

Every failure would be loudly complained of, and, unless the most rigorous course was pursued, and a forfeiture exacted for the first failure that placed the contract at the disposal of the Department, the most serious accusations would be made.

It is evidently against good policy to place contracts in the hands of persons who reside many hundred miles from the routes. Of this you are as fully convinced as I am; and I have no doubt that you, by a sale, will relieve the Department and yourself from all embarrassments respecting it.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN McLEAN.

DUFF GREEN, Esq., *St. Louis, Missouri.*

Sir:

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, *July 19, 1826.*

I exceedingly regret that stages are not yet in operation between Louisville and St. Louis. Letters are almost daily received complaining of the delay, and censuring the conduct of the Department. Nothing has been left undone by me which it was proper for me to do to carry the late arrangement into effect.

I am less uneasy at the censures which have been heard than the loss which the public may sustain by the delay. If you should move from the West, it is very important that you should sell your interest in this line to an efficient man, who would do justice to the public.

You inform me that Foyles is still on the road. Has your negotiation with him failed? If it has, it would be important for me to know it.

The transfer of his contract to you was absolute, though there were some conditions, aside from the transfer, on the performance of which, if my memory serves me, he was to deliver his stage property to you. His remaining on the line authorizes the presumption that some difficulty has arisen on this part of the arrangement.

As the contract was for a stage transportation, and the mail has been carried on horseback, a less rate of compensation will be paid than the sum stipulated.

I feel great solicitude for the arrangement of this business, that all complaints may cease, or rather that there may be no complaint well grounded.

A stage line cannot be managed to the advantage of the contractor, or to the public benefit, unless under the immediate superintendence of the contractor.

I sincerely hope that you will be able to find a contractor to supply your place on this line, who shall possess all the requisites of an efficient agent of the Department.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN McLEAN.

DUFF GREEN, Esq., *St. Louis, Missouri.*

There were sent to James Vanderburgh, of Vincennes, Indiana, by direction of Duff Green, in a letter of the 18th October, 1826:

A draft on Burr Bradley for	-	-	-	-	-	\$10
A draft on R. Brown for	-	-	-	-	-	10
A draft on Thomas Cissel for	-	-	-	-	-	5
A check for	-	-	-	-	-	275
						<u>\$300</u>

To Isom Sexton, of St. Louis, Missouri, in a letter of 11th December, 1826:

A draft, payable 1st January, 1827, on John Pitman, for	-	-	-	-	-	\$50 45
A draft, payable 1st January, 1827, on James Journey, for	-	-	-	-	-	10 00
A draft, payable 1st January, 1827, on J. L. Sharp, for	-	-	-	-	-	20 00
A draft, payable 1st January, 1827, on E. Fruit, for	-	-	-	-	-	10 00
A draft, payable 1st January, 1827, on T. Harrison, for	-	-	-	-	-	15 00
A draft, payable 1st January, 1827, on C. Hardin, for	-	-	-	-	-	70 00
A draft, payable 1st January, 1827, on sureties of G. B. Wilcox, for	-	-	-	-	-	34 55
A draft, payable 1st January, 1827, on G. M. Samuels, for	-	-	-	-	-	40 00
A draft, payable 1st January, 1827, on S. Daly, for	-	-	-	-	-	25 00
A draft, payable 1st January, 1827, on E. B. Cabell, for	-	-	-	-	-	50 00
A draft, payable 1st January, 1827, on S. Aull, for	-	-	-	-	-	20 00
A draft, payable 1st January, 1827, on W. L. Smith, for	-	-	-	-	-	130 00
						<u>\$475 00</u>

And to Isom Lewis, of St. Louis, Missouri, in a letter of 11th December, 1826:

A draft, payable 1st January, 1827, on W. P. Hunt, for	-	-	-	-	-	\$21 15
A draft, payable 1st January, 1827, on J. L. Musick, for	-	-	-	-	-	30 00
						<u>\$51 15</u>

All other payments have been made to Duff Green in drafts on postmasters on the routes, checks on banks in his own favor, and on account of drafts drawn by him on the Department.

20th CONGRESS.]

No. 67.

[1st Session.]

CONDITION OF THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

COMMUNICATED TO CONGRESS, BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, DECEMBER 4, 1827.

Sir:

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, *November 13, 1827.*

The receipts of this Department for the year ending the 1st July last amounted to	-	-	-	-	-	\$1,473,551 00
During the same period, the expenditures were	-	-	-	-	-	1,373,239 00
						<u>\$100,312 00</u>

Leaving one hundred thousand three hundred and twelve dollars surplus of receipts.

The receipts of the last year exceeded those of the four preceding years the sums stated, viz:

1826,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$85,134 18
1825,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	221,489 68
1824,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	304,352 09
1823,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	359,205 88

If to the above sums there be added the amount of the reduction of expenditure upon established routes without lessening the public accommodation, and due allowance be made for increased services, at a rate of compensation below what had usually been paid, the condition of the Department will be found to have been improved, within four years, ending 1st July last, more than \$1,000,000; and the last year, in comparison with the year preceding, 1st July, 1823, near \$500,000.

Within the last year an augmented transportation of the mail has been authorized of 415,214 miles annually, in stages, and on horseback, or in sulkeys, 500,032 miles.

Under the contracts recently made, great additional facilities have been given, by accelerating the mail on leading routes, increasing the number of trips, and establishing lines which connect important districts of country. There are few towns or villages in the Union which are not accommodated with mail stages.

The post offices have been increased to seven thousand.

In the last four years there has been added to the mail operations of the country, in revenue, transportation of the mail, and post offices, more than one-third. The means of the Department are now ample to meet the reasonable wants of the country; and a vigilant administration of its affairs, for a few years to come, will place at the disposition of the Government an annual surplus of more than half a million of dollars. This sum will be augmented, as facilities of mail intercourse are multiplied, and can be most advantageously applied, if deemed within the constitutional powers of Congress, in the establishment and repairs of mail roads.

By the last annual statement there was shown to be in deposit, and due from postmasters, including

Judgments obtained on old accounts, the sum of	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$270,321 87
To this sum may be added the surplus of last year,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100,312 00
									<u>\$370,633 87</u>

The repairs lately authorized to be made on the mail roads from Columbus to Doake's, in the State of Mississippi, and from Fort Mitchell to Line creek, in Alabama, are nearly completed, under contracts which require the work to be done in the best manner, and at a price that cannot fail to meet the public approbation.

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

JOHN McLEAN.

The PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

20th CONGRESS.]

No. 68.

[1st Session.

NETT AMOUNT OF POSTAGE ACCRUING AT EACH POST OFFICE, FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1827.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, JANUARY 14, 1828.

SIR:

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, *January 10, 1828.*

In obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives passed March 1, 1825, I have the honor to transmit you, herewith, a statement of the nett amount of postage accruing at each post office in each State and Territory of the United States, for one year ending March 31, 1827; and showing the nett amount accruing in each State and Territory.

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

JOHN McLEAN.

The Hon. ANDREW STEVENSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

A statement of the nett amount of postages accruing at each post office in each State and Territory of the United States, for one year ending March 31, 1827; and showing the nett amount accruing in each State and Territory.

NEW YORK.

Acasto, - - -	\$1 95	Amity, - - -	\$21 80	Auburn, - - -	\$2,151 70
Accord, - - -	48 51	Amsterdam, - - -	204 08	Augusta, - - -	-
Adams, - - -	159 65	Anaquascook, - - -	1 81	Aurelius, - - -	45 80
Adamsville, - - -	16 75	Ancram, - - -	4 47	Aurissville, - - -	17 36
Addison, - - -	8 05	Andes, - - -	36 74	Aurora, - - -	269 34
Albany, - - -	9,937 95	Angelica, - - -	194 90	Austerlitz, - - -	36 13
Albion, - - -	147 30	Angola, - - -	6 71	Avon, - - -	235 25
Alden, - - -	32 60	Antwerp, - - -	78 29	Bainbridge, - - -	93 08
Alexander, - - -	65 97	Appling, - - -	2	Baldwinsville, - - -	54 26
Alexandria, - - -	23 00	Apulia, - - -	13 85	Ballston, - - -	73 50
Alfred, - - -	30 07	Argyle, - - -	121 13	Ballston Springs, - - -	507 92
Allenville, - - -	3 39	Arkport, - - -	12 91	Bangor, - - -	26 96
Almond, - - -	38 54	Arthursbury, - - -	18 26	Barre, - - -	78 71
Alps, - - -	9 12	Athens, - - -	126 61	Barrington, - - -	26 00
Amber, - - -	28 68	Athol, - - -	4 64	Batavia, - - -	1,069 66
Amenia, - - -	66 23	Attica, - - -	107 37	Bates, - - -	4 64
Amenia Union Society, - - -	51 58	Attlebury, - - -	25 81	Bath, - - -	400 46