

SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted,* That there shall be paid to the post-office department, in further payment and compensation for the mail service performed for the two houses of congress and the other departments and officers of the government in the transportation of free matter, the sum of five hundred thousand dollars per year, which shall be paid quarterly, out of any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, and the moneys appropriated to the post-office department by the twelfth section of the act "to establish certain post routes and for other purposes," approved March third, eighteen hundred and forty-seven, and remaining undrawn in the treasury, shall continue subject to the requisition of the Postmaster-General for the service of the post-office department, notwithstanding the same may have so remained undrawn for more than two years after it became subject to such requisition.

Appropriation for government postage.

1847, ch. 63.  
Former appropriations made subject to drafts.

SEC. 9. *And be it further enacted,* That there is hereby appropriated out of any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of five hundred thousand dollars, to supply any deficiency that may arise in the post-office department.

Appropriation for deficiencies.

SEC. 10. *And be it further enacted,* That it shall be in the power of the Postmaster-General, at all post-offices where the postmasters are appointed by the President of the United States, to establish post routes within the cities or towns, to provide for conveying letters to the post-office by establishing suitable and convenient places of deposit, and by employing carriers to receive and deposit them in the post-office; and at all such offices it shall be in his power to cause letters to be delivered by suitable carriers, to be appointed by him for that purpose, for which not exceeding one or two cents shall be charged, to be paid by the person receiving or sending the same, and all sums so received shall be paid into the post-office department: *Provided,* The amount of compensation allowed by the Postmaster-General to carriers shall in no case exceed the amount paid into the treasury by each town or city, under the provisions of this section.

Letter carriers.

Proviso.

SEC. 11. *And be it further enacted,* That from and after the passage of this act, it shall be lawful to coin at the mint of the United States and its branches, a piece of the denomination and legal value of three cents, or three hundredths of a dollar, to be composed of three-fourths silver and one fourth copper, and to weigh twelve grains and three-eighths of a grain; that the said coin shall bear such devices as shall be conspicuously different from those of the other silver coins, and of the gold dollar, but having the inscription United States of America, and its denomination and date; and that it shall be a legal tender in payment of debts for all sums of thirty cents and under. And that no ingots shall be used for the coinage of the three-cent pieces herein authorized, of which the quality differs more than five thousandths from the legal standard; and that, in adjusting the weight of the said coin, the following deviations from the standard weight shall not be exceeded, namely, one half of a grain in the single piece, and one pennyweight in a thousand pieces. (a.)

New coin of value of 3 cents.

Weight.  
Device.

Made a tender.

Weight.

APPROVED, March 3, 1851.

CHAP. XXI. — *An Act making Appropriations for the service of the Post-Office Department during the fiscal Year ending the thirtieth of June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two, and for other Purposes.*

March 3, 1851.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the following

(a) For acts respecting U. S. coins, see note in vol. i. p. 248; Stat. 1849, ch. 109. 1853, ch. 79.

sums be, and the same are hereby appropriated, for the service of the post-office-department, for the year ending the thirtieth of June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two, out of any moneys in the treasury arising from the revenues of the said department, in conformity to the act of the second of July, eighteen hundred and thirty-six, and for other purposes, viz:—

- Transportation of mails. For transportation of the mails, including the service in California and Oregon. three millions four hundred and seventy-six thousand dollars.
- Steamship mail to Bremen and Havre. For transportation of the mails in two steamships from New York, by Southampton, to Bremen, at one hundred thousand dollars for each ship, under the contract with the Ocean Steam Navigation Company of New York; and for transportation by two ships under the same contract, from New York to Havre, at seventy-five thousand dollars each, in addition to an unexpended balance of former appropriations, two hundred and sixty-seven thousand dollars. (*a*.)
- Isthmus of Panama. For transportation of the mails across the Isthmus of Panama, forty-five thousand dollars.
- Postmasters. For compensation to postmasters, one million eight hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars.
- Ship, &c., letters. For ship, steamboat, and way letters, forty-five thousand dollars.  
 SUNDRIES. For wrapping paper, thirty-five thousand dollars.  
 For office furniture, nine thousand dollars.  
 For advertising, eighty thousand dollars.  
 For mail bags, thirty-six thousand dollars.  
 For blanks, thirty-five thousand dollars.  
 For mail-locks, keys, and stamps, ten thousand dollars.  
 For mail depredations, and special agents, thirty-five thousand dollars.
- Clerks in post-offices. For clerks in the offices of postmasters, four hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars.
- Sundries. For miscellaneous items, eighty thousand dollars.  
 For new mail-locks, and keys, twenty-five thousand dollars.  
 For maps of post routes, six thousand dollars.
- Post-offices in California. For incidental expenses of post-offices in California, from the dates respectively of their establishment, to the thirtieth of June, eighteen hundred and fifty-one, sixty-six thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, in addition to the commissions allowed by law to postmasters; to be expended at such offices in such proportions, and under such regulations, as the Postmaster-General may direct, and to be accounted for as commissions.
- Letter carriers in Oregon and California. SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the Postmaster-General shall be, and he is hereby, authorized to appoint letter carriers for the delivery of letters from any post-office in California or Oregon, and to allow the letter carriers who may be appointed at any such post-office to demand and receive such sum for all letters, newspapers, or other mailable matter delivered by them, as may be recommended by the postmaster for whose office such letter carrier may be appointed, not exceeding five cents for every letter, two cents for every newspaper, and two cents for every ounce of other mailable matter; and the Postmaster-General shall be, and he is hereby, authorized to empower the special agents of the post-office-department in California and Oregon to appoint such letter carriers in their districts respectively, and to fix the rates of their compensation within the limits aforesaid, subject to, and until the final action of, the Postmaster-General thereon. And such appointments may be made, and rates of compensation modified from time to time, as may be deemed expedient; and the rates of compensation may be fixed and graduated in respect to the distance of
- Their appointment and compensation.

(*a*) See act of 1845, ch. 69; 1846, ch. 31; 1847, ch. 37; 1848, ch. 79 and ch. 98; 1849, ch. 103; 1850, ch. 56.

the place of delivery from the post-office for which such carriers are appointed; but the rate of compensation of any such letter carrier shall not be changed after his appointment, except by the order of the Postmaster-General; and such letter carriers shall be subject to the provisions of the forty-first section of the act entitled "An Act to change the organization of the post-office department, and to provide more effectually for the settlement of the accounts thereof," approved July second, eighteen hundred and thirty-six; except in cases otherwise provided for in this act.

Made subject to provisions of Stat. 1836, ch. 270.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That in all cases of fine, penalty, forfeiture, or disability, or alleged liability for any sum or sums of money, by way of damages, or otherwise, under any provision of law relating to the post-office department, or the officers, operations, or business thereof, the Postmaster-General shall be, and he is hereby authorized to prescribe such general rules and mode of proceeding, as shall to him appear expedient for the government of the auditor of the post-office department, in ascertaining the facts in each case in which it shall be certified to him by such auditor, that the interests of the department probably require the exercise of the power conferred by this act; and upon the facts being ascertained as aforesaid, the said auditor shall have power, with the written consent of the Postmaster-General, to mitigate or remit such fine, penalty, or forfeiture, remove such disability, and to compromise, release, and discharge such claims for such sum or sums of money and damages, on such terms as the said auditor shall deem just and expedient; and that in all cases where a judgment shall have been obtained for a debt or damages due the post-office department, and it shall satisfactorily appear by the return of execution or otherwise, that such judgment, or so much thereof as remains unpaid, cannot be collected by due process of law, the said auditor shall be, and he is hereby authorized, with the written consent of the Postmaster-General, to compromise such judgment and accept in satisfaction thereof, less than the amount of such judgment: *Provided*, That the power conferred by this section shall not extend to any case of fine, penalty, forfeiture, disability, alleged liability or claim which shall be incurred, accrue, or arise subsequent to the passage of this act, or to any judgment obtained after the passage thereof.

Fines and forfeitures; their recovery and remission.

Compromise of judgments.

Proviso.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the Postmaster-General is hereby authorized to allow hereafter to the special agents of the post-office department the annual salary of sixteen hundred dollars: *Provided*, That no more shall be expended for this purpose, during the present year, than is already appropriated in this act.

Compensation of special agents.

Proviso.

APPROVED, March 3, 1851.

CHAP. XXII. — *An Act making Appropriations for the Support of the Military Academy for the Year ending the thirtieth June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two.*

March 3, 1851.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the following sums be, and the same are hereby appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the support of the Military Academy, for the year ending the thirtieth June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two.

Appropriation for military academy.

For pay of officers, instructors, cadets, and musicians, eighty-seven thousand four hundred and thirty-six dollars.

Pay of officers, &c.

For commutation of subsistence, two thousand two hundred and sixty-three dollars.

Commutation of subsistence.

For forage of officers' horses, eight hundred and sixty-four dollars:

Forage.