

ADDITIONAL ARTICLES

August 29 and
October 14, 1855. *Agreed upon between the General Post-Office of the United States of America and the General Post-Office of Prussia, providing for the Registration of valuable Letters to be conveyed in the closed Mails between the United States and Prussia.*

Registered letters.

ARTICLE I. Letters, alleged to be valuable, posted at any post-office in the United States or its Territories, and addressed to Prussia, or any part of the German Austrian Postal Union, or posted in Prussia or the German Austrian Postal Union, and addressed to the United States, and deliverable at the respective exchange offices of New York, Boston, and Aachen, (Aix-la-Chapelle,) to be thence conveyed by means of the American and English and the English and Belgian mail lines, shall be registered at the office of mailing, on the application of the person posting the same: *Provided*, That the full postage chargeable thereon to destination, together with a registration fee of five cents on each letter, be prepaid at such mailing office: *And provided, also*, That such registration shall not be compulsory, and shall not render the respective Post-Office Departments of the United States or Prussia, or their revenues, liable for the loss of such letters or packets, or the contents thereof.

Postage and registration fee to be prepaid.

Registration not to be compulsory and not to create any liability for loss.

Letters mailed in the interior of either country.

ARTICLE II. All such letters or packets mailed in the interior of the United States or Prussia, and the German-Austrian Postal Union, respectively, shall be received, registered, and receipted for, as directed in the general regulations issued in each country in regard to the registration of valuable letters, and shall be sent to the exchange offices of New York and Boston, or Aachen, respectively, for the purpose of being forwarded thence by the first outgoing mail.

Separate letter bills.

ARTICLE III. The respective exchange offices of New York, Boston, and Aachen shall make a separate letter bill for each registered letter, or parcel of registered letters, originally mailed at said exchange offices, or sent to them to be forwarded, as prescribed by the regulations referred to in Article II., and shall enter therein the name of the person addressed, the post-office to which it is to be mailed for delivery, and the rate of postage for each letter. The postmaster of said exchange office will then mail each such letter, or parcel of letters, in a separate package from the unregistered letters, and seal each package after tying it in the usual manner. The letter bills of such registered letters shall not be enclosed in the packages containing them; but shall be enclosed in a separate wrapper or envelope, sealed, and addressed to the postmaster of the corresponding exchange of Aachen, Boston, or New York.

Separate packages.

Letter bills not to be enclosed in packages.

Duty of postmasters on receipt of registered letters.

ARTICLE IV. On receipt of registered letters for delivery or distribution at either of the respective exchange offices of Aachen, Boston, or New York, the postmaster of such receiving office will compare the letters with the bill, and endorse it "correct," if it is found so, or will note the error, if there be one, in the manner prescribed with regard to registered letters received from an inland post-office. He will then fill up the corresponding return bill, noting upon it whether correct or otherwise, and will see that it is returned by the first mail thereafter to the office of mailing, (New York, Boston, or Aachen, as the case may be.)

ARTICLE V. Registered letters received at New York or Boston from Aachen, or received at Aachen from New York or Boston, and destined for an inland post-office, shall be forwarded in the same manner as other registered letters originally mailed at either office. Registered letters to be forwarded.

ARTICLE VI. The United States and Prussian Post-Offices shall reciprocally account to each other upon such registered letters as shall be exchanged between them, in the same manner as prescribed in the postal convention signed at Washington on the 17th of July, and at Berlin on the 26th day of August, 1852; but the registration fee of five cents shall accrue to the United States Post-Office Department upon all registered letters sent from the United States to Prussia, and to the Prussian Post-Office Department upon all registered letters sent from Prussia to the United States. Accounts between the two countries.

In witness whereof, the heads of the departments have affixed their names and seals of office to these presents, at the dates set opposite to each, respectively.

[L. S.]

JAMES CAMPBELL,
Postmaster-General.

WASHINGTON, August 29, 1855.

[L. S.]

VON DER HEYDT,
*His Prussian Majesty's Minister of State
for Commerce and Public Works.*

BERLIN, October 14, 1855.