

Feb. 8, 1876.

August 6, 1873,
April 26, 1875, *ante*,
pp. 557, 635

Previous conven-
tions modified.

Letter - postage
reduced.

Newspaper, etc.,
postage reduced.

Conditions ex-
tended to ex-
changes by Shang-
hai agency.

Exchanges be-
tween Japanese
offices and Shang-
hai agency.

Postage reduced
on letters to and
from Shanghai
agencies.

Duration of con-
vention.

After January 1,
1877.

Additional agreement between the United States of America and the Empire of Japan, modifying the provisions of the Postal Convention of the 6th August, 1873, and also of the agreement of April 26th, 1875, between the two countries.

The undersigned, being thereunto duly authorized by their respective governments, have agreed to modify the provisions of the postal convention between the United States and Japan, concluded the 6th day of August, A. D. 1873, or the 6th day of the eighth month of the sixth year of Meiji, and of the agreement between the United States and Japan, signed at Washington the 26th day of April, A. D. 1875, as follows:

1st. It is agreed that the second paragraph of Article III of the said convention be so modified that the single rate of international letter-postage shall be reduced to five cents in the United States and five sen in Japan on each letter weighing fifteen grammes (one-half ounce) or less, and an additional rate of five cents or five sen for each additional weight of fifteen grammes (one-half ounce) or fraction thereof.

Also, that the agreement between the United States and Japan, signed at Washington the 26th day of April, A. D. 1875, relative to the international postage on newspapers and other printed matter, patterns, and samples of merchandise exchanged between the two countries be so modified that the postage to be levied, collected, and retained by the post-office of the country of origin shall be reduced to two cents in the United States and two sen in Japan on each newspaper not exceeding four ounces in weight, and two cents or sen for each weight of two ounces or fraction of two ounces on all other articles of printed matter, patterns, and samples of merchandise.

2d. It is further agreed, in view of the fact that the Japanese government is about to establish a postal agency at Shanghai, China, that the same rates of postage and conditions of exchange shall be applied to correspondence of every kind originating in said Japanese postal agency, and dispatched through the exchange office of Yokohama to the United States, or to foreign countries via the United States, as are applied to the correspondence similarly addressed, originating in the Empire of Japan.

3d. It is further agreed that the respective Japanese post-offices of Yokohama, Hiogo, and Nagasaki may exchange correspondence by means of American or Japanese mail-packets with the Japanese postal agency at Shanghai.

And it is also agreed that the single rate of letter-postage to be levied and collected at the United States postal agency at Shanghai on letters addressed to Japan shall be five instead of six cents as stipulated in Article V of the postal convention between the two countries, and in like manner, a reduced single letter-rate of five sen shall be levied and collected in Japan on letters for Shanghai when dispatched in the mails to the United States postal agency at that port.

4th. It is also hereby agreed that the provisions of Article V of the postal convention of August 6, 1873, as herein modified, shall continue in force until the 31st of December, 1876, the date of expiration of the existing contract between the United States and the Pacific Mail Steamship Company for the mail-service between Yokohama and Shanghai, touching at the ports of Hiogo and Nagasaki, and that on and after January 1, 1877, its provisions shall apply only to such mails, if any, as shall after that date be exchanged between the Japanese post-office at Yokohama and the United States postal agency at Shanghai by means

of mail-packets under contract with the United States Post-Office Department performing regular trips between the port of Yokohama, Japan, and the port of Shanghai, China.

This agreement shall be carried into operation on the 1st day of April, A. D. 1876, or on the first day of the fourth month of the ninth year of Meiji. When to go into effect.

Done in duplicate original and signed at Washington, this eighth day of February, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six, or the eighth day of the second month of the ninth year of Meiji.

Signatures.

[SEAL.]

MARSHALL JEWELL,

Postmaster-General of the United States.

YOSHIDA KIYONARI,

*His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and
Minister Plenipotentiary to the United States of America.*

I hereby approve the foregoing agreement, and in testimony thereof I have caused the seal of the United States to be hereto affixed. President's approval.

[L. S.]

U. S. GRANT.

By the President:

HAMILTON FISH,

Secretary of State.

WASHINGTON, February 8th, 1876.

Translation.

I hereby approve the foregoing agreement, and in testimony thereof I have caused the seal of the Empire of Japan to be affixed. Approval of Japan.

[SEAL.]

MUTSUHITO.

The thirty-first day of the third month of the ninth year of Meiji.

By order of His Majesty:

TERASHIMA MUNENORI,

Minister for Foreign Affairs.