

Second additional convention to the postal convention of August 21, 1867, between the United States of America and Belgium. Signed at Washington on the 9th day of May, 1873; approved by the President of the United States on the 12th day of May, 1873.

May 9, 1873.

Aug. 21, 1867, vol. xv, p. 565; vol. xvi, p. 923.

March 1, 1870, vol. xvi, p. 951.

The General Post-Office of the United States and the Postal Administration of Belgium having recognized the propriety of reducing the rates of postage fixed by the convention of 21st August, 1867, and by the additional convention of 1st March, 1870, the undersigned, duly authorized by their respective governments, have agreed upon the following articles:

ARTICLE 1.

The international single rate upon letters exchanged in direct mails, via Great Britain, between Belgium and the United States, is fixed as follows:

1. At 40 centimes for prepaid letters originating in Belgium.
2. At 8 cents for prepaid letters originating in the United States.

ARTICLE 2.

The international single rate for prepaid letters sent by the direct steamship lines to be established between the two countries, in conformity with article six of the convention of 21st August, 1867, is fixed at 30 centimes for letters sent from Belgium, and at 6 cents for letters sent from the United States, of which 10 centimes (2 cents) shall represent the sea-postage.

ARTICLE 3.

When one of the two contracting offices shall consider it advisable to exchange closed mails with a foreign country to which these offices may respectively serve as intermediaries by the direct packets which the other contracting office shall have established between Belgium and the United States, it shall pay to the other office, for the maritime transportation of said mails, between Belgian ports and those of the United States, a fixed fee of:

1. Three cents (15 centimes) per 30-grams for letters.
2. Ten cents (50 centimes) per kilogram for other correspondence.

And the same rates of sea-postage are also fixed for the closed mails conveyed by any line of direct mail-steamers between the two countries.

ARTICLE 4.

The present convention shall be considered as additional to those of August 21, 1867, and March 1, 1870, and shall take effect from the date agreed upon by the two administrations.

Done in duplicate and signed in Washington this 9th day of May, 1873.

[SEAL.]

JNO. A. J. CRESWELL,
Postmaster-General of the United States.
MAURICE DELFOSSE.

[SEAL.]

I hereby approve the foregoing convention, and in testimony thereof I have caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

[SEAL.]

U. S. GRANT.

By the President:

HAMILTON FISH,
Secretary of State.

WASHINGTON, May 12, 1873.