

POSTAL CONVENTION WITH GUATEMALA. JUNE 4 & JULY 16, 1862. 1103

*Postal Convention between the United States of America and the Republic of Guatemala.* June 4 and July 16, 1862.

ARTICLE I. An exchange of mails shall hereafter take place between the United States of America and Guatemala, by the ordinary routes of communication via the Isthmus of Panama; the government of the United States to be at the expense of the sea transportation thereof between New York and Aspinwall, and between San Francisco and Panama; provided the same can be secured for the compensation allowed by law; and the government of Guatemala to be at the expense of the isthmus transportation thereof, and also of the sea transportation between Panama and Guatemala.

Mails to be exchanged.

Expense, how borne.

ARTICLE II. New York and San Francisco shall be the exchange offices on the side of the United States, and Guatemala city the office of exchange on the side of Guatemala, for all mails transmitted between the two countries under this arrangement.

Offices of exchange.

ARTICLE III. All mail matter transmitted in either direction between the respective offices of exchange shall be forwarded in closed bags or pouches under seal, addressed to the corresponding exchange office; and the United States consul and resident mail agent at Panama, New Granada, is hereby designated as the agent of the two governments for receiving the bags or pouches at that port from either direction, and despatching them to their respective destinations.

Mail matter, how to be forwarded.

Agents.

The mail bags or pouches despatched from or addressed to the United States exchange office of New York shall comprise the correspondence originating in or destined for the Atlantic States and Territories; and the bags or pouches despatched from or addressed to the United States exchange office of San Francisco shall comprise the correspondence originating in or destined for the Pacific States and Territories.

Mail bags to comprise what.

ARTICLE IV. No accounts shall be kept between the Post-Office Departments of the two countries on the correspondence exchanged between them; but each country shall levy, collect, and retain its own postage only, at the following rates, viz. :—

No accounts between the two offices.

Each to collect its own postage.

1st. The postage to be charged and collected in the United States on each letter or parcel not exceeding half an ounce (avoirdupois) in weight, addressed to or received from Guatemala, shall be 10 cents; and the postage to be charged in Guatemala on each letter or parcel of like weight, addressed to or received from the United States, shall be 2 reals, (or 25 cents U. S. currency,) and each additional weight of half an ounce, or less than half an ounce, shall be charged an additional rate of 10 cents in the United States and 2 reals in Guatemala.

Letter rates in the United States;

in Guatemala.

2d. The postage to be charged and collected in the United States on newspapers, unsealed circulars, and other descriptions of printed matter addressed to or received from Guatemala, shall be two cents on each newspaper or unsealed circular, and one cent an ounce, or fraction of an ounce, on pamphlets, periodicals, books, and other kinds of printed papers; and the postage to be charged and collected in Guatemala on each newspaper, pamphlet, periodical, unsealed circular, book, or other article of printed matter addressed to or received from the United States, shall be at the rate of 3 cents (1 cuartillo) per ounce, or fraction of an ounce; provided that no book, bound or unbound, weighing over two pounds (avoirdupois) shall be admitted in the mails at less than full letter rate of postage as hereinbefore described.

Newspaper rates in the United States;

in Guatemala.

1104 POSTAL CONVENTION WITH GUATEMALA. JUNE 4 & JULY 16, 1862.

Printed matter, how to be sent.

Newspapers, pamphlets, periodicals, books, and other articles of printed matter, must be sent in narrow bands, open at the sides or ends, and are to be subject to the laws and regulations of each country respectively, in regard to their liability to be rated with letter postage when containing written matter, or for any other cause specified in said laws and regulations.

Dead letters to be returned.

ARTICLE V. The Post-Office Departments of the two countries shall reciprocally return to each other, unopened and without charge, every three months, or more frequently if practicable, all dead letters which from any cause cannot be delivered to their addresses in the country to which they were sent.

This convention, when to go into operation;

ARTICLE VI. This arrangement shall go into operation on the first day of September, 1862. It may be modified from time to time by mutual agreement of the Post-Office Departments of the two countries; and it is to be continued in force until annulled by mutual consent, or by either Post-Office Department, after the expiration of three months' previous notice to the other of its intention to annul the same.

how long to be continued.

Done in duplicate and signed at Washington on the 16th day of July, 1862, and at Guatemala city on the 4th day of June, 1862.

M. BLAIR,

*Postmaster-General.*

ANTO ANDRÉU,

*P. M. Gen., ad interim.*

Approved:

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Approved:

RAFAEL CARRERA.

By the President:

WM. H. SEWARD.

P. DE AYCINENA.

WASHINGTON, July 16, 1862.