

C.

SIR:

GENERAL POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, *February 8, 1830.*

In answer to your inquiries relative to the case of Josiah H. Webb, I have the honor to state that, in the month of August, 1805, Josiah H. Webb, who was then employed in carrying the United States mail from Athens, in Georgia, to New Orleans, while riding through the Creek nation of Indians for that purpose, and having the mail in charge, was shot by some unknown person, (supposed to be an Indian,) and very severely wounded. He was taken to Fort Stoddert, where, by the humane attention which was bestowed upon him, under the direction of the commandant, he partially recovered of the wound, but continued in a crippled state of body. His case appears to have excited great commiseration; and Congress, by an act passed April 21, 1806, appropriated \$250 to defray the expense of his long confinement, he being at that time still in a state of entire disability at Fort Stoddert. In December, 1811, Congress provided further relief for him, by an act granting him a pension of \$50 per annum for life, to commence from the 1st January, 1809. His disability appears to have arisen from the wound which he received in the faithful discharge of his public duty, and Congress appears to have recognised it as a case which called for relief from the public treasury.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. T. BARRY.

Hon. RICHARD M. JOHNSON,
Chairman of the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads.

D.

SIR:

CARROLLTON, ILLINOIS, *November 17, 1829.*

Mr. Josiah H. Webb has thrown himself upon the clemency of Congress for an increase of his pension, as you will see by the enclosed documents. The effect of his wound renders him unable to labor, and I have no hesitation in saying that it would be equitable and just that his pension should be increased to a sufficient sum for his entire support. The support and influence of yourself and our Senators are his only alternative. I hope you will use your influence in his behalf.

With much esteem, yours,

THOMAS CARLIN.

To the Hon. JOSEPH DUNCAN.

[21st CONGRESS.]

No. 86.

[1st SESSION.]

POST ROUTES ON WHICH THE MAIL IS TRANSPORTED ON SUNDAY.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, MARCH 4, 1830.

SIR:

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, *March 4, 1830.*

I have the honor to transmit, in accordance with the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 24th ultimo, a statement of the post routes within the United States on which the mail is transported on Sunday.

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

W. T. BARRY.

Hon. A. STEVENSON, *Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

The mail is transported on the following post routes within the United States on Sunday:

From Washington City, by Baltimore, Philadelphia, Trenton, N. J., New York city, Hartford, Boston, Portsmouth, N. H., Portland, and Brunswick, to Augusta, in Maine.

From Washington City, by Warrenton, Culpeper Court-house, and Charlottesville, to Lynchburg, in Virginia.

From Washington City, by Richmond and Petersburg, Va., Raleigh and Fayetteville, N. C., Georgetown and Charleston, S. C., to Savannah, in Georgia.

From Fredericksburg, Va., by Halifax and Salem, N. C., Yorkville and Abbeville, S. C., and Petersburg, Ga., to Powelton, in Georgia.

From Fayetteville, N. C., by Columbia, S. C., Augusta and Milledgeville, Ga., Montgomery, Blakely, and Mobile, Ala., to New Orleans, in Louisiana.

From Huntsville, Ala., by Tuscumbia, Ala., Doak's Stand and Natchez, Miss., and St. Francisville, to New Orleans, in Louisiana.

From Washington City and Baltimore, by Fredericktown and Cumberland, Md., Washington, Pa., Wheeling, Va., Zanesville, Ohio, Maysville, Lexington, and Louisville, Ky., Vincennes, Ia., Carlyle, Ill., and St. Louis, Mo. to Fayette, in Missouri.

From Zanesville, by Columbus, to Cincinnati, Ohio.

From New York city, by Albany, Canandaigua, and Buffalo, N. Y., and Erie, Pa., to Youngstown, in Ohio.

From Philadelphia, by Lancaster, Harrisburg, and Pittsburg, to Washington, in Pennsylvania.

From Philadelphia, by Reading and Alexandria, to Pittsburg, in Pennsylvania.

IN MAINE.

From Bangor to Oldtown.

IN NEW HAMPSHIRE.

From Haverhill to Guildhall, Vt.
Portsmouth to Plymouth.

From Hanover to Newbury.
Hanover to Haverhill.

IN VERMONT.

From Montpelier to Derby.
Bennington to Bridgeport.

From Bethel to Woodstock.
Burlington to South Hero.

IN MASSACHUSETTS.

From New Bedford to Newport, R. I.
Boston to Providence, R. I.
Boston to Albany, N. Y.

From Newton Upper Falls to Boston.
Boston to Ashford, Conn.
Boston to Walpole, N. H.

IN RHODE ISLAND.

From Newport to New York city.

IN CONNECTICUT.

From New Haven to Providence, R. I.

From Hartford to Hanover, N. H.

IN NEW YORK.

From New York city to Albany.
Monroe to New Paltz.
Chenango Point to Harpersville.
Utica to Ithaca.
Kingston to Cloverville.
Columbus to Cortland.
Albany to Harpersfield.
Albany to Manlius.
Albany to Canandaigua.
Canandaigua to Rochester.
Manlius to Auburn.
Elbridge to Rochester.
Utica to Sackett's Harbor.

From Rochester to Lewiston.
Centreville to Mayville.
Mayville to Lodi.
Lodi to Centreville.
Bridgewater to Cherry Ridge, Penn.
Buffalo to Fredonia.
Brockport to Clarkson.
Owego to Geneva.
Cherry Valley to Cooperstown.
Waterford to Saratoga.
Catskill to Ithaca.
Cuba to Geneseo, and Bath to Olean.
Delhi to Cooperstown.

IN NEW JERSEY.

From Jersey City to Owego, N. Y.

IN PENNSYLVANIA.

From Kittaning to Olean.
Franklin to Olean.
Womelsdorf to Dalmatia.
Reading to Northumberland.
Columbia to Elizabethtown, N. J.
Stroudsburg to Hop Bottom.
Lancaster to Port Deposit.
Cherry Valley to Bethlehem.
Berwick to Easton.
Mount Aetna to Franklin.
Watsonstown to Bellefonte.

From Downington to Harrisburg.
Bucksville to Bethlehem.
Greensburg to Roseburg.
Huntingdon to Bloody Run.
Gettysburg to Hagerstown.
Reistertown to Carlisle.
Berwick to Elmira, N. Y.
Bellefonte to Olean.
Phillipsburg to Coleman.
Uniontown to Clarksburg, Va.

IN MARYLAND.

From Tomlinson's to Ebensburg.
Fredericktown to Liverpool.
Oldtown to Cumberland.
Baltimore to Centreville.

From Annapolis, by Easton and Cambridge, to Snow Hill.
Baltimore to Chambersburg, Pa.
Westminster to Chambersburg, Pa.
Boonsborough to Winchester, Va.

IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

From Washington City to Georgetown.

IN VIRGINIA.

From Winchester to Staunton.
Buckingham Court-house to Boydton.
Giles Court-house to Cabell Court-house.
Travellers' Repose to Pocahontas Court-house.
Romney, by Clarksburg, to Marietta, Ohio.
Petersburg to Norfolk.
Charlotte Court-house to Campbell Court-house.
Richmond to Norfolk.
Weston to Parkersburg.
Danville to Cocke's Store.
Greenville to Council Store, N. C.
New Canton to New Glasgow.
Winchester to Romney.
Winchester to German Settlement.
Leadesville to German Settlement.
Leadesville to Clarksburg.
Staunton to Lewisburg.
Richmond to Charlottesville.
Lockport to Moorfields.
New London to Pittsylvania Court-house.

From Winchester to Hancock, Md.
Montgomery to Wythe Court-house.
Harrisville to Clarksville.
Fredericksburg, by Warrenton, to Winchester.
Petersburg to City Point.
Henry Court-house to Liberty.
Hampstead to King George.
Fredericksburg to Culpeper Court-house.
Norfolk to Tarborough, N. C.
Hillsborough to Milton.
New Glasgow to Liberty.
Coalsmouth to Gallipolis, Ohio.
Giles Court-house to Rocky Mount.
Simpson's to Grayson Court-house.
Fishing Creek to Kingwood.
Parkinsonville to Charlotte Court-house.
Lynchburg to Buckingham Court-house.
Hicksford to Suffolk Court-house.
Jacksonville to Kenawha Court-house.

IN NORTH CAROLINA.

From Newbern to Washington.
Stagville to Hillsborough.
Raleigh to Roxborough.
Warrenton to Milton and Danville.
Charlotte to Camden, S. C.
Warrenton to Tarborough.
Fayetteville to Charlotte.
Raleigh to Newbern.
Pittsborough to Kincannon.
Elizabeth City to Norfolk.
Stauntonborough to Duplin Court-house.
Fayetteville to Wilmington.

From Salem, by Shown's Cross Roads, to Knoxville, Ten-
Wilkesborough to Charlotte.
Morgantown to Greenville.
Morgantown to Asheville.
Yorkville to Murraysville.
Halifax to Columbia.
Pittsborough to Fayetteville.
Edenton to Washington and Beaufort.
Fayetteville to Salisbury.
Raleigh, by Tarborough, to Newbern.
Fayetteville to McIntosh's Old Place.
Rockingham to Cheraw, S. C.

IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

From Columbia to Buchanansville.
Columbia to Greenville.
Marion to Wilmington.
Pickensville to Slattown.

From Cheraw to Chesterville.
Columbia to Charleston.
Charleston to Camden.

IN GEORGIA.

From Augusta to Carnesville.
Milledgeville to Athens.
Powelton to Madison.
Mount Vernon to Darien.
Athens to Spring Place.
Gunter's Landing to Blountsville.
Columbus to Fort Gaines.
Columbus to Early Court-house.
Darien to Brunswick.
Savannah to Louisville.
Waynesville to Ware Court-house.
Savannah to Augusta.

From Savannah to Darien.
Augusta to Coosahatchie.
Augusta to Charleston, S. C.
Augusta to Athens.
Lawrenceville to Fayetteville.
Clinton to Madison.
Hartford to Appling Court-house.
St. Mary's to St. Augustine, Florida.
Washington to Elberton.
Macon to Newton.
Augusta to Pendleton, S. C.
Savannah to Macon.

IN FLORIDA.

From Pensacola to Burnt Corn, Ala.
Tallahassee to St. Augustine.

From Tallahassee to Pindartown, Ga.

IN ALABAMA.

From Montgomery to Tuscaloosa.
Marengo to Claiborne.
Bellefonte to Blountsville.
Tuscaloosa to Mobile.

From Montgomery to Selma.
Athens to Tuscaloosa.
Huntsville to Shelbyville.

IN MISSISSIPPI.

From Columbia to Washington Court-house.
Columbia to Madisonville.

From Natchez to Winchester.
Columbus to Bolivar, Tenn.

IN LOUISIANA.

From Madisonville to New Orleans.
Natchitoches to Crow's Crossing.
Woodville, by Pinkneyville, to Alexandria.
Franklin to Clinton.

From Natchez to Alexandria.
Alexandria to Natchitoches.
Baton Rouge to Opelousas.
Blanchardsville to Opelousas.

IN ARKANSAS.

From Memphis, Tenn., to Greenock, A. T.
Little Rock to Nicksville.
Little Rock to Miller Court-house.
Batesville to Little Rock.
Hempstead Court-house to Natchitoches.

From Mouth of Cache to Helena.
Mouth of Cache to Mouth of White river.
Memphis to Little Rock.
Batesville to Izard Court-house.

IN TENNESSEE.

From Murfreesborough to Spring Place, Ga.
Columbia to Mooresville.
Morgan Court-house to Hilham.
Monroe to Martinsburg.
Nashville, by Jackson, to Memphis.
Clinton to Burkeville.
Sparta to Glasgow, Ky.
Sparta to Monticello.
Lebanon to Glasgow, Ky.

From Tellico Plains to Clarksville, Ga.
Hilham to Martinsburg.
Columbus to Chota.
Chota to Franklin, N. C.
Rutledge to Marysville.
Greenville to Warm Springs, N. C.
Athens to Hamilton Court-house.
Lebanon to Lancaster.
Washington to Bellefonte, Ala.

IN KENTUCKY.

From Catlettsburg to Paris.
Barbourville to Newport, Tenn.
Nicholasville to Barbourville.
Cincinnati, Ohio, by Lexington, Harrodsburg, and
Glasgow, Ky., to Nashville, Tenn.
Eddyville to Wardsborough.
Georgetown to Vevay, Ia.
Richmond to Barbourville.
Morganfield to Salem.
Danville to Columbia.
Stanford to Somerset.
Maysville to Cincinnati.
Salem to Shawneetown.
Hopkinsville to Nashville.
Cumberland Ford to Perry Court-house.

From Lexington to Richmond.
Catlettsburg to Pike Court-house.
Greensburg to Litchfield.
Catlettsburg to Maysville.
Hickman to Dresden.
Louisville, by Bowling Green, to Nashville, Tenn.
Hickman to Dyer Court-house, Tenn.
Hardinsburg to Hopkinsville.
Lawrenceburg to Springfield.
Shelby to Vevay, Ia.
Hopkinsville to Canton.
Hickman to New Madrid, Mo.
McCracken Court-house to Paris.
Mayfield to Mill Point.
Wilmington to Springfield.

IN OHIO.

From Marietta to Point Pleasant.
Warren to Salem.
Cleveland to Sandusky City.
Marietta to Chillicothe.
Fairport to Ravenna.
Warren to Elyria.
Canton to Ravenna.
Maumee to Fort Wayne, Ia.

From Lancaster to Gallipolis.
Chillicothe to Gallipolis.
Piqua to Defiance.
Piqua to Fort Wayne, Ia.
Springfield to Sandusky City.
Chillicothe to Dayton.
Canton to Norwalk.

IN MICHIGAN.

From Detroit to Mount Clemens.

From Indian Village to Fort Gratiot.

IN INDIANA.

From Columbus to Little York.
Newcastle to Covington.
Terre Haute to Evansville.
Maysville to St. Louis.

From Paoli to Petersburg.
Hamilton, Ohio, to Richmond, Ia.
Vincennes to Shawneetown, Ill.

IN ILLINOIS.

From Carrollton to Quincy.
 Shawneetown to Jackson.
 Shawneetown to Carlyle.
 Carrollton to Springfield.
 Jacksonville to Rushville.

From Atlas to Louisiana.
 Vandalia to Paris.
 Kaskaskia to Vandalia.
 Vincennes to Union.
 Vandalia to Peoria.

IN MISSOURI.

From Jefferson to Fulton.
 Chariton to Independence.

From St. Louis to Jefferson Barracks.
 St. Louis to Springfield, Ill.

[21st CONGRESS.]

No. 87.

[1st SESSION.]

SUNDAY MAILS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, MARCH 4 AND 5, 1830.

Mr. JOHNSON, of Kentucky, from the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, to whom had been referred memorials from inhabitants of various parts of the United States, praying for a repeal of so much of the Post Office law as authorizes the mail to be transported and opened on Sunday, and to whom had also been referred memorials from other inhabitants of various parts of the United States remonstrating against such repeal, made the following report:

That the memorialists regard the first day of the week as a day set apart by the Creator for religious exercises, and consider the transportation of the mail and the opening of the post offices on that day the violation of a religious duty, and call for a suppression of the practice. Others, by counter-memorials, are known to entertain a different sentiment, believing that no one day of the week is holier than another. Others, holding the universality and immutability of the Jewish decalogue, believe in the sanctity of the seventh day of the week as a day of religious devotion, and, by their memorial now before the committee, they also request that it may be set apart for religious purposes. Each has hitherto been left to the exercise of his own opinion, and it has been regarded as the proper business of Government to protect all and determine for none. But the attempt is now made to bring about a greater uniformity, at least in practice; and, as argument has failed, the Government has been called upon to interpose its authority to settle the controversy.

Congress acts under a constitution of delegated and limited powers. The committee look in vain to that instrument for a delegation of power authorizing this body to inquire and determine what part of time, or whether any, has been set apart by the Almighty for religious exercises. On the contrary, among the few prohibitions which it contains, is one that prohibits a religious test, and another which declares that Congress shall pass no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof. The committee might here rest the argument, upon the ground that the question referred to them does not come within the cognizance of Congress; but the perseverance and zeal with which the memorialists pursue their object seems to require a further elucidation of the subject; and, as the opposers of Sunday mails disclaim all intention to unite church and state, the committee do not feel disposed to impugn their motives; and whatever may be advanced in opposition to the measure will arise from the fears entertained of its fatal tendency to the peace and happiness of the nation. The catastrophe of other nations furnished the framers of the constitution a beacon of awful warning, and they have evinced the greatest possible care in guarding against the same evil.

The law, as it now exists, makes no distinction as to the days of the week, but is imperative that the postmasters shall attend at all reasonable hours in every day to perform the duties of their offices; and the Postmaster General has given his instructions to all postmasters that, at post offices where the mail arrives on Sunday, the office is to be kept open one hour or more after the arrival and assorting the mail; but, in case that would interfere with the hours of public worship, the office is to be kept open for one hour after the usual time of dissolving the meeting. This liberal construction of the law does not satisfy the memorialists; but the committee believe that there is no just ground of complaint, unless it be conceded that they have a controlling power over the consciences of others. If Congress shall, by the authority of law, sanction the measure recommended, it would constitute a legislative decision of a religious controversy in which even Christians themselves are at issue. However suited such a decision may be to an ecclesiastical council, it is incompatible with a republican Legislature, which is purely for political, and not religious purposes.

In our individual character we all entertain opinions, and pursue a corresponding practice, upon the subject of religion. However diversified these may be, we all harmonize as citizens, while each is willing that the other shall enjoy the same liberty which he claims for himself. But, in our representative character, our individual character is lost. The individual acts for himself; the representative for his constituents. He is chosen to represent their *political*, and not their *religious* views; to guard the rights of man, not to restrict the rights of conscience. Despots may regard their subjects as their property, and usurp the Divine prerogative of prescribing their religious faith; but the history of the world furnishes the melancholy demonstration that the disposition of one man to coerce the religious homage of another springs from an unchastened ambition rather than a sincere devotion to any religion. The principles of our Government do not recognise in the majority any authority over the minority, except in matters which regard the conduct of man to his fellow-man. A Jewish monarch, by grasping the holy censer, lost both his sceptre and his freedom. A destiny as little to be envied may be the lot of the American people, who hold the sovereignty of power, if they, in the person of their representatives, shall attempt to unite, in the remotest degree, church and state.

From the earliest period of time, religious teachers have attained great ascendancy over the minds of the people; and in every nation, ancient or modern, whether Pagan, Mahometan, or Christian, have succeeded in the incorporation of their religious tenets with the political institutions of their country. The Persian idols, the Grecian oracles, the Roman auguries, and the modern priesthood of Europe, have all, in their turn, been the subject of popular adulation, and the agents of political deception. If the measure recommended should be adopted, it would be difficult for human sagacity to foresee how rapid would be the succession, or how numerous the train of measures which might follow, involving the dearest rights of all—the rights of conscience. It is perhaps fortunate for our country that the proposition should have been made at this early period, while the spirit of the Revolution yet exists in full vigor. Religious zeal enlists the strongest prejudices of the human mind, and, when misdirected, excites the worst passions of our nature, under the delusive pretext of doing God service. Nothing so infuriates the heart to deeds of rapine and blood; nothing is so incessant in its toils, so persevering in its determinations, so appalling in its course, or so dangerous in its consequences. The equality of rights, secured by the constitution, may bid defiance to mere political tyrants; but the robe of sanctity too often glitters to deceive. The constitution regards the conscience of the Jew as sacred as