A. O. P. NICHOLSON,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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The Organization of the Executive Departments of the Government of the United States.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

The whole machinery employed to conduct the business arising out of our foreign relations with all the powers of the world is far more simple than is generally conceived. The number employed in the Department of State of the United States is only seventeen, as follows: One Secretary of State, (Hon. William L. Marcy,) one Assistant Secretary of State, (William Hunter,) one chief clerk, twelve clerks, one translator, and one librarian.

Diplomatic Branch.—This branch of the State Department has charge of all correspondence between the department and other diplomatic agents of the United States abroad, and those of foreign powers accredited to this government. In it all diplomatic instructions sent from the department, and communications to commissioners under treaties of boundaries, &c., are prepared, copied, and recorded; and all of like character received are registered and filed, their contents being first entered in an analytic table or index.

Consular Branch.—This branch has charge of the correspondence, &c., between the department and the consuls and commercial agents of the United States. In it instructions to those officers, and answers to their despatches and to letters from other persons asking for consular agency, or relating to consular affairs, are prepared and recorded.

The Disbursing Agent.—He has charge of all correspondence and other matters connected with accounts relating to any fund with the disbursement of which the department is charged.

The Translator.—His duties are to furnish such translations as the department may require. He also records the commissions of consuls and vice consuls, when not in English, upon which exequaturs are issued.

Clerk of Appointments and Commissions.—He makes out and records commissions, letters of appointment, and nominations to the Senate; makes out and records exequaturs, and records, when in English, the commissions on which they are issued. Has charge of the library.

Clerk of the Rolls and Archives.—He takes charge of the rolls, or enrolled acts and resolutions of Congress, as they are received at the department from the President; prepares the authenticated copies thereof which are called for; prepares for, and superintends their publication, and that of treaties, in the newspapers and in book form; attends to their distribution throughout the United States, and that of all documents and publications in regard to which this duty is assigned to the department; writing and answering all letters connected therewith. Has charge of all Indian treaties, and business relating thereto.

Clerk of Authentications and Copyrights.—He has charge of the seals of the United States and of the department, and prepares and attaches certificates to papers presented for authentication; receives and accounts for the fees. Has charge of publications transmitted to the department under the laws relating to copyrights; records and indexes their titles; records all letters from the department, other than the diplomatic and consular.

Clerk of Pardons and Passports.—He prepares and records pardons and remissions; and registers and files the petitions and papers on which they are founded. Makes out and records passports; keeps a daily register of all letters, other than diplomatic and consular, received, and of the disposition made of them; prepares letters relating to this business.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE.

Hon. Caleb Cushing, Attorney General of the United States; R. H. Gillet, esq., chief clerk. The ordinary business of this office may be classified under the following heads:

1. Official opinions on the current business of the government, as called for by the President, by any head of department, or by the Solicitor of the Treasury.

2. Examination of the titles of all land purchased, as the sites of arsenals, custom-houses, light-houses, and all other public works of the United States.

3. Applications for pardons in all cases of conviction in the courts of the United States.

4. Applications for appointment in all the judicial and legal business of the government.

5. The conduct and argument of all suits in the Supreme Court of the United States in which the government is concerned.

6. The supervision of all other suits arising in any of the departments when referred by the head thereof to the Attorney General.

To these ordinary heads of the business of the office are added at the present time the following, viz:

First. The direction of all appeals on land claims in California.

Second. The codification and revision of the laws of the District of Columbia.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

Secretary of the Interior Department, Hon. Robert McClelland, of the State of Michigan. Its clerical force consists of one chief clerk, (George C. Whiting, esq.,) one disbursing agent, and ten other regular clerks; and to its supervision and management are committed the following branches of the public service:

1st. *The Public Lands.*—The chief of this bureau is called the "Commissioner of the General Land Office." The Land Bureau is charged with the survey, management, and sale of the public domain, and the issuing of titles therefor, whether derived from confirmations of grants made by former governments, by sales, donations, or grants for schools, military bounties, or public improvements, and likewise the revision of Virginia military bounty land claims, and the issuing of scrip in lieu thereof. The Land Office, also, audits its own accounts. The present Commissioner is Hon. T. H. Hendricks, of Indiana. Its principal officers are a recorder, chief or principal clerk of public lands, principal clerk of private land claims, and principal clerk of surveys—all of whom are appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate—besides a draughtsman, assistant draughtsman, and some 106 clerks of various grades.

2d. *Pensions.*—The present head of this bureau is the Hon. Josiah Minot, of New Hampshire. The Commissioner is charged with the examination and adjudication of all claims arising under the various and numerous laws passed by Congress granting bounty land or pensions for military or naval services in the revolutionary and subsequent wars in which the United States have been engaged. He has one chief clerk, (S. Cole, esq.,) and a permanent corps consisting of some seventy other clerks, to which Congress, to enable him to meet the extraordinary requirements of the new bounty-land law, has added a temporary force of about fifty clerkships of different denominations.

3d. *Indians.*—Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Hon. George W. Manypenny, of Ohio. He is provided with a chief clerk and about fifteen other subordinate clerks.

4th. *Patent Office.*—To this bureau is committed the execution and performance of all "acts and things touching and respecting the granting and issuing of patents for new and useful discoveries, inventions, and improvements;" the collection of statistics relating to agriculture; the collection and distribution of seeds, plants, and cuttings. It has a chief clerk—who is by law (as at the present time) the Acting Commissioner of Patents in the absence of the Commissioner—ten principal and ten assistant examiners of patents, besides some dozen other subordinate permanent clerks.

Besides these four principal branches of this new executive department, the organic act of 1849 transferred to it from the Treasury Department the supervision of the accounts of the United States marshals and attorneys, and the clerks of the United States courts; the management of the lead and other mines of the United States, and the affairs of the penitentiary of the United States in the District of Columbia; and from the State Department the duty of taking and returning the censuses of the United States, and of supervising and directing the acts of the Commissioner of Public Buildings. By recent acts of Congress, also, the hospital for the insane of the army and navy and of the District of Columbia is under the management of this department; and by assignment from the President, it has added to its long list of duties the survey and demarcation of the unsettled boundary lines between the States and Territories and bordering nations.

This department is at present very inconveniently separated and located, and should be appropriately and permanently provided for. The Secretary's office occupies a portion of the new Patent Office building, the General Land Office a portion of the Treasury building, and the Pension Office a portion of "Winder's building," now the property of the government, whilst the Indian Office is located in premises not fire-proof, and rented of their private owners.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

The Treasury Department consists of the offices of the Secretary of the Treasury, two comptrollers, commissioner of the customs, six auditors, treasurer, register, solicitor, light-house board, and coast survey.

The following is a brief indication of the duties of these several offices and of the force employed therein respectively:

Secretary's Office.—Hon. James Guthrie, Secretary of the Treasury; Hon. P. G. Washington, Assistant Secretary; one engineer in charge; one architect, and three draughtsmen temporarily employed, and twenty-three clerks. The Secretary of the Treasury is charged with the general supervision of the fiscal transactions of the government, and of the execution of the laws concerning the commerce and navigation of the United States. He superintends the survey of the coast, the light-house establishment, the marine hospitals of the United States, and the construction of certain public buildings for custom-houses and other purposes.

First Comptroller's Office.—Elisha Whittlesey, esq., Comptroller, and fifteen clerks. He prescribes the mode of keeping and rendering accounts for the civil and diplomatic service as well as the public lands, and revises and certifies the balances arising thereon.

Second Comptroller's Office.—John M. Brodhead, esq., Comptroller, and seventeen clerks. He prescribes the mode of keeping and rendering the accounts of the army, navy, and Indian departments of the public service, and revises and certifies the balances arising thereon.

Office of Commissioner of the Customs.—Hugh J. Anderson, esq., Commissioner, and eleven clerks. He prescribes the mode of keeping and rendering the accounts of the customs revenue and disbursements, and for the building and repairing custom-houses, &c., and revises and certifies the balances arising thereon.

First Auditor's Office.—Thomas L. Smith, esq., First Auditor, and nineteen clerks. He receives and adjusts the accounts of the customs revenue and disbursements, appropriations and expenditures on account of the civil list and under private acts of Congress, and reports the balances to the Commissioner of the Customs and the First Comptroller, respectively, for their decision thereon.

Second Auditor's Office.—Philip Clayton, esq., Second Auditor, and twenty-one clerks. He receives and adjusts all accounts relating to the pay, clothing, and recruiting of the army, as well as armories, arsenals, and ordnance, and all accounts relating to the Indian department, and reports the balances to the Second Comptroller for his decision thereon.

Third Auditor's Office.—Robert J. Atkinson, esq., Third Auditor, and seventy-eight clerks. He receives and adjusts all accounts for subsistence of the army, fortifications, Military Academy, military roads, and the Quartermaster's department, as well as for pensions, claims arising from military services previous to 1816, and for horses and other property lost in the military service, under various acts of Congress, and reports the balances to the Second Comptroller for his decision thereon.

Fourth Auditor's Office.—Aaron O. Dayton, esq., Fourth Auditor, and sixteen clerks. He receives and adjusts all accounts for the service of the Navy Department, and reports the balances to the Second Comptroller for his decision thereon.

Fifth Auditor's Office.—Murray McConnel, esq., Fifth Auditor, and six clerks. He receives and adjusts all accounts for diplomatic and similar services performed under the direction of the State Department, and reports the balances to the First Comptroller for his decision thereon.

Sixth Auditor's Office.—William F. Phillips, esq., Sixth Auditor, and one hundred and one clerks. He receives and adjusts all accounts arising from the service of the Post Office Department. His decisions are final, unless an appeal be taken in twelve months to the First Comptroller; and he superintends the collection of all debts due the Post Office Department.

Treasurer's Office.—Samuel Casey, esq., Treasurer, and thirteen clerks. He receives and keeps the moneys of the United States in his own office, and that of the depositories created by the act of the 6th of August, 1846, and pays out the same upon warrants drawn by the Secretary of the Treasury, countersigned by the First Comptroller, and upon warrants drawn by the Postmaster General, and countersigned by the Sixth Auditor, and recorded by the Register. He also holds public moneys advanced by warrant to disbursing officers, and pays out the same upon their checks.

Register's Office.—Finley Bigger, Register, and twenty-nine clerks. He keeps the accounts of public receipts and expenditures; receives the returns and makes out the official statement of commerce and navigation of the United States; and receives from the First Comptroller and Commissioner of Customs all accounts and vouchers decided by them, and is charged by law with their safe-keeping.

Solicitor's Office.—Francis B. Streeter, Solicitor, and six clerks. He superintends all civil suits commenced by the United States, and instructs the United States attorneys, marshals, and clerks in all matters relating to them and their results. He receives returns from each term of the United States courts, showing the progress and condition of such suits; has charge of all lands and other property assigned to the United States in payment of debts, and has power to sell and dispose of the same for the benefit of the United States.

Light-House Board.—Hon. James Guthrie, president; Com. W. B. Shubrick, United States navy, chairman; Gen. J. G. Totten, United States army; Col. James Kearney, United States army; Prof. A. D. Bache, Superintendent of Coast Survey; Prof. Joseph Henry, secretary of Smithsonian Institution; Commander S. F. Dupont, United States navy; Lieut. Thornton A. Jenkins, United States navy, secretary; Capt. Edmund L. F. Hardcastle, United States army, secretary; and five clerks. This board directs the building and repairing of light-houses, light-vessels, buoys and beacons, contracts for supplies of oil, &c.

United States Coast Survey Office.—Professor A. D. Bache, LL. D., superintendent, and superintendent of weights and measures.

Captain H. W. Benham, United States engineers, assistant, on special service.

Captain W. R. Palmer, topographical engineers, assistant, in charge of the Coast Survey Office, *ad interim*.

A. W. Russell, chief clerk.

C. B. Snow, in charge of archives.

Professor A. G. Pendleton, United States navy, computer of longitudes.

Lieut. W. D. Whiting, United States navy, hydrographic officer.

Captain A. A. Gibson, United States army.

Assistant J. E. Hilgard, in charge of computing division.

Assistant L. F. Pourtales, in charge of tidal division.

Lieut. J. C. Tidball, United States army, in charge of drawing division.

Lieut. J. C. Clark, United States army, in charge of engraving division.

Samuel Hein, disbursing agent.

George Mathiot, electrotypist.

Joseph Saxton, assistant to superintendent of weights and measures.

NAVY DEPARTMENT.

The Navy Department consists of the Navy Department proper, being the office of the Secretary and of five bureaus attached thereto, viz: Bureau of Navy-yards and Docks, Bureau of Construction, Equipment, and Repair, Bureau of Provisions and Clothing, Bureau of Ordnance and Hydrography, and the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.

The following is a statement of the duties of each of these offices and of the force employed therein:

Secretary's Office.—Hon. James C. Dobbin, Secretary of the Navy; Charles W. Welsh, esq., chief clerk; and eleven clerks. The Secretary of the Navy has charge of everything connected with the naval establishment, and the execution of all laws relating thereto is intrusted to him, under the general direction of the President of the United States, who, by the constitution, is commander-in-chief of the army and navy. All instructions to commanders of squadrons and commanders of vessels, all orders of officers, commissions of officers both in the navy and marine corps, appointments of commissioned and warrant officers, orders for the enlistment and discharge of seamen, emanate from the Secretary's office. All the duties of the different bureaus are performed under the authority of the Secretary, and their orders are considered as emanating from him. The general superintendence of the marine corps forms, also, a part of the duties of the Secretary, and all the orders of the commandant of that corps should be approved by him.

Bureau of Navy Yards and Docks.—Commodore Joseph Smith, chief of the bureau, four clerks, one civil engineer, and one draughtsman. All the navy-yards, docks and wharves, buildings and machinery in navy-yards, and everything immediately connected with them, are under the superintendence of this bureau. It is also charged with the management of the Naval Asylum.

Bureau of Construction, Equipment, and Repair.—John Lenthall, esq., chief of the bureau, eight clerks, and one draughtsman. The office of the engineer-in-chief of the navy, Daniel R. Martin, esq., is attached to this bureau, who is assisted by three assistant engineers. This bureau has charge of the building and repairs of all vessels-of-war, purchase of materials, and the providing of all vessels with their equipments, as sails, anchors, water tanks, &c. The engineer-in-chief superintends the construction of all marine steam engines for the navy, and, with the approval of the Secretary, decides upon plans for their construction.

Bureau of Provisions and Clothing.—H. Bridge, purser United States navy, chief of bureau, and four clerks. All provisions for the use of the navy, and clothing, together with the making of contracts for furnishing the same, come under the charge of this bureau.

Bureau of Ordnance and Hydrography.—Commodore Chas. Morris, chief of bureau, four clerks, and one draughtsman. This bureau has charge of all ordnance and ordnance stores, the manufacture or purchase of cannon, guns, powder, shot, shells, &c., and the equipment of vessels-of-war, with everything connected therewith. It also provides them with maps, charts, chronometers, barometers, &c., together with such books as are furnished ships-of-war. "The United States Naval Observatory and Hydrographical Office" at Washington, and the Naval Academy at Annapolis, are also under the general superintendence of the chief of this bureau.

Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.—Dr. William Whelan, surgeon United States navy, chief of bureau, one passed assistant surgeon United States navy, and two clerks. Everything relating to medicines and medical stores, treatment of sick and wounded, and management of hospitals, comes within the superintendence of this bureau.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

Hon. James Campbell, Postmaster General. The direction and management of the Post Office Department are assigned by the constitution and laws to the Postmaster General. That its business may be the more conveniently arranged and prepared for his final action, it is distributed among several bureaus, as follows: The Appointment Office, in charge of the First Assistant Postmaster General; the Contract Office, in charge of the Second Assistant Postmaster General; the Finance Office, in charge of the Third Assistant Postmaster General; and the Inspection Office, in charge of the chief clerk.

Appointment Office.—Horatio King, esq., First Assistant Postmaster General, and nineteen clerks. To this office are assigned all questions which relate to the establishment and discontinuance of post offices, changes of sites and names, appointment and removal of postmasters and route and local agents, as, also, the giving of instructions to postmasters. Postmasters are furnished with marking and rating stamps and letter balances by this bureau, which is charged also with providing blanks and stationery for the use of the department, and with the superintendence of the several agencies established for supplying postmasters with blanks. To this bureau is likewise assigned the supervision of the ocean mail steamship lines, and of the foreign and international postal arrangements.

Contract Office.—William H. Dundas, esq., Second Assistant Postmaster General, and twenty-six clerks. To this office is assigned the business of arranging the mail service of the United States, and placing the same under contract, embracing all correspondence and proceedings respecting the frequency of trips, mode of conveyance, and times of departures and arrivals on all the routes; the course of the mail between the different sections of the country, the points of mail distribution, and the regulations for the government of the domestic mail service of the United States. It prepares the advertisements for mail proposals, receives the bids, and takes charge of the annual and occasional mail lettings, and the adjustment and execution of the contracts. All applications for the establishment or alteration of mail arrangements, and the appointment of mail messengers, should be sent to this office. All claims should be submitted to it for transportation service not under contract, as the recognition of said service is first to be obtained through the Contract Office as a necessary authority for the proper credits at the Auditor's Office. From this office all postmasters at the ends of routes receive the statement of mail arrangements prescribed for the respective routes. It reports weekly to the Auditor all contracts executed, and all orders affecting accounts for mail transportation; prepares the statistical exhibits of the mail service, and the reports of the mail lettings, giving a statement of each bid; also of the contracts made, the new service originated, the curtailments ordered, and the additional allowances granted within the year.

Finance Office.—John Marron, esq., Third Assistant Postmaster General, and twenty-one clerks. To this office are assigned the supervision and management of the financial business of the department, not devolved by law upon the Auditor, embracing accounts with the draft offices and other depositaries of the department, the issuing of warrants and drafts in payment of balances reported by the Auditor to be due to mail contractors and other persons, the supervision of the accounts of offices under orders to deposite their quarterly balances at designated points, and the superintendence of the rendition by postmasters of their quarterly returns of postages. It has charge of the dead-letter office, of the issuing of postage stamps and stamped envelopes for the prepayment of postage, and of the accounts connected therewith.

To the Third Assistant Postmaster General all postmasters should direct their quarterly returns of postage; those at draft offices, their letters reporting quarterly the net proceeds of their offices, and those at depositing offices, their certificates of deposite; to him should also be directed the weekly and monthly returns of the depositaries of the department, as well as all applications and receipts for postage stamps and stamped envelopes, and for dead letters.

Inspection Office.—John Oakford, esq., chief clerk, and seventeen clerks. To this office is assigned the duty of receiving and examining the registers of the arrivals and departures of the mails, certificates of the service of route agents, and reports of mail failures; of noting the delinquencies of contractors, and preparing cases thereon for the action of the Postmaster General; furnishing blanks for mail registers, and reports of mail failures; providing and sending out mail-bags and mail-locks and keys, and doing all other things which may be necessary to secure a faithful and exact performance of all mail contracts.

All cases of mail depredation, of violation of law by private expresses, or by the forging or illegal use of postage stamps, are under the supervision of this office, and should be reported to it.

All communications respecting lost money, letters, mail depredations, or other violations of law, or mail-locks and keys, should be directed "Chief Clerk, Post Office Department."

All registers of the arrivals and departures of the mails, certificates of the service of route agents, reports of mail failures, applications for blank registers, and reports of failures, and all complaints against contractors for irregular or imperfect service, should be directed "Inspection Office, Post Office Department."

WAR DEPARTMENT.

Hon. Jefferson Davis, Secretary of War. In the Secretary's office proper there are one chief clerk, seven subordinate clerks, two messengers, and four watchmen. The following bureaus are attached to this department:

Commanding General's Office.—This office, at the head of which is Lieutenant General Scott, is at New York.

Adjutant General's Office.—Col. Samuel Cooper, Adjutant General. Assistants—Lieut. Col. W. G. Freeman, Major George Deas, and Captain Seth Williams. Judge Advocate, Major John F. Lee. Nine clerks and one messenger. In this office are kept all the records which refer to the personnel of the army, the rolls, &c. It is here where all military commissions are made out.

Quartermaster General's Office.—Gen. Thomas S. Jesup, quartermaster general; Charles Thomas, assistant quartermaster general; Captain M. M. Clark, district quartermaster; Major H. C. Wayne, in charge of clothing branch; eleven clerks and one messenger.

Paymaster General's Office.—Col. B. F. Larned, paymaster general; Major St. Clair Denny, district paymaster; eight clerks and one messenger.

Commissary General's Office.—Gen. George Gibson, commissary general; assistant, Captain A. E. Shrias; six clerks and one messenger.

Surgeon General's Office.—Gen. Thomas Lawson, surgeon general; assistants, Dr. R. C. Wood and Dr. Richard H. Coolidge; three clerks.

Engineer Office.—General Joseph G. Totten, chief engineer; assistant, Lieutenant John D. Kurtz; five clerks and one messenger.

Topographical Bureau.—Col. J. J. Abert, colonel of the corps; assistant, Lieut. M. L. Smith; four clerks and one messenger.

Ordnance Bureau.—Colonel H. R. Craig, colonel of ordnance; assistant, Captain Wm. Maynadier; eight clerks and one messenger.

Washington Aqueduct.

OFFICE OF THE WASHINGTON AQUEDUCT,
Washington, March 7, 1855.

PROPOSALS are invited for graduation stone and brick masonry, dams, tunnels, and other work of the Washington aqueduct.

Proposals, received up to the 8th of May, will be opened at noon of that day.

Maps, profiles, and specifications of the work will be ready for examination on and after the 20th day of April next.

Proposals will be received for the work of particular culverts, bridges, &c., &c., as described in the plans and specifications.

Portions only of some of the works can be completed under the present appropriation; but all contracts for unfinished work will be subject to future appropriations by Congress. The engineer reserves the right to prescribe the amount of work to be done and rate of progress under each contract for each appropriation; and in case of the appropriation not holding out sufficiently, to decide when and what works shall be stopped until funds become available.

In case of the entire stoppage of any particular work for want of funds, the reserved ten per cent. will be paid, if, in the judgment of the engineer, the work has been properly executed so far as it has gone.

Payments will be made in specie checks upon the United States treasury upon the monthly estimates of the engineer, reserving 10 per cent.; and it will be a condition of all contracts that the workmen shall be paid their full wages monthly, and in specie.

All bids should be sealed, and endorsed "Proposals for work on the Washington Aqueduct."

The United States reserves the right to reject any or all the bids should they not be deemed advantageous, and to make such arrangements as may be considered most conducive to the progress of the work.

Every offer must be accompanied by a written guarantee, signed by one or more responsible persons, to the effect that he or they undertake that the bidder or bidders will, if his or their bid be accepted, enter into an obligation, within ten days, with good and sufficient securities, for the completion of the work undertaken; and guarantee to be accompanied by the certificate of the United States district judge, United States district attorney, navy agent, or some officer of the general government or individual known to the Engineer or Department of War, that the guarantors are able to make good their guarantee.

Bids will be opened in presence of bidders, if any of them choose to be present.

M. C. MEIGS,
Capt. of Engineers, in charge.

FORM OF GUARANTEE.

To Capt. M. C. Meigs, U. S. Engineers:

We, the undersigned, residents of ——, in the State of ——, hereby, jointly and severally, covenant with the United States, and guaranty, in case the foregoing bid of —— be accepted, that he or they will, within ten days after the acceptance of the said bid, execute the contract for the same, with good and sufficient sureties to perform or furnish the articles proposed in conformity to the terms of the advertisement under which it was made. And in case the said —— shall fail to enter into contract as aforesaid, we guaranty to make good the difference between the offer by the said —— and the next lowest bidder.

(Signed) A. B.
C. D.

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the above-named guarantors are good and sufficient.

(Signed) E. F.

Mar 8—3awt8thMay&1awtf

R. H. GILLET,
Counsellor at Law,

Has removed his office to his residence in Franklin Row, corner of K and Thirteenth streets. He will continue to devote his attention principally to cases in the United States Supreme Court.

Having devoted much time to the law concerning patents, he will give advice and opinions on legal questions arising in cases before the Patent Office, and on appeals to the chief justice or assistant justices of the District of Columbia; and will also assist in the preparation and trial of suits concerning patents.

He will also give written opinions and prepare arguments for parties having claims before Congress or either of the departments; and will also prosecute claims before any board established for their adjudication.

Oct 23—dtf

Everett House.

North Side of Union Square, New York.

THIS establishment, erected on the most prominent and delightful Park New York affords, is approaching a finish, and, when completed, will combine all that skill can devise and money supply to render it the most desirable hotel yet constructed.

The proprietors of this establishment respectfully announce that the house will be open on the first of October next for the accommodation of the public.

Applications will now be received from parties wishing to make arrangements for the winter months.

The public patronage is respectfully solicited.

CLAPP & JOSLIN.

HAWLEY D. CLAPP,
A. C. JOSLIN.

Sep 2—43m

CENSUS of 1850, one large quarto volume, bound in half Russia, for sale, a few copies only, at $3 50.

Sep 8 FRANCK TAYLOR.

United States Mail.

ON THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
Washington, October 20, 1855.

PROPOSALS for conveying the mails of the United States between New Orleans, La., and Cairo, Ill., from January 1, 1856, to June 30, 1859, will be received at the Contract Office of this department until 3, p. m., of the 30th November next, to be decided by the 3d of December following, viz:

Route No. 7809.—LOUISIANA.

From New Orleans, by Baton Rouge, Natchez, Miss., Vicksburg, Napoleon, Ark., and Memphis, Tenn., to Cairo, Illinois, 1,075 miles and back, daily, in safe and suitable steamboats.

Leave New Orleans daily at 5, p. m.;
Arrive at Cairo in six days by 5, p. m.;
Leave Cairo daily at 5, p. m.;
Arrive at New Orleans in five days by 5, p. m.

The department reserves the right to add not exceeding ten other offices to the above number, to be visited and supplied daily, each way.

The service is to be performed in safe and suitable steamboats of the very best class. In seasons of low water smaller boats may be used, but they must be of equal quality, and of sufficient power to make the trip in schedule time, and are to be used only during such time of low water.

Route agents may be employed on each boat, and for their accommodation, and for the safe-keeping, assorting, and preparing mails, a suitable room or rooms must be assigned, to be under the exclusive control of the agent.

The agents are to be appointed and paid by the department, but they are to be conveyed and provided for by the contractor.

In case of accident by which a boat may be detained, the mail and agent are to be transferred to the first boat passing the same way, whether such boat be a mail-boat or not, to be carried to destination and delivered, free of charge to the department.

Special agents of the department are to be carried, free of charge, on exhibition of their credentials; also, blanks, paper, mail locks, and mail bags.

Proposals must be guaranteed by two or more responsible persons, and the guarantee certified by a postmaster, judge, or clerk of a court of record.

The department reserves the right to reject any bid which may be deemed extravagant, and also to set aside a lower bid in favor of one higher, in the absence of unquestionable evidence of sufficiency and responsibility on the part of the bidder and of his guarantors.

Bidders in preparing and submitting their proposals, individuals in consenting to become guarantors, and postmasters and others in certifying to their sufficiency, are requested to bear in mind that the object is to obtain a regular and reliable line of mail packets on this important thoroughfare, and that a strict compliance with contract obligations will be demanded.

Boats offered for the service will be subject to inspection by an agent or agents designated by the department, who will certify to each by name that they are in all respects adapted to the service, and no boat once accepted can be withdrawn without the assent of the department.

Bidders and guarantors are referred for the provisions of law on the subject of their liabilities to the 27th section of the "act to change the organization of the Post Office Department," approved July 2, 1836.

Articles of contract in the usual form, and embracing the usual conditions and requirements, are to be executed by the accepted bidder, and his sureties, by or before the 1st day of January next.

The Postmaster General may alter the contract and alter the schedule, be allowing a *pro rata* increase of compensation, within the restrictions imposed by law, for any increased service required. He may also discontinue or curtail the service, in whole or in part, allowing one month's extra pay on the service dispensed with.

Form of Proposal.

I, ——, of ——, State of ——, propose to convey the mail on route No. 7809, from New Orleans to Cairo, agreeably to the advertisement of the Postmaster General, dated October 20, 1855, and by the following mode of conveyance, viz:

for the annual sum of
dollars.

This proposal is made with full knowledge of the distance of the route, the weight of the mail to be carried, and all other particulars in reference to the route and service, and also after full examination of the instructions and requirements attached to the advertisement.

Dated

(Signed.)

Guarantee.

The undersigned, residing at ——, State of ——, undertake that, if the foregoing bid for carrying the mail on route No. 7809 be accepted by the Postmaster General, the bidder shall, prior to the 1st day of January, 1856, or as soon thereafter as may be, enter into the required obligation to perform the service proposed, with good and sufficient sureties.

This we do with a full knowledge of the obligations and liabilities assumed by guarantors under the 27th section of the act of Congress of July 2, 1836.

Dated

(Signed by two guarantors.)

Certificate.

The undersigned, postmaster of ——, State of ——, certifies, *under his seal of office*, that he is acquainted with the above guarantors, and knows them to be men of property, and able to make good their guarantee.

Dated

(Signed.)

Proposals should be enveloped, sealed, and addressed "Second Assistant Postmaster General," and superscribed "Proposals River Mails."

JAMES CAMPBELL,
Oct 21—1aw4w Postmaster General.

Office of Army Clothing and Equipage.

PHILADELPHIA, October 29, 1855.

SEALED PROPOSALS are invited, and will be received at this office until 10 o'clock, a. m., of the 10th day of December next, for furnishing by contract the following army supplies and materials, deliverable at the United States Clothing and Equipage Depot, Schuylkill Arsenal, in quantities as required, viz:

23,000 yards 6-4 dark-blue (indigo wool-dyed) twilled cloth, weighing 21 ounces per yard
50,000 yards 6-4 sky-blue (indigo wool-dyed) twilled cloth, weighing 22 ounces per yard
7,000 yards 6-4 dark blue (indigo wool dyed) cloth, for caps and bands, weighing about 4 ounces per yard
22,000 yards ¾ dark-blue (indigo-dyed) cotton and wool flannels, to weigh 6½ ounces per yard
130,000 yards 7-8 white flannel, cotton and wool, to weigh 6¼ ounces per yard
14,000 yards dark-blue serge
150 000 yards ¾ Canton flannel, to weigh 7 ounces per yard
120,000 yards ¾ cotton drilling, unbleached, to weigh 6½ ounces per yard
50,000 yards ¾ cotton drilling, unbleached, to weigh 7½ ounces per yard
85,000 yards 28½ in. cotton duck, to weigh 14½ ounces per yard
20,000 do 28½ do do do do 10 do
17,000 do 24 do do do do 14½ do
20,000 do 53 do do do do 9½ do
4,000 do 22 do do do do 11 do
3,500 do 22 do do do do 9 do
15,000 soldiers' blankets, wool, gray, (with the letters U. S. in black, 4 inches in length, in the centre,) to be 7 feet long and 5 feet 6 inches wide, each blanket to weigh 5 pounds
6,000 dozen pairs half stockings, 3 sizes, made of good sound fleece wool, and with double and twisted yarn; to weigh 3 lbs. per dozen
14,000 pompons, for artillery, infantry, dragoons, and rifles
32,000 yards ⅝ and ¾ inch worsted laces, yellow, scarlet, sky-blue, orange, and green
400 yards crimson silk lace, ¾ inch
40 000 yards cotton tape, ½ inch
13,470 yards cotton wadding
38,000 sheets of cotton wadding
20,000 yards bunting, red, white, and blue, for national flags
3,000 gross brass coat buttons
4,000 do do vest do
3,000 do white metal suspender buttons
3,000 do do do shirt do
132,000 tent buttons, wood, small
26,000 tent slips do do
10,000 tent buttons do large
1,200 tent slips do do
142 hospital tent poles, sets
850 wall do do do
200 hospital tent pins, large size
5,000 do do do small size
3,000 wall do do large do
50,000 common do do
10,700 galvanized iron wire stiples, for tents
4,000 do do do rods do
2,200 mess pans, (iron)
2,000 Collins's felling axes
1,000 axe handles
1,350 camp hatchets
2,500 do do handles
200 spades
50 bugles, with extra mouth-pieces
100 trumpets
33 trumpet cords, for cavalry
20 drums, artillery
15 drum-slings
120 pairs drum-sticks
75 drum-stick carriages, brass
600 drum-heads, batter
380 drum heads, snare
375 drum-cords.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Silks, red, white, green, and blue, for regimental flags and guidons; silk twist; sewing silk; threads; buckles, brass and iron; flax twine; cotton twine; baling rope; brass thimbles for flags; boiling rope; spears and ferrules for guidons.

All of which it is desirable should be of domestic manufacture, and must conform in all respects to the standard patterns sealed in this office, where they can be examined.

Sample patterns will be sent by mail, with any additional information upon the subject which may be desired, by manufacturers wishing to offer proposals.

Ten per cent. of the amount of each delivery will be retained until the contract shall be completed, which is to be forfeited to the United States in case of defalcation on the part of the contractor in fulfilling the terms and stipulations of the contract. About one-half of these supplies will be required on or before the 1st of July next, and payments will be made for them as soon as the next appropriation by Congress of funds for this branch of the service is available; the remainder will be paid for on delivery.

The privilege is reserved of increasing by one-third the quantity of all the supplies above mentioned.

Contracts will be based upon *accepted* proposals, for the fulfilment of which two or more securities will be required. Bids are desired only from manufacturers, or regular dealers in the article proposed to be furnished, and none will be respected or considered from any one who is not known as a manufacturer or regular dealer in the desired supplies; which fact, or the reverse, must be distinctly stated in the bids offered, as well as the names and address of the persons intended to be proposed as securities in case a contract is obtained.

Letters containing proposals should be endorsed "Proposals for Army Supplies."

Address to G. H. CROSMAN,
Major and Quartermaster U. S. A.

Oct 31—eodtel Dec

Wm. M. Merrick,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
No. 38 Louisiana avenue,

WILL practice in the Supreme Court of the United States, the court of claims, and the several courts of the District of Columbia.

Dec 27—3aw1

BY RAILROAD DIRECT TO THE WEST.

Time between Washington and Wheeling but 17½ hours!

Running time between Washington and Cincinnati, 27 hours!

Through Tickets and Baggage Checks to be had in Washington.

THE Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, having greatly improved its western connexions, now offers the fullest inducements to travellers between Washington, Baltimore, and all points of the West, the Northwest, and the Southwest.

The connexion between the trains from Washington and the trains bound West from Baltimore is always promptly made at the Washington Junction, (lately called the Relay House,) nine miles from Baltimore. This is the only change of cars required between Washington and the Ohio river. Baggage is checked through to Wheeling at the Washington station, and rechecked and transferred there, (with the passengers,) without charge, for those holding through tickets for points beyond. The connecting trains leave Washington daily at 6, a. m., and 4¼, p. m.; on Sundays at the latter hour only.

At Wheeling *direct connexion* is made with the trains of the CENTRAL OHIO RAILROAD, running from Bellaire, on the Ohio, near Wheeling, through Cambridge, Zanesville, and Newark, to COLUMBUS. These trains connect at Newark with the Newark, Mansfield, and Sandusky railroad for Sandusky, Toledo, Detroit, Chicago, St. Louis, &c.

At Columbus the C. O. railroad trains connect with the fast trains of the *Little Miami railroad* to Xenia, CINCINNATI, LOUISVILLE, &c. At Xenia, on Little Miami railroad, connexion is formed with the trains through Dayton to INDIANAPOLIS, Terre Haute, Lafayette, Chicago, Rock Island, St. Louis, &c.

Passengers holding through tickets for Memphis, Vicksburg, Natchez, New Orleans, &c.—which are also sold at Washington—are transferred at Cincinnati to the mail steamers on the Ohio. Tickets for Evansville, Cairo, and St. Louis are sold by this route.

FOR CLEVELAND, and via Cleveland to Toledo, Detroit, Chicago, &c., tickets are sold when the Ohio is navigable between Wheeling and Wellsville, (forty miles,) where a connexion with the Cleveland and Pittsburg railroad is made.

Travellers are requested to notice that, while this is the only route affording through tickets and checks in Washington, it is also the shortest, most speedy, and direct to nearly all the leading points in the great West. The distance from Washington to Cincinnati is but 653 miles, being about 100 miles shorter than by any other route!

Fare by through ticket from Washington: To Wheeling, $9 65; Columbus, $13 65; Dayton, $15 50; Cincinnati, $16; Louisville, by railroad, $18 65; by steamer from Cincinnati, $18; Indianapolis, $17 50; Cleveland, $12 15; Toledo, $15 80; Detroit, $15 20; Chicago, $20