17th Congress.]

No. 47.

[2d Session.

PROPOSITION TO EXEMPT STATE LAWS FROM POSTAGE.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE, FEBRUARY 28, 1823.

Mr. Van Duke, from the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, having under consideration a resolution of the Senate of the 8th of January, directing them to "inquire into the expediency of authorizing an interchange of the laws of the several States, by mail, free of postage," reported:

That, owing to the many settlements lately made in the new States and Territories, the number of mail routes has been greatly increased in the course of a few years past, and the expense of the Post Office Department has been so much augmented as to exceed the income; and that many new post routes are established at every session of Congress, whilst very few of the old routes are discontinued. In consequence of which, the expense of transporting the mails is likely to become a serious charge to the Government; and that, authorizing the interchange of the laws of the States, free of postage, would greatly encumber those concerned in carrying the mails, without any adequate benefit. The committee, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolution, to wit:

Resolved, That it is inexpedient, at this time, to authorize the interchange of the laws of the several States, by mail, free of postage.

17th Congress.]

No. 48.

[2d Session.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEARS 1821 AND 1822.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE EXPENDITURES OF THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, FEBRUARY 28, 1823.

SIR:

GENERAL POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, February 4, 1823.

I have the honor to enclose the several statements which you have requested, viz:

No. 1. A table of the Post Office establishment, showing the number of Post Offices, the amount of postages collected by the several Postmasters, the amount of their several compensations, the amount of incidental expenses, the expense of transporting the mail, the balance against the Department, and the extent in miles on the post roads, in the years 1821 and 1822.

No. 2. A statement of the actual receipts and expenditures of the General Post Office, for the years 1820, 1821,

and 1822.

and 1822.

No. 3 Contains a statement of the incidental expenses of the Department for the year 1822.

No. 4 Contains the contingent expenses of the General Post Office for the year 1822.

It will be seen, by statement No. 1, that the produce of the Post Office Department fell short of the expenses in the year 1821, by the sum of \$126,265, and that of 1822 fell short \$28,843. These deficiencies were made up by pressing the collection of old balances. Further collections will be made this year, but it is difficult to conjecture whether they will more than balance those which arise from new delinquencies; but having communicated with the Committee on the Post Office Department on this subject, it will be unnecessary for me to extend my remarks.

I am, very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

R. J. MEIGS, Jun.

R. J. MEIGS, Jun.

Honorable George Dennison, Chairman of the Committee on Post Office Expenditures.

No. 1.

Table of the Post Office Establishment, showing its produce and expenditure for the years 1821 and 1822.

YEARS.	Number of Post Offices.		Compensation to Postmasters.	Incidental expenses.	Transportation of the mail.	Balances in favor of G. Post Office.		Extent in miles of post roads.
1821,*	4,976	\$1,056,658	\$336,239	\$31,003	\$815,681	-	\$126,265	79,808
1822,†	5,252	1,128,023	356,155	22,958	777,753		28,843	85,554

^{*} The difference between this and the report of last year is in consequence of the 4th quarter being then estimated, and now brought in as it actually stands on the books.

† The product for the 4th quarter is estimated, as also the expense for the transportation of the mail for the same quarter.

No. 2.

Statement of the amount of the annual receipts and expenditures of the General Post Office from 1820 to 1822, inclusive, with the amount paid into the Treasury in each year.

January 1, 1820,	Cash on hand, - Amount of receipts in 1820,	-	-	-	-	-	\$57,381 74 841,712 50
15							899,094 24

No. 2-Continued.

	110. 2—011	unucu.				
	Amount of expenditures in 1820, Amount paid to the Treasury same year, Balance on hand,	- -	- - -	-	\$863,917 34 6,465 95 28,710 95	\$ 899,094 24
January 1, 1821,	Cash on hand, Amount of receipts in 1821, -	-	:	:	-	28,710 95 856,464 85 885,175 80
	Amount of expenditures in 1821, Amount paid to the Treasury same year, Balance on hand,	-	- -	-	813,680 32 516 91 70,978 57	885,175 80
January 1, 1822,	Cash on hand, Amount of receipts in 1822, -	-	:	-	-	70,978 57 812,711 92 883,690 49
	Amount of expenditures in 1822, Amount paid to the Treasury same year, Balance on hand, December 31, 1		-	- - -	849,310 33 514 13 33,866 03	883,690 49

No. 3.

A statement of the incidental expenses of the General Post Office for the year 1822.

FIRST QUARTER OF 1822.		THIRD QUARTER OF 1822.	
Paid Sellers & Pennock, for portmanteaus, &c., Paid T. Rowe, for paper, twine, blanks, &c., Paid Wm. J. Stone, for stamps for Post Office,	\$552 37 825 50 43 69	Paid William Morgan, for wharfage, - Paid Jonathan Elliott, for printing, &c., - Paid William J. Stone, for stamps, -	\$1 35 1,321 87 26 07
Paid Edgar Patterson, for paper,	425 00	Paid William H. Haywood, for marshal's	
Paid Jonathan Elliott, for printing, Paid J. Ficklin, for paper, printing blanks, &c.,	1,540 00 119 95	and attorney's fees, Paid Jonah Wood, for saddlebags, -	128 37 7 00
Paid Ths. Rowe, for paper, twine, blanks, &c.,	1,505 78	Paid John Frank, for binding books, &c., -	224 00
Paid William Cooper, for paper and printing, Paid Medat Moody, for desk for Post Office,	216 75 3 75	Paid Ingham & Longstreth, for paper, Paid J. Gideon, Jr. for printing and bind.	624 00 186 40
Paid A. R. Thornton, marshal, Va. fees, - Paid John D. Boteler, for locks for port-	307 25	Paid Gales & Seaton, for printing, Paid Joseph Ficklin, for paper, &c.,	1,343 87 26 25
manteaus,	25 00	Paid John D. Boteler, for locks, &c., -	43 75
Paid J. D. Boteler, for locks for portmanteaus, Paid J. D. Boteler, for locks for portmanteaus,	62 50 125 00	Paid John D. Boteler, for locks, &c., - Paid John D. Boteler, for locks, &c., -	25 00 32 00
Paid Thomas Henderson, for printing paper,	600 00	Paid E. Shiple, for marshal's and attorney's	
Paid Sellers & Pennock, for portmanteaus, Paid H. McGary, for costs of suit, vs. R.	818 97	fees, Paid John D. Boteler, for locks, &c	34 57 10 00
Brumhead,	29 03	Paid Jacob Gideon, Jun. for printing, &c.,	127 40
Paid Jacob Southerland, marshal's, &c. fees, Paid C. Heaps, pensioner,	484 61 50 00	Paid William Cooper, for paper and print- ing,	399 35
	7,735 15		4,561 25
SECOND QUARTER OF 1822.		FOURTH QUARTER OF 1822.	
Paid Thomas Rowe, for paper, twine, blanks,		Paid Leonard H. Cowles, for mail-bags, &c.,	\$14 25
&c., Paid William Cooper, for paper and print-	\$2,871 19	Paid James Wilson, for printing, Paid T. Rowe, for paper, twine, blanks, &c.,	12 00 756 00
ing,	245 40	Paid William Cooper, Jun. for printing, -	331 00
Paid Thomas Rowe, for paper, twine, blanks,	266 00	Paid T. Rowe, for paper, twine, and blanks, Paid T. Rowe, for paper, twine, and blanks,	1,094 25 1,320 30
Paid Patrick Rogers, for portmanteaus, -	37 12 1,011 00	Paid Joseph Ficklin, for printing, &c., -	19 12 570 50
Paid Ingham and Longstreth, for paper, - Paid William J. Stone, for stamps, -	54 21	Paid Sellers & Pennock, for portmanteaus, Paid Patrick Rogers, for portmanteaus,	46 99
Paid William Morgan, for wharfage, Paid John D. Boteler, for locks, &c.,	4 12 125 00	Paid D. H. Mason, for stamps, Paid Way & Gideon, for printing, -	14 00 12 12
Paid Lark Fox, for arresting mail robber, -	200 00	Paid John D. Boteler, for locks, &c., -	62 50
Paid John D. Boteler, for locks, &c., Paid John D. Boteler, for locks, &c.,	25 00 62 50	Paid John D. Boteler, for locks, &c., - Paid John D. Boteler, for locks, &c., -	87 50 125 00
Paid Patrick Rogers, for portmanteau, -	20 00	Paid Gales & Seaton, for printing, -	328 00
Paid Joseph Borrows, for paper, Paid Joseph Ficklin, for printing way-bills, -	137 50 79 32	Paid William Brent, for clerk's fees, - Paid R. Walker, for marshal's, &c. fees, -	43 224 79
Paid William Creighton, for detecting rob-	100.00	Paid Asa Green, P. M. Brattleboro', Vt. for	
ber,	100 00	an allowance made him for securing a debt due from A. Manley,	27 35
		Paid Thomas Rowe, for paper and printing,	378 00
	5,238 36	<u> </u>	5,424 10
·	RECAPITU	LATION.	

RECAPITULATION.

Amount of first quarter,	-	-	-	-	\$7,735 15
Amount of second quarter,	-	-	-	-	5,238 36
Amount of third quarter,	-	•	-	-	4,561 25
Amount of fourth quarter,	-	-	-	· -	5,424 10
,					
					\$ 00 958 86

No. 4. A statement of the contingent expenses of the General Post Office for the year 1822.

1892 Jan'ry 1 To cash paid Gales & Seaton 10 00 Jan'ry 22 To cash paid William Brown 4 00 Jan'ry 32 To cash paid John Remington 150 Jan'ry 32 To cash paid William Brown 24 00 Aug. 31 To cash paid John Remington 150 Jan'ry 32 To cash paid William Brown 24 00 Reb'ry 30 To cash paid William Brown 24 00 Reb'ry 31 To cash paid William Brown 25 00 Reb'ry 31 To cash paid Charles Durden 26 09 Sept. 10 Sept. 10 Sept. 10 Sept. 10 Sept. 11 Sept.				0	,	
Jan'ty 1, To cash paid Gales & Seaton,	1899			1899		
Jan'ty 21, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Aug. 31, To cash paid William Brown, - 25 50 Jan'ty 22, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Aug. 31, To cash paid David Butler & Co. 25 50 Sept. 19, To cash paid Oliver Everett, - 5 00 Sept. 19, To cash paid Oliver Everett, - 5 00 Sept. 19, To cash paid Oliver Everett, - 5 00 Sept. 19, To cash paid Oliver Everett, - 5 00 Sept. 19, To cash paid Oliver Everett, - 5 00 Sept. 19, To cash paid Oliver Everett, - 5 00 Sept. 19, To cash paid Oliver Everett, - 5 00 Sept. 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 10, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 10, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 10, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 10, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 10, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 10, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 10, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 10, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 10, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 10, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 10, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 10, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 10, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Sept. 10, To cash paid William Brown, -		To balance on account rendered	\$140 531		To each paid Thomas Quarles -	\$30.50
Jan'ry 22, To cash paid William Brown,						
Jan'ry 23, To cash paid William Brown, a paid william Brown, a paid Ab'm Bradley, adding the						
Sept. 92 To cash paid William Brown, - 10 Sept. 92 To cash paid Charles Burden, - 15 Sept. 10 To cash paid Charles Durden, - 16 Sept. 92 To cash paid Charles Durden, - 17 Sept. 10 Sept. 10 To cash paid William Brown, - 18 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 18 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 18 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 18 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 18 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 18 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 18 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 18 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 18 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 18 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 19 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 18 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 18 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 18 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 18 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 18 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 19 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 19 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 19 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 19 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 19 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 19 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 19 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 19 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 19 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 19 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 19 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 19 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 19 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 10 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 10 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 10 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 10 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 10 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 10 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 10 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 10 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 10 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 10 Sept. 12 To cash paid William Brown, - 10 Sept.		'P Toka Daniant Drown, "			To cash paid John Long, -	
Feb'ry 20,						
Rebry 21. To cash paid Ab'm Bradley, 3d, March 19. To cash paid Charles Durden, - 15 00 March 19. To cash paid Charles Durden, - 26 09 March 20. To cash paid Joseph Borrows, - 26 09 Sept. 11. To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 April 20. To cash paid Charles Bell, - 51 00 Oct. 1, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Oct. 1, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Oct. 1, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Oct. 1, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Oct. 1, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Oct. 1, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Oct. 25, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 Oct. 25, To cash paid Jonathan Ellott, - 20 00 Oct. 25, To cash						
March 19. To cash paid Charles Durden, - To cash paid William Brown, - March 22, To cash paid Charles Durden, - 5 75 26 09 Sept. 11, Sept. 12, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 To cash paid William Brown, - 10 cash paid Charles Bell, - 51 00 To cash paid Charles Bell, - 51 00 Oct. 1, Oct. 1, Oct. 1, Oct. 1, To cash paid Charles Bell, - 51 00 Oct. 1, To cash paid Charles Bell, - 51 00 Oct. 1, To cash paid Charles Bell, - 51 00 Oct. 1, To cash paid Charles Bell, - 51 00 Oct. 26, Oct. 27, To cash paid Jonathan Elliott, - 40 00 Oct. 26, Oct. 26, Oct. 26, Oct. 26, Oct. 26, Oct. 26, Oct. 27, To cash paid Joseph Borrows, - 24 00 Oct. 31, To cash paid Joseph Borrows, - 10 0ct. 26, Oct. 31, Oct. 31, Oct. 31, Oct. 31, To cash paid Joseph Borrows, - 10 0ct. 26, Oct. 31, Oct. 3						
March 20, March 22, To cash paid Gharles Durden, - March 22, To cash paid William Brown, - March 22, To cash paid Gharles Bell, - Stope 12, To cash paid William Brown, - March 22, To cash paid Arch'd Cheshire, - 120 00 Cot. 17, To cash paid William Brown, - March 22, To cash paid Ma						
March 22, To cash paid Charles Burden, Amarch 22, To cash paid Unima Brown, - April 2, April 4, To cash paid Charles Bell, - Stopper 1 1 25						
March 22, March 22, To cash paid James Thomas, - 10 April 22, To cash paid Charles Bell, - 51 00 April 4, To cash paid Charles Bell, - 51 00 Cct. 1, To cash paid Davis & Force, - 17 76 Cash paid Davis & Force, - 17 76 Cash paid Davis & Force, - 17 76 Cash paid Davis & Force, - 18 Cct. 26, To cash paid Davis & Force, - 19 00 Cct. 27, To cash paid Davis & Force, - 17 76 Cash paid Davis & Force, - 18 Cct. 26, To cash paid Davis & Force, - 19 Cct. 27, To cash paid John Frank, - 10 Cct. 28, To cash paid John Rown, - 10 Cct. 28, To cash paid John Rown, - 10 Cct. 28, To cash paid Charles Durden, - 70 31 Cct. 31, To cash paid John Frank, - 10 Cct. 31, To cash paid Joseph Borrows, - 10 Cct. 31, To cash paid Joseph Borrows, - 10 Cct. 31, To cash paid Benj. French, - 10 Cct. 31, To cash paid Benj. French, - 10 Cct. 31, To cash paid Benj. French, - 10 Cct. 31, To cash paid Benj. French, - 10 Cct. 31, To cash paid Benj. French, - 10 Cct. 31, To cash paid Benj. French, - 10 Cct. 31, To cash paid Matthias Jeffers, - 10 Cct. 31, To cash paid William Brown, - 10 Cct. 31, To cash paid William Brown, - 10 Cct. 31, To cash paid William Brown, - 10 Cct. 31, To Cash paid Benj. French, - 10 Cct. 31, To Cash paid William Brown, - 10 Cct. 31, To Cash paid William Brown, - 10 Cct. 31, To Cash paid William Brown, - 10 Cct. 31, To Cash paid William Brown, - 10 Cct. 31, To Cash paid William Brown, - 10 Cct. 31, To Cash paid William Brown, - 10 Cct. 31, To Cash paid William Brown, - 10 Cct. 31, To Cash paid William Brown, - 10 Cct. 31, To Cash paid William Brown, - 10 Cct. 31, To Cash paid William Brown, - 10 Cct. 31, To Cash paid William Brown, - 10 Cct. 31, To Cash paid William Brown, - 10 Cct. 31, To Cash paid William Brown, - 10 Cct. 31, To Cash paid William Brown, - 10 Cct. 31, To Cash paid William Brown, - 10 Cct. 31, To Cash paid William Brown, - 10 Cct. 31, To Cash paid William William Brown, - 10 Cct. 31, To Cash paid William William Brown, - 10 Cct. 31, To Cash paid William William Brown, - 10 Cct. 31, To Ca	March 20,		26 09			4 00
March 29, To cash paid James Thomas,	March 22,	To cash paid Charles Durden, -	5 75	Sept. 19,		9 50
April 2, To cash paid Charles Bell, To cash paid William Brown, To cash paid Gharles Burden, To cash paid Gharles Burden, To cash paid John Frank, To cash paid John Frank	March 22,	To cash paid William Brown, -	4 00	Oct. 1,		38 50
April 2, To cash paid Charles Bell, To cash paid William Brown, To cash paid Gharles Burden, To cash paid Gharles Burden, To cash paid John Frank, To cash paid John Frank	March 29.		11 25	Oct. 1.	To cash paid Charles Bell	51 00
April 4,	April 2.			Oct. 7.		4 00
April 29, To cash paid William Brown, - 248 62½ Oct. 26, To cash paid Jonathan Elliott, - 376 Cash paid Thomas Rowe, - 248 62½ Oct. 31, To cash paid Alexander Kerr, - 376 Cash paid Isaac Randolph, - 375 Nov. 16, To cash paid Isaac Randolph, - 375 Nov. 16, To cash paid Isaac Randolph, - 375 Nov. 16, To cash paid Isaac Randolph, - 375 Nov. 16, To cash paid William Brown, - 376 Cash paid John Frank, - 276 Cash paid John Frank, - 276 Cash paid William Brown, - 376 Cash paid Davis & Force, - 276 Cash paid William Brown, - 376 Cash paid John Rowlett, - 376 Cash paid Usliam Brown, - 376 Cash paid Charles Bell, - 376 Cash paid Charles Bell, - 376 Cash paid William Brown, - 376 Cash paid William Brown, - 376 Cash paid Usliam Brown, - 376 Cash paid Usliam Brown, - 377 Cash paid Charles Bell, - 378 Cash paid Charles Bell, - 378 Cash paid Charles						
April 20, To cash paid William Salter, - To cash paid Grant Rowe, - To cash paid Charles Durden, - To cash paid Edward Holland, - To cash paid Edward Holland, - To cash paid John W. Moore, - Bay 16, To cash paid John W. Moore, - Bay 17, To cash paid John Frank, - Bay 18, To cash paid Bay 18, To						
April 20, To cash paid Thomas Rowe, - 248 62\frac{1}{2} Oct. 31,		To cash paid William Salter				
April 22, To cash paid daron Sims,		To cash paid Thomas Rows				
April 26, To cash paid Edward Holland, May 16, To cash paid John W. Moore, 22 30 Dec. 31, To cash paid John W. Moore, 22 30 Dec. 31, To cash paid John Frank, 4 00, Dec. 31, To cash paid John Frank, 2 10, Dec. 31, Dec.					To each paid Charles Durden	
May 16,						
May 16, To cash paid John W. Moore, - 22 30 May 17, To cash paid John Frank, - 160 25 May 22, To cash paid William Brown, - 4 00 May 29, To cash paid John Rowlett, - 19 25 July 17, To cash paid Charles Bell, - 11 50 July 12, To cash paid Charles Bell, - 116 00 July 12, To cash paid Charles Bell, - 160 00 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 44 00 July 19, To cash paid Charles Bell, - 160 00 July 19, To cash paid William Cooper, - 18 75 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 116 00 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 116 00 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 116 00 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 116 00 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 116 00 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 116 00 July 19, To cash paid Thomas Beard, - 42 50 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 40 00 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 116 00 July 19, To cash paid Thomas Beard, - 42 50 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 40 00 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 40 00 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 40 00 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 40 00 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 40 00 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 40 00 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 40 00 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 40 00 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 40 00 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 40 00 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 40 00 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 40 00 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 40 00 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 40 00 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 40 00 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 40 00 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 40 00 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 40 00 July 19, To cash paid William						
May 17, To cash paid John Frank, - May 160 25 Dec. 16, Dec. 14, To cash paid Rachel Herbert, - To cash paid William Brown, - May 160 25 Dec. 14, To cash paid Rachel Herbert, - To cash paid Davis & Force, - 27 621 Dec. 17, To cash paid Matthias Jeffers, - 20 cash paid Matthias Jeffers, - 20 cash paid Ledward De Krafft, 62 50 June 18, To cash paid Edward De Krafft, 62 50 Dec. 18, To cash paid John Rowlett, - 19 25 Dec. 11, To cash paid Joseph Borrows, - 20 down with a standard of the paid Joseph Borrows, - 20 down with a standard william Brown, - 4 down william Ward, - 20 down william Ward,						
May 22, To cash paid William Brown, - May 4 00 Dec. 14, To cash paid William Brown, - Dec. 4 00 Dec. 14, To cash paid William Brown, - Dec. 4 00 Dec. 15 00 Dec. 14, To cash paid William Brown, - Dec. 15 00 Dec. 15 00 Dec. 16 00 Dec. 17 00 Cash paid William Brown, - Dec. 16 00 Dec. 17 00 Cash paid William Brown, - Dec. 18 00 Dec. 19 25 Dec. 11 50 Dec. 12 Dec. 13 To Cash paid Thomas						
May 25, To cash paid Davis & Force, - May 27 624 May Dec. 28, To cash paid Matthias Jeffers, - Stay Paid Park 20 00 May To cash paid Ledward De Krafft, Gash paid Edward De Krafft, Gash paid John Rowlett, - June 27 624 May Dec. 31, To cash paid Joseph Borrows, - June 28, To cash paid Joseph Borrows, - June 31, To cash paid William Ward, - June 31, To cash paid W.P. Smcree, - June 31, To cash paid T. W. Pairo, - June 31, To cash paid T. W. Pairo, - June 31, To cash paid T. W. Pairo, - June 31, To cash paid T. W. Pairo, - June 31, To cash paid T. W. Pairo, - June 31, To cash paid T. W. Pairo, - June 31, To cash paid T. W. Pairo, - June 32, 50 July 16, To cash paid T. Clark, - Juny 40, To cash paid Thomas Beard, - Juny 40, To cash paid William Hunt, - Juny 40, To cash paid William Ward, - June						
May 28, To cash paid J. Eschback, (wood,) 549 43 Dec. 31, To cash paid Charles Bell, - 400 00 11 50						
May 29, To cash paid Edward De Krafft, 19 25 11 50 1						
June 3, To cash paid John Rowlett, 19 25 June 18, To cash paid William Brown, 4 00 July 12, To cash paid Charles Bell, 51 00 July 12, To cash paid Charles Bell, 51 00 July 15, To cash paid T. Clark, 41 50 July 15, To cash paid T. Clark, - 41 50 July 16, To cash paid William Brown, - 42 50 July 19, To cash paid William Brown, - 400 July 10, To						
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17th Congress.]

No. 49.

[2d Session.

POSTAGE ON BOOKS-EXPENSE OF CARRYING CERTAIN MAILS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE POST OFFICE AND POST ROADS, MARCH 1, 1823.

SIR:

GENERAL POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, January 27, 1823.

In reply to the inquiries of the committee, I have the honor to state, in relation to the first proposition of the resolution, that the transportation of the public mails between Nashville and New Orleans, the emporium of the West, is opposed by many natural obstacles, and supported but by few artificial facilities and conveniences. A great portion of the intervening country is intersected by bayous, rivers, and streams, which are frequently impassable, for the want of bridges and ferries, and the banks of which are often overflowed. These the mail carriers are sometimes compelled to swim; and sometimes the rider and his horse overthrown by the rapidity of the currents. By these causes of impedition the mails become wet; and, by the friction of carriage on horseback, the contents of the mails become explaintly injured. the mail become seriously injured.

It would be of great importance, as regards the transportation of the mail, if Congress should make an appropriation for improving that road, and grant small tracts of land on the banks of those bayous, rivers, and streams, upon the express and perpetual condition that the grantees, and their successors, should erect bridges, and keep them in repair; or establish ferries, and forever keep them in suitable order; and over which the United States' mail should always pass free of toll or ferriage.

To the second proposition, contained in the resolution, I have to state, that the military road (so called) extends from Florence, in the Tennessee river, in the State of Alabama, to Madisonville, in Louisiana, and is about four hundred miles in length. On that road thirty-five bridges were erected, measuring three thousand two hundred and thirteen feet. Three hundred and ninety-two causeways were made, measuring altogether nearly twenty-six thousand feet; and mile-posts were erected throughout the whole road. All which labor was performed by the troops of the United States. This road was well opened, and of ample breadth. This road is now somewhat dilapidated; some of the bridges are swept away; others want repair; and the road is greatly incumbered by the falling of timber.

This road is some hundred miles shorter than the present mail's route to New Orleans; and, if put in a state of repair, the mails might be transported to New Orleans in light covered carriages, with a greater celerity, more safety, more certainty, and more to the benefit of the United States.