250 per annum,	-	-	187 50
Jan. 15, 1811,	To cash to purchase the team running between Bristol and Trenton,	-	-	1,000 00	May 20, 1812,	By incidentals, for expenses incurred in discovering mail robbers, Philadelphia and New York, January 1 to April 1, 1810,	-	\$157 00	
Feb. 20, 1811,	To a draught on Thomas D. Anderson,	-	-	111 31	May 20, 1812,	By ditto, in Virginia and Tennessee, April 1 to October 1, 1810,	-	511 62	668 62
April 9, 1811,	To cash paid him,	-	-	230 00	June 28, 1812,	By cash received of Mr. Coyle,	-	-	22 25
April 9, 1811,	To cash paid him,	-	-	770 00	June 30, 1813,	By transporting the mail, Philadelphia and Trenton, from October 1, 1811, to April 1, 1813, six quarters, at \$375,	-	-	2,250 00
June 24, 1812,	To cash paid him,	-	-	500 00	July 1, 1813,	By ditto, April 1 to July 1, 1813,	-	-	375 00
Dec. 1, 1812,	To cash paid his order in favor of R. F. How,	-	-	50 00	Oct. 1, 1813,	By ditto, July 1 to October 1, 1813,	-	-	375 00
Dec. 24, 1812,	To cash paid him,	-	-	400 00	Jan. 1, 1814,	By ditto, October 1 to December 1, 1813,	-	-	250 00
June 7, 1813,	To cash paid him,	-	-	375 00	Jan. 1, 1814,	By transporting the mail between Trenton and New Brunswick, September 1 to December 1, 1813,	-	-	350 00
July 27, 1813,	To cash paid him,	-	-	1,000 00	July 1, 1814,	By transporting the mail, Philadelphia and Jersey city, from December 1, 1813, to May 1, 1814, in sulkies,	-	-	5,441 00
Aug. 25, 1813,	To cash paid him,	-	-	1,684 35	Oct. 1, 1814,	By transporting the mail, Philadelphia and Jersey city, from May 1 to October, 1814, at \$1,125 per quarter,	-	-	1,875 00
Dec. 4, 1813,	To cash sent him—a check,	-	-	1,500 00	Jan. 1, 1815,	By transporting the mail, Philadelphia and Jersey city, October 1 to December 1, 1814, at \$1,125 per quarter,	-	-	750 00
Dec. 24, 1813,	To cash sent him—a check,	-	-	750 00	Jan. 1, 1815,	By transporting same mail in sulkies, from December 1 to 31, 1814, one month,	-	-	1,088 20
Jan. 24, 1814,	To cash paid his draught of 19th instant, in favor of Timothy Caldwell,	-	-	1,000 00	Jan. 1, 1815,	By his salary as agent, from October 1, 1811, to October 1, 1814, three years, at \$600 per annum,	-	-	1,800 00
March 21, 1814,	To cash sent him—notes,	-	-	1,000 00	April 1, 1815,	By transporting the mail, Philadelphia and Jersey city, from January 1, 1815, to April 1, 1816, five quarters, at \$1,625, per quarter,	-	-	8,125 00
May 20, 1814,	To cash sent him—a check,	-	-	1,600 00	June 30, 1816,	By his bill for travelling expenses,	-	-	415 55
June 6, 1814,	To a draught on Joshua Richardson,	-	-	220 99	Dec. 31, 1816,	By cash,	-	-	96 00
June 6, 1814,	To a draught on David Brinton,	-	-	516 50	Jan. 1, 1817,	By transporting the mail, Philadelphia and Jersey city, from April 1 to December 31, 1816, is three quarters, at \$1,625 per quarter,	-	-	4,875 00
July 13, 1814,	To cash paid him,	-	-	3,391 62	March 29, 1817,	By cash received of him,	-	-	50 44
Dec. 13, 1814,	To cash paid him,	-	-	435 61	March 31, 1817,	By transportation, for expenditures for the mail stage beyond the receipts, from October 1, 1810, to October 1, 1814,	-	-	2,135 39
Feb. 20, 1815,	To cash paid him,	-	-	197 59	April 1, 1817,	By transporting the mail, Philadelphia and Jersey city, January 1 to April 1, 1817,	-	-	1,625 00
March 2, 1815,	To cash paid him,	-	-	3,713 20	April 1, 1817,	By transporting the mail, Philadelphia and Jersey city, April 1 to July 1, 1817,	-	-	1,625 00
May 9, 1815,	To a draught on N. Sanford, Esq.	-	-	300 00	Sept. 19, 1817,	By his salary as agent, from October 1, 1814, to July 1, 1816, at \$600 per annum,	-	-	1,050 00
July 29, 1815,	To cash sent him,	-	-	4,403 60					
July 29, 1815,	To a draught on Matthias Day for	-	-	700 00					
Oct. 2, 1815,	To a draught on Matthias Day for	-	-	500 00					
Dec. 23, 1815,	To cash paid him,	-	-	162 00					
March 2, 1816,	To a draught on Theodorus Bailey, of New York,	-	-	500 00					
May 14, 1816,	To a draught on Matthias Day,	-	-	400 00					
May 14, 1816,	To a draught on Charles Rice,	-	-	1,191 44					
Aug. 21, 1816,	To cash sent him—a check,	-	-	100 00					
Sept. 9, 1816,	To cash sent him—a check,	-	-	100 00					
Sept. 24, 1816,	To cash paid him,	-	-	100 00					
Oct. 1, 1816,	To a draught on Theodorus Bailey,	-	-	1,325 00					

Dr.		B—Continued.		Cr.	
Dec. 20, 1816,	To a draught on Aaron Hill, -	\$2,250 00	Sept. 19, 1817,	By his salary as agent, from July 1, 1816, to July 1, 1817, one year, at \$800 per year, -	\$800 00
May 9, 1817,	To a draught on Theodorus Bailey, -	1,450 00	Sept. 19, 1817,	By detection and prosecution to conviction of James Yeatman, mail carrier, for robbing the Huntingdon mail in 1816, -	200 00
Aug. 6, 1817,	To cash sent him—a check, -	1,675 00	Sept. 19, 1817,	By detection and prosecution to conviction of John Rose, for robbing the mail at Fredericksburg Post Office in 1816, -	200 00
Oct. 1, 1817,	To cash paid him, -	825 00	Oct. 1, 1817,	By transporting the mail, Philadelphia and Jersey city, July 1 to October 1, 1817, -	1,625 00
Dec. 9, 1817,	To a draught on Joseph E. Sprague, -	400 00	Dec. 14, 1817,	By cash, -	1,000 00
Dec. 12, 1817,	To cash paid him, -	600 00	Jan. 1, 1818,	By transporting the mail, Philadelphia and Jersey city, Oct. 1 to December 31, 1817, -	1,625 00
Dec. 20, 1817,	To cash paid him, -	500 00	Feb. 1, 1818,	By Chester Bailey, for amount of stage property appraised by John Tomlinson and Alexander McCalla, June 28, 1816, viz: six teams, -	\$2,885 00
Sept. 1, 1818,	To Chester Bailey for balance, -	5,851 82	Feb. 1, 1818,	And \$150 per team, for advantage of the road, -	900 00
					3,785 00
		\$48,207 99			\$48,207 99

Dr.		Mr. Chester Bailey, mail contractor and agent, in account with the General Post Office.		Cr.	
Feb. 17, 1818,	To New York mail stage account for six teams, appraised by John Tomlinson and Alexander McCalla, on 28th of June, 1816, to and \$150 per team, for the advantage of the road, -	\$2,885 900	Sept. 1, 1818,	By New York mail stage account, for balance of that account, -	\$5,851 82
March 30, 1818,	To cash sent him, -	500 00	Sept. 30, 1818,	By cash received of William Gholson, -	880 00
April 10, 1818,	To cash sent him in small bills, -	71 00	Dec. 29, 1818,	By cash received in his letter of the 11th instant, -	210 00
April 14, 1818,	To cash sent him in notes, -	654 00	Feb. 19, 1819,	By cash received of Andrew Coyle, -	500 00
June 8, 1818,	To cash sent him in a check, -	1,625 00	Mar. 19, 1819,	By cash received for his draught on John Davis, -	314 50
June 24, 1818,	To cash sent him in a check, -	486 25	April 2, 1819,	By cash received for J. Taylor's check, -	480 00
July 15, 1818,	To cash sent him in a check, -	700 00	Oct. 1, 1819,	By James Hewitt's note and account, -	106 20
Aug. 6, 1818,	To cash sent him in a check, -	1,000 00	Dec. 16, 1819,	By Edwin Porter and Co.'s draught of the 14th instant, -	50 00
Sept. 5, 1818,	To cash sent him in a check, -	1,515 58	Jan. 1, 1820,	By transporting the mail, Philadelphia and Jersey city, from January 1, 1818, to January 1, 1820, is eight quarters, at \$1,625 per quarter, -	13,700 00
Sept. 24, 1818,	To cash paid him, -	500 00	April 1, 1820,	By his salary as agent, from July 1, 1817, to April 1, 1820, is eleven quarters, at \$200 per quarter, -	2,200 00
Oct. 1, 1818,	To cash paid him, -	649 00	April 13, 1821,	By James Shethar for his draught, -	400 00
Nov. 14, 1818,	To cash sent him, a check, -	63 44	May 12, 1821,	By cash received of Mr. Wallack, -	136 56
Nov. 19, 1818,	To a draught on Zenas Wells, -	210 56	May 22, 1821,	By cash received of P. Bradley, -	15 67
Nov. 27, 1818,	To cash paid him, -	1,703 75	May 22, 1821,	By transportation for delivering the mail on board, and receiving the mail from on board the steamboat at Philadelphia, from April 1, to December 31, 1819, 244 days, at \$1 per dollar per day, -	244 00
Jan. 2, 1819,	To cash sent him, a check, -	1,625 00	Jan. 1, 1822,	By transportation for his share of carrying the mail, Philadelphia and Jersey city, from January 1, 1820, to December 31, 1821, is eight quarters, at \$806 16 per quarter, -	6,449 28
Feb. 19, 1819,	To cash sent him, a check, -	314 50	Jan. 1, 1822,	Thomas Ward's share for carrying the mail on said route from January 1, 1820, to the 22d May, 1821, at \$538 46 per quarter, is -	2,999 99
March 25, 1819,	To cash paid his draught, of 23d instant, in favor of S. Reynolds, -	140 00			
April 9, 1819,	To cash paid him, a check, -	2,105 00			
April 13, 1819,	To cash paid him, a check, -	500 00			
May 20, 1819,	To cash paid him, a check, -	1,000 00			
June 28, 1819,	To cash delivered Mr. Sargent, a check, -	20 00			
June 30, 1819,	To cash paid Charles Sargent, per letter of 28th June, -	1,000 00			
July 31, 1819,	To cash paid him, a check, -	50 00			

Sept. 30, 1819,	To cash, J. Montgomery's draught,	-	-	-	99 42
Oct. 7, 1819,	To cash paid him, a check,	-	-	-	2,500 00
Jan. 1, 1820,	To cash paid him, a check,	-	-	-	1,825 00
Feb. 22, 1820,	To cash sent him, a check,	-	-	-	800 00
March 8, 1820,	To cash, a draught on S. Fisher,	-	-	-	21 00
March 8, 1820,	To cash paid him,	-	-	-	400 00
March 18, 1820,	To cash sent him, a check,	-	-	-	544 62
March 30, 1820,	To a draught on Mary Davenport,	-	-	-	103 22
14 April 4, 1820,	To cash paid his draught of 24th March, by check,	-	-	-	250 00
April 15, 1820,	To cash in notes and checks,	-	-	-	680 00
April 22, 1820,	To H. Lorraine's draught on W. Wilson & Co.	-	-	-	67 45
May 16, 1820,	To cash paid him, a check,	-	-	-	280 38
June 5, 1820,	To cash paid him, a check,	-	-	-	200 00
0 June 26, 1820,	To cash paid him, a check,	-	-	-	1,000 00
July 6, 1820,	To cash paid T. Ward's order, favor of N. Dunn, by request of C. Bailey,	-	-	-	421 00
Aug. 24, 1820,	To cash sent him, a check,	-	-	-	1,544 62
Aug. 31, 1820,	To cash sent to him to buy an iron chest for the General Post Office \$98, which he bought for \$38—difference,	-	-	-	60 00
Nov. 9, 1820,	To a draught on Thomas Cornwell,	-	-	\$70 00	
Nov. 9, 1820,	To a draught on John G. Priestly,	-	-	300 00	
Nov. 9, 1820,	To a draught on Joseph Hulme,	-	-	88 00	
Nov. 9, 1820,	To a draught on Isaac Hulme,	-	-	109 69	
					567 69
Nov. 15, 1820,	To cash paid him,	-	-	-	500 00
March 8, 1821,	To cash paid him,	-	-	-	1,203 39
March 20, 1821,	To a draught on Stephen Morford,	-	-	-	145 47
April 12, 1821,	To cash paid him,	-	-	-	40 00
April 27, 1821,	To cash sent, a check,	-	-	-	500 00
May 7, 1821,	To cash sent, a check,	-	-	-	500 00
July 2, 1821,	To a draught on Thomas Cornwell,	-	-	\$70 00	
July 2, 1821,	To a draught on George Allen,	-	-	1,000 00	
July 2, 1821,	To a draught on Joseph Hulme,	-	-	37 00	
					1,107 00
Aug. 20, 1821,	To cash sent him, a check,	-	-	-	200 00
Oct. 16, 1821,	To cash paid his draught, of October 4, in favor of J. Reeside,	-	-	-	600 00
Oct. 18, 1821,	To cash sent, a check,	-	-	-	200 00
Dec. 18, 1821,	To a draught on J. Worrell, surety of Henry Comby, for collection, \$1,100, yet unpaid,	-	-	\$1,100	
					\$36,508 05
Jan. 1, 1822,	To balance due the General Post Office,	-	-	-	\$1,470 03

Jan. 1, 1822,

By his salary as agent, from April 1, 1820, to Oct. 1, 1821, six
quarters, at \$200 per quarter,

1,200 00
1,470 03

\$36,508 05

C.

Sir:

GENERAL POST OFFICE, *April, 1822.*

In transmitting the account of Chester Bailey to the committee, which embraces a period of near fifteen years, I trust the committee will not think it improper for me to accompany it with a few remarks immediately relative to the subject.

In my late communication to the committee I did not notice the employment of Mr. Bailey as a special agent of my predecessor for the transmission of a daily mail to Monticello, in Virginia, during President Jefferson's residence at that place in the year 1807.

The account shows that the expense of that mail constitutes the first charge against Mr. Bailey.

In 1809 and 1810 the mail was carried so irregularly between the cities of Philadelphia and New York, that my predecessor found it necessary to carry a part of that mail at the expense of the United States, that he might more effectually secure the due and faithful transmission of mails between those cities.

To effect that object he employed Mr. Bailey to purchase the necessary property, and to superintend it; the fidelity and ability with which he executed that trust was fully approved of, and met the most decided approbation of my predecessor.

The mail's annual expense, before the purchase, was \$4,500 per annum; the receipts from passengers was not equal to the expense and support of the line of mail stages, and, when aided by the mail money, the whole amount of receipts were less than the actual expenditures for stages and sulkies; yet the mail was carried with so much greater regularity than it had been by individuals, that the arrangement was continued, and in full operation, when I entered upon my official duties in 1814.

I, however, considered it to be my duty to ascertain the cost of transporting said mail, in the opinion of others; I therefore included that route in the first advertisement that I published; and the only offer I received was from Messrs. Goodyear and Woodruff, at \$6,500 per annum; the question then occurred to me, was it expedient to sell the property of the United States and accept the offer, or continue the arrangement of my predecessor, regulating the mail's expenditure by the only bid I received, although my advertisement was published more than four months.

After a full examination of the subject, I viewed it best for the public interest to maintain the entire control of that line, which operated as a check upon contractors, both in repressing exorbitant demands, and stimulating contractors to a faithful discharge of their duty.

But, on closing the accounts for the year 1814, the expenses of this line were greater than we anticipated; and passengers were generally turning their attention to steamboats.

I therefore believed it to be for the interest of the United States to continue the control of that line, without the immediate agency of this Department. I therefore tendered to Mr. Bailey the use of the United States' property, and to allow him at the rate of \$6,500 per annum for the mail's transport, without any allowance for sulkies during the bad state of the roads; he carried, or caused the mail to be carried, with great punctuality, and to the general acceptance of the public and of this Department.

In June, 1816, I thought it advisable for the United States to sell the property to Mr. Bailey, at the valuation of two disinterested men, both selected by this Department, viz: Messrs. John Tomlinson and Alexander McCalla, of Philadelphia. I preferred this mode of sale by valuation, as being beneficial to the public in receiving a just value for the property.

In my succeeding advertisement, although published from May till October, 1817, I received no offer except from Chester Bailey; I therefore continued the former arrangement with him, at the former rate, having every advantage, as to fines, by a verbal contract, as though a formal contract had been entered into. It may be proper to add, that the greatest interest the public ever held in that line did not exceed one-half of the distance between Philadelphia and New York, although it entirely controlled the whole.

In my following advertisement I received but one bid, viz: from Ward, Lyon, and Bailey, which was at \$6,500 per annum. I closed with their offer, and entered into a contract with Thomas Ward, of Newark, N. J. and Chester Bailey, a copy of which contract is enclosed.

No agent has ever served this Department more faithfully or usefully than Mr. Bailey has done; he has been the means of prosecuting to conviction more offenders against the Post Office law, within the last ten years, than all other persons in the United States unconnected with this Department.

The account exhibits a balance against him of \$1,470 03; but, on adjusting his account against the Department, it is highly probable that a balance will be found in his favor.

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

R. J. MEIGS, JUN.

Hon. ROMULUS M. SANDERS, *Chairman of Committee on Post Office Concerns.*

Abstract of statements rendered by Postmasters, under the forty-first section of the Post Office law, for the year ending 30th September, 1820.

Post Offices.	Postmasters.		Clerk hire and other expenses.	Gross amount of commissions, &c.	Nett compensation.
Albany, New York, -	Solomon Southwick, -	E. Parmalle & Sons' receipt for candles, \$9 27; Root & Davison's receipt for office rent, \$175, - C. Whitney's receipt for repairing stove pipe, \$1; G. A. Hawsings's receipt for taxes, \$35 10, - J. Skerrett's receipt for repairing locks, \$1; D. K. Van Veghton's receipt for stationary, \$41 32, - Root & Davison's receipt for office rent, \$175; John Shiver's receipt for portage of mails, \$36, - John Matcher's receipt for portage of mails, \$30; and John Thompson's receipt for same, \$36, - John Rappoll, clerk, \$600; J. B. Southwick, clerk, \$600, - James Wands, clerk, \$500; David Prugn, clerk, \$600; S. W. Southwick, clerk, \$500, - Services performed during the winter and session of the Legislature, - G. W. Mancing's receipt for candles, \$17 94; J. Murphy's receipt for same, \$82 03, - E. F. Backus's receipt for house rent, \$312 50, and his receipt for stationary, \$28 38, - Menial services performed in this office, from 1st October, 1819, to 1st October, 1820, for Henry Ridder, \$180; wood, twenty-four cords, \$144, -	\$ 184 27 36 10 42 32 211 00 66 00 1,200 00 1,600 00 150 00 99 97 340 88 324 00	\$5,881 98½ 4,254 54	\$1,627 44½
Alexandria, D. C. -	Josiah Watson, -	Wrapping paper, \$7 85; quills, \$1 30; wafers, 87½ cents; ink powder, 97½ cents, - Penknife, 50 cents; candles, \$11 01; oil, \$9; coal, \$24 50; coal hod, \$1 37½, - S. Lowe, clerk, \$218; A. Watson, clerk, \$160; and board for both at \$200 each, - Office rent for one year, -	11 00 46 38½ 778 00 200 00	1,717 52 1,035 38½	682 13½
Augusta, Georgia, -	James Fraser, ..	Office rent, paid Thomas Cumming, \$500; five cords wood, \$25, - Candles, quills, and ink powder, - H. Bowder, clerk, \$1,000; Charles Mitchell, for services and board, \$450, -	525 00 40 00 1,450 00	3,335 19 2,015 00	1,320 19
Baltimore, Maryland, -	John S. Skinner, -	Office rent, \$700; Moses Ruth, clerk, \$800; W. F. Redding, \$650, - Wilson Compton, to 1st July, 1820, as clerk, \$412 50; William Gilbert, clerk, \$360, - James Lawrenson Porter, \$250; oil, \$50; wood, \$75; stationary, &c. \$60, -	2,150 00 772 50 435 00	4,986 83½ 3,357 50	1,629 33½
Boston, Massachusetts, -	Aaron Hill, -	Office rent, including taxes, \$300; wood, \$34; oil, \$70 75, - Printing and stationary, \$34 86; Andrew Green, for repairing and cleaning stove, \$12 17, - Mending windows, \$8 40; whitewashing office and cleaning windows, \$3 50, - Door lock, \$1 50; chairs and stools, \$3; mending shutters, \$1 25, - P. Braynard, making fires, sweeping, brooms and brushes, &c. - T. B. Parker, clerk, \$700; Leonard Holmes, \$600; Jonathan Wild, \$550; C. Sessions, \$500, J. A. Mason, clerk, \$296; J. J. Brown, \$35; W. Hill, \$100, -	404 75 47 03 11 90 5 75 100 00 2,350 00 431 00	5,158 94 3,350 43	1,808 51
Charleston, South Carolina, -	Y. W. Bacot, -	T. W. Bacot, jr., clerk, \$1,000; W. M. Reid, \$400; E. Kingman, \$400, - J. L. Murray, \$400; stationary, candles, porter hire, repairs, &c. \$100, -	1,800 00 500 00	3,888 68 2,300 00	1,588 68

ABSTRACT—Continued.

Post Offices.	Postmasters.		Clerk hire and other expenses.	Gross amount of commissions, &c.	Nett compensation.
Cincinnati, Ohio, - -	William Burke, - -	Office rent, \$150; wood, \$15; candles, \$15 20; sundries, \$5, - - - - - E. P. Langdon, clerk, \$550; Robert McFarland, \$150, - - - - -	\$ 185 20	\$1,791 41½ 885 20	\$ 906 21½
			700 00		
Georgetown, D. C. - -	Thomas Corcoran, - -	Office rent, \$31 25; salary of clerk, \$125; sundries, \$5, - - - - -	161 25	1,353 44	1,192 19
Hagerstown, Maryland, - -	William Kreps, - -	Office rent, \$100; wood, \$20; candles, \$15 60; sundries, making fires, brushes, &c. \$7 50, - - - George F. Kreps, clerk, \$300; J. W. Kreps, \$300, - - - - -	143 10	1,870 14 743 10	1,127 04
			600 00		
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, - -	Rose Wright, - -	Office rent, \$50; coal, \$10; wood, \$9; candles, \$6; stationary \$6; sundries, \$12, - - - James Wright, clerk, \$200; A. W. Berryhill, clerk, \$30, - - - - -	93 00	1,182 19½ 323 00	859 19½
			230 00		
Hartford, Connecticut, - -	Jonathan Law, - -	Office rent, \$100; wood, \$50 66; candles, 19 65; writing paper, \$5 50, - - - - - Sundries, \$28 77½; C. L. Packard, clerk, \$600, Albert Lester, for assistance three months and five days, \$78 76; board and washing for said time, \$41 14, N. J. Elliot, for assistance nine months and twenty-seven days, \$197 37; board and washing for said time, \$129, Excess of balance over the allowance limited by law for postmaster's salary, - - - - -	175 81	3,469 47 1,469 47	2,000 00
			628 77½		
			119 90		
			326 37		
			218 61½		
Lexington, Kentucky, - -	John Fowler, - -	William Carty, clerk, \$300; John Carty, \$150, - - - - -	450 00	1,511 48	1,061 48
Louisville, Kentucky, - -	John T. Gray, - -	Office rent, \$200; wood, \$12; candles, \$6, - - - - - Stephen Shallcross, clerk, \$532, - - - - -	218 00	2,438 66 750 00	1,688 66
			532 00		
Marietta, Pennsylvania, - -	H. P. Wilcox, - -	Office rent, \$60; fuel, \$25; candles and oil, \$10, - - - - - John E. Page, clerk, \$150; G. J. Willard, from August 1 to September 30, 1820, \$40, - - - - -	95 00	1,250 52½ 285 00	965 52½
			190 00		
Nashville, Tennessee, - -	R. B. Currey, - -	Office rent, \$360; fuel, \$67 50; candles, \$12 50, - - - - - B. F. Currey, clerk, \$600; G. W. Currey, \$100; board, &c. \$121 33, R. H. Mason, clerk, \$45; board, &c. \$54 60; bed and lodging for two assistants, \$52, Paper, \$8 31; quills, \$5 50; ink powder and wafers, \$2 45, - - - - - Excess of balance over the allowance admitted by law for postmaster's salary, - - - - -	440 00	3,564 00 1,564 00	2,000 00
			821 33		
			151 60		
			16 26		
			134 81		
Natchez, Mississippi, - -	John Hankinson, - -	Office rent, \$50; W. E. Lehman, from 1st December, 1819, to February 1, 1820, \$75, Samuel Patterson, from 1st March to 30th September, 1820, \$175; J. P. Walworth, clerk, \$175, J. Beaumont, clerk, \$375; H. M. All, clerk, \$700; services, \$37 50, - - - - -	125 00	1,884 23½ 1,587 50	296 73½
			350 00		
			1,112 50		

ABSTRACT—Continued.

Post Offices.	Postmasters.		Clerk hire and other expenses.	Gross amount of commissions, &c.	Nett compensation.
New Haven, Connecticut,	W. H. Jones,	Office rent, \$125; wood, \$31 50; candles, oil, &c. \$12 50, Samuel C. Carter, clerk, \$125, and board, washing, &c. \$125,	\$ 169 00 250 00	\$1,443 39 419 00	\$1,024 39
New York city,	Theo. Bailey,	Office rent, \$1,000; fuel, wood and coal, \$80; candles and oil, \$65, Stationary, \$75; extra printing, labels, accounts, &c. \$3 25; office lamp, \$7 22, Extra printing, blanks, &c. \$11 50; lodging for two clerks having charge of office at night, \$50, Porter services, \$150; scavenger and street cleaners, \$15, J. R. Bailey, clerk, \$1,000; Anthony Wiley, clerk, \$1,000; J. S. Reynolds, clerk, \$1,000, J. M. Read, \$600; T. T. Peek, \$600; W. Taylor, \$600, W. A. Colman, \$700; George W. Peek, clerk, \$350,	1,145 00 85 47 61 50 165 00 3,000 00 1,800 00 1,050 00	8,968 73 7,306 97	1,661 76
New Orleans, Louisiana,	T. B. Johnson,	Office rent, \$720; fuel, \$24; candles, ink, sand, paper, quills, brushes, &c. \$150, Bernard Cazeaum, clerk, \$900; J. Santo Domingo, \$600; G. Lafferranderie, \$360,	894 00 1,860 00	4,175 84 2,754 00	1,421 84
Petersburg, Virginia,	Thomas Shore,	Office rent, \$200; John Butts, clerk for six months, \$150, W. O. Gee, four months, \$62 50; Lewis Lansford, four months, \$50, W. Holdercroft, six months, \$155; James Blanks, three months, \$37 50, Board for two clerks, \$450; board for one clerk, four months, \$67; washing for three clerks, \$58, Fuel, \$70; candles, &c. \$100; servant, \$100; moving office, \$45,	350 00 112 50 192 50 575 00 315 00	3,543 79 1,545 00	1,998 79
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania,	Richard Bache,	Office rent, \$1,200; services of porter, \$200; fuel, \$150; stationary, \$115, Watching at the office, \$28 50; quills, \$8; candles, \$32 27; stationary, \$7 50, Candles, \$64 36; oil, \$15; Peter Morgan, for salary, \$412 50, F. C. Dumling, clerk, \$1,200; Hugh Newman, clerk, \$331 25; J. Bewley, clerk, \$500, J. C. Dumling, \$500; John Sutter, \$500; John Talbert, clerk, \$263 89, A. D. Bache, \$400; surplus to the credit of the General Post Office, \$12 36,	1,665 00 76 27 491 86 2,531 25 1,263 89 412 36	8,440 63 6,440 63	2,000 00
Pittsburg, Pennsylvania,	John Johnston,	Office rent, \$250; fuel, \$30; candles, \$15, John S. Johnston, clerk, \$600; James Dick, clerk, \$500,	295 00 1,100 00	2,671 21 1,395 00	1,276 21
Portland, Maine,	Robert Ilsley,	Office rent, \$80; wood, \$36 47; oil, \$13 75; stationary, \$7 12½, Parker Ilsley, clerk, \$400; John Hull, \$200; Robert Hull, \$75,	137 34½ 675 00	2,334 40 812 34½	1,522 05½
Portsmouth, New Hampshire,	Jonathan Payson,	Office rent, \$75; fuel, \$12 37½; candles, \$140; sundries, \$25 25, Samuel Hall, jun., clerk, \$600; Nathan Melcher, clerk, \$150,	114 02½ 750 00	1,861 39½ 864 02½	997 37

ABSTRACT—Continued.

Post Offices.	Postmasters.		Clerk hire, and other expenses.	Gross amount of commissions, &c.	Nett compensation.
Providence, Rhode Island,	Gabriel Allen,	Office rent, \$200; wood, \$15; coal, \$1; oil, \$8; stationary, \$12, D. S. Lawrence, clerk, \$500; W. H. Martin, clerk, \$200; sundries, \$5,	\$236 00 705 00	\$2,419 20 941 00	\$1,478 20
Salem, Massachusetts,	J. E. Sprague,	Office rent, \$110; fuel, wood, and bark, \$20; candles, \$26; sundries, \$39, J. V. Brown, clerk, \$110; Robert Beduce, \$20,	195 00 130 00	1,262 03 325 00	
Stamford, Connecticut,	Abraham Davenport,	Office rent, \$75; wood, \$30; candles and oil, \$19 50; stationary, \$19 25, J. S. Davenport, clerk, \$450; S. A. Davenport, \$400; S. D. Hoyt, \$60,	143 75 910 00	1,777 31 1,053 75	937 03
St. Louis, Missouri,	L. F. Thruston,	C. B. Penrose, clerk, \$87 50; J. S. Conway, \$30; sundries, \$69 97½, L. F. Thruston, \$225, and board for same time, \$180; office rent, \$72, R. T. Browne, \$66 66½; board same time, \$85,	187 47½ 477 00 151 66½	1,209 51 816 14	723 56
Washington, Kentucky,	William Murphy,	Office rent, \$100; wood, \$36; candles, \$26; sundries, \$15, L. Sandridge, clerk, \$256; A. Wilson, clerk, \$206, Horace Barn, clerk, \$178; Patrick Herndon, \$100, Excess over and above paying his salary, and other expenses,	177 00 462 00 278 00 78 48	2,995 48 995 48	393 37
Washington City,	Thomas Munroe,	George Sweeny, clerk, \$1,500; Edward Dyer, clerk, \$1,400, Thomas Munroe, Jun., \$1,100; Columbus Munroe, \$1,000, Alexander Dyer, John Bailey, Joseph Haskill, and Thomas L. Noyes, assistant clerks on Sabbaths, nights, and before daylight of mornings; together, John Goldin, porter, \$400; fuel, 300 bushels coal, and 15 cords wood, \$232 50, Candles and oil, \$181 12; paper, quills, red and black ink, sealing wax, &c., \$147 85, Repairs, and various work in and about office, including porch and steps at letter window, east end of building; office furniture and accommodations for lodging clerks in the office; boxes, baskets, sweeping chimneys, glazing windows, washing the same, rooms, &c., and other expenses incident to the office,	2,900 00 2,100 00 830 00 632 50 328 97 153 08	8,920 12 6,944 55	2,000 00
Winchester, Virginia,	William Davison,	Office rent, \$50; fuel, \$15; candles, \$15; stationary, \$9, W. Murphy, clerk, \$227 50; E. J. Davison, \$100; W. W. Werm, \$22 50,	89 00 350 00	1,144 02 439 00	1,975 57
Wilmington, N. Carolina,	C. Dudley, Jun.,	Office rent, \$100; fuel, \$10; candles, \$3; letter paper, \$4 50; quills and wafers, \$6, Servant as porter, \$10 50; L. A. D. Dorsey, clerk, \$300,	123 50 310 50	1,118 82½ 434 00	705 02
					684 82½

ABSTRACT—Continued.

Post Offices.	Postmasters.		Clerk hire and other expenses.	Gross amount of commissions, &c.	Nett compensation.
Fayetteville, N. Carolina,	John McRae,	Office rent, \$350; candles and oil, \$90; wood, \$30; porter \$40, A. H. McRae, clerk, \$400; Duncan McRae, clerk, \$200; Owen Kenain, \$100,	\$510 00 700 00	\$3,038 84 1,210 00	\$1,828 84
Chambersburg, Penn.	Jacob Deckhert,	Fuel, \$10; candles, \$16, Clerk, N. J. Neily, aged 26 years, who remained until some time in August last; salary and boarding at the rate of \$450 per annum, say ten months,	26 00 375 00	971 44 401 00	
Fredericksburg, Virginia,	W. T. Gray,	Office rent, \$75; fuel, \$21 60; oil, \$9; candles, \$10 50, Clerk, Lewis Timberlake, \$450; stationary, brushes, and making fires, \$18 45,	116 10 468 45	1,084 55 584 55	570 44
Norfolk, Virginia,	A. J. McConnico,	Office rent, \$93 33; fuel, \$20; candles, \$5; making fires, &c., \$50, Clerk, F. C. Fontaine, \$600, from September 1, 1819, to September 30, 1820,	168 33 600 00	1,912 92 768 33	900 00
					1,144 59

Statement of the receipts and disbursements of sundry Postmasters, made in conformity to the 41st section of the Post Office law, for the year ending September 30, 1820.

Post Offices.	Postmasters.		Amount of commissions.	Nett compensation.
Fredericksburg, Va.	W. F. Gray, -	Allowance on free letters, - - -	\$ 23 78	
		Commission on letter postage, - - -	976 65	
		Commission on newspapers, - - -	84 12	
			\$1,084 55	
		<i>From which deduct, for expenses of office:</i>		
		For one year's rent, paid Mrs. Smith, \$75 00		
		fuel, 80 bushels of coal, at 27 cts. 21 60		
		six gallons of oil, at \$1 50, - 9 00		
		fifty lbs. of candles, at 21 cts. - 10 50		
		clerk hire, paid L. Timberlake, aged 23 years, - - - 450 00		
		sundries, stationary, brushes, making fires, &c. - - - 18 45		
			584 55	\$500 00
Norfolk, Virginia, -	A. J. McConnico, -	Commission on letters, &c. &c. - - -	1,912 92	
		<i>From which deduct, for expenses of office:</i>		
		For office rent, paid Matthew Glenn, \$93 33		
		five cords of wood, at \$4, and 20 lbs. of candles, at 25 cts: - 25 00		
		clerk hire, paid Francis C. Fontaine, aged 28 years, - - - 600 00		
		sundries, making fires, brushes, &c. &c. per account, - - - 50 00		
			768 33	\$1,144 59
Wilmington, Del. -	Joseph Bringhurst,	To May 15th:		
		Commission on letters, &c. &c. - - -	478 94	
		From which deduct, for clerk hire, &c. per account, - - - - -	190 10	\$288 84
	N. G. Williamson,	From May 15th:		
		Commission on letters, &c. &c. - - -	507 03	
		<i>From which deduct, for expenses of office:</i>		
		For rent, candles and oil, per acc't, - \$48 56		
		clerk hire, paid S. McDowell, aged 32 years, - - - 150 00		
		do. C. Grubb, aged 15 years, 50 00		
			248 56	\$258 47
Washington, Penn.	Hugh Wyllie, -	Commission on letters, &c. &c. - - -	1,614 97	
		<i>From which deduct, for expenses of office:</i>		
		For office rent, \$75, wood and candles, \$89 00		
		clerk hire, paid M. Hamilton, aged 27 years, - - - 150 00		
		do. D. Wyllie, aged 22 years, 150 00		
			389 50	\$1,225 47

NOTE.—The above, with those heretofore sent to the committee, embrace all the statements required under the 41st section of the Post Office law.