WILLIAM A. HARRIS,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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

STATE DEPARTMENT.

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. Lewis Cass,) one Assistant Secretary of State, (Hon. John Appleton,) 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 the 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. Jeremiah S. Black, 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 Department of the Interior, Hon. Jacob Thompson, of the State of Mississippi. Its clerical force consists of one chief clerk, (Moses Kelly, esq.,) two disbursing clerks, 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, of 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. A. Hendricks, of Indiana. Its principal officers are a recorder, chief clerk, principal clerk of surveys, besides a draughtsman, assistant draughtsman, and some 150 clerks of various grades.

2d. *Pensions.*—The present head of this bureau is George C. Whiting, of Virginia. 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 the 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 *ad interim*, Charles E. Mix, of Georgetown, D. C. 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 the acting Commissioner of Patents in the absence of the Commissioner—twelve principal, and twelve assistant examiners of patents, some dozen subordinate permanent clerks, besides a considerable number of temporary employees.

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. The hospital for the insane of the army and navy and of the District of Columbia is also under the management of this department; in addition to which, by laws recently passed, the Secretary of the Interior is charged with the construction of the three wagon roads leading to the Pacific coast.

The department requires an additional building for its accommodation, and the erection of one has been repeatedly recommended during the last few years for that purpose. At present the Pension Office is provided with rooms in what is known as "Winder's Building," while the other branches of the department, including the Secretary's office, are all crowded into the Patent Office building, the whole of which will be required at an early day for the use of the Patent Office, for which it was originally intended.

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. Howell Cobb, Secretary of the Treasury; Hon. Philip Clayton, 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.—Hon. William Medill, 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. Bradhead, 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 thirteen 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.—Thomas J. D. Fuller, 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 twenty-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., auditor of the Treasury for the Post Office Department, and one hundred and fourteen 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. He superintends the collection of all debts due the Post Office Department, and all penalties and forfeitures imposed on postmasters and mail contractors for failing to do their duty; he directs suits and legal proceedings, civil and criminal, and takes all such measures as may be authorized by law to enforce the prompt payment of moneys due to the department; instructing United States attorneys, marshals, and clerks in all matters relating thereto; and receives returns from each term of the United States courts of the condition and progress of such suits and legal proceedings; has charge of all lands and other property assigned to the United States in payment of debts due the Post Office Department, and has power to sell and dispose of the same for the benefit of the United States.

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, esq., Solicitor, and six clerks. He superintends all civil suits commenced by the United States, (except those arising in the Post Office Department,) 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, (except those assigned in payment of debts due the Post Office Department,) and has power to sell and dispose of the same for the benefit of the United States.

Light-House Board.—Hon. Howell Cobb, Secretary of the Treasury, *ex officio*, president; Com. W. B. Shubrick, United States navy, chairman; Gen. J. G. Totten, United States army; Capt. A. A. Humphreys, United States army; Prof. A. D. Bache, Superintendent of Coast Survey; Prof. Joseph Henry, secretary of Smithsonian Institution; Capt. Samuel Barron, United States navy. Commander Thornton A. Jenkins, United States navy, and Lieutenant Wm. B. Franklin, United States army, secretaries; 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.

Capt. M. L. Smith, topographical engineers, assistant, in charge of the Coast Survey Office.

A. W. Bassell, chief clerk.

C. B. Snow, in charge of archives.

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

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. Saxton, United States army, in charge of engraving division.

Samuel Hein, disbursing agent.

George Mathiot, electrotypist.

Joseph Saxton, assistant to superintendent of weights and measures.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

Hon. Aaron V. Brown, 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, modes 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 pre-payment 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 deposits; 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 correct performance of all mail contracts.

All cases of mail depredation, of violation of law by private expressers, 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."

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. Isaac Toucey, 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 B. 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.—Capt. Duncan Ingraham, 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.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

Hon. J. B. Floyd, Secretary of War; W. R. Drinkard, 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—Brevet Major E. D. Townsend, Brevet Capt. S. Williams, and Brevet Capt. J. P. Garesche. Judge Advocate, Brevet 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.—Brevet Major General T. S. Jesup, quartermaster general. Assistants—Colonel C. Thomas, Captain M. S. Miller, and Brevet Major J. Belger; eleven clerks and one messenger.

Paymaster General's Office.—Col. R. P. Larned, paymaster general; Major T. J. Leslie, district paymaster; eight clerks and one messenger.

Commissary General's Office.—Gen. George Gibson, commissary general; assistant, Captain R. D. L. Simpson; six clerks and one messenger.

Surgeon General's Office.—Gen. Thomas Lawson, surgeon general; assistants, Dr. S. C. Wood and Dr. G. K. Wood; three clerks.

Engineer Office.—General Joseph G. Totten, chief engineer; assistant, Captain H. G. Wright; five clerks and one messenger.

Topographical Bureau.—Col. J. J. Abert, colonel of the corps; assistant, Captain J. C. Woodruff; four clerks and one messenger.

Ordnance Bureau.—Col. H. K. Craig, colonel of ordnance; assistant, Capt. Wm. Hasmuller; eight clerks and one messenger.

Overland Mail Route to California.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
April 20, 1857.

AN ACT of Congress, approved 3d March, 1857, making appropriations for the service of the Post Office Department for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1858, provides:

"SEC. 10. That the Postmaster General be, and he is hereby, authorized to contract for the conveyance of the entire letter mail from such point on the Mississippi river, as the contractors may select, to San Francisco, in the State of California, for six years, at a cost not exceeding three hundred thousand dollars per annum for semi-monthly, four hundred and fifty thousand dollars for weekly, or six hundred thousand dollars for semi-weekly service, to be performed semi-monthly, weekly, or semi-weekly, at the option of the Postmaster General.

"SEC. 11. That the contract shall require the service to be performed with good four-horse coaches or spring wagons, suitable for the conveyance of passengers as well as the safety and security of the mails.

"SEC. 12. That the contractor shall have the right of pre-emption to three hundred and twenty acres of any land not then disposed of or reserved, at each point necessary for a station, not to be nearer than ten miles from each other; and provided that no mineral land shall be thus pre-empted.

"SEC. 13. That the said service shall be performed within twenty-five days for each trip; and that, before entering into such contract, the Postmaster General shall be satisfied of the ability and disposition of the parties, bona fide and in good faith, to perform the said contract, and shall require good and sufficient security for the performance of the same; the service to commence within twelve months after the signing of the contract."

Proposals will accordingly be received at the Contract Office of the Post Office Department, until 8, p. m., of the 1st day of June, 1857, for conveying mails under the provisions of the above act.

Besides the starting point on the Mississippi river, bidders will name intermediate points proposed to be embraced in the route and otherwise designate its course as nearly as practicable.

Separate proposals are invited for *semi-monthly, weekly*, and *semi-weekly* trips each way.

The decision upon the proposals offered will be made after the Postmaster General shall be satisfied of the ability and disposition of the parties in good faith to perform the contract.

A guarantee is to be executed, with good and sufficient sureties, that the contract shall be executed with like good security, whenever the contractor or contractors shall be required to do so by the Postmaster General, and the service must commence within twelve months after the date of such contract.

Form of Proposal.

I, ——, of ——, county of ——, State of ——, propose to convey the entire letter mail, for the term of six years, from the date specified in the contract for commencing service, from ——, on the Mississippi river, by ——, to San Francisco, California, agreeably to the advertisement of the Postmaster General of the 20th April, 1857, in good four-horse coaches or spring wagons, suitable for the conveyance of passengers, as well as the safety and security of the mails, *semi-monthly*, each way, for the annual sum of —— dollars; *weekly*, each way, for the annual sum of —— dollars; *semi-weekly*, each way, for the annual sum of ——.

Dated. (Signed.)

Form of a Guarantee.

The undersigned, residing at ——, State of ——, undertake that, if the foregoing bid for carrying the mail on the route from ——, on the Mississippi river, to San Francisco, California, be accepted by the Postmaster General, the bidder shall, when required by the Postmaster General, enter into the necessary obligation to perform the service proposed, with good and sufficient sureties.

This we do, understanding distinctly the obligation and liabilities assumed by guarantors, under the 27th section of the act of Congress of July 2, 1836.

Dated. (Signed by two guarantors.)

Form of Certificate.

The undersigned, postmaster of ——, State of ——, certifies, *under his oath 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.)

INSTRUCTIONS.

Containing conditions to be interpreted in the contracts to the extent the department may deem proper.

1. No pay will be made for trips not performed; and for each of such omissions, not satisfactorily explained, three times the pay of the trip may be deducted. Deductions will also be ordered for a grade of performance inferior to that specified in the contract. For repeated delinquencies of the kind herein specified, enlarged penalties, proportioned to the nature thereof and the importance of the mail, may be made.

2. For leaving behind or throwing off the mails, or any portion of them, for the admission of passengers, or for being concerned in setting up or running an express conveying intelligence in advance of the mail, a quarter's pay may be deducted.

3. Fines will be imposed, unless the delinquency be promptly and satisfactorily explained by certificates of postmasters, or the affidavits of other credible persons, for failing to arrive in contract time; for neglecting to take the mail from or deliver it into a post office; for suffering it (owing either to the unsuitableness of the place or manner of carrying it) to be wet, injured, destroyed, robbed, or lost; and for refusing, after demand, to convey the mail as frequently as the contractor runs, or is concerned in running, a coach on the route.

4. The Postmaster General may annul the contract for repeated failures to run agreeably to contract; for violating the post office laws, or disobeying the instructions of the department; for refusing to discharge a carrier when required by the department to do so; for assigning the contract without the assent of the Postmaster General; for running an express as aforesaid; or for transporting persons or packages conveying mailable matter out of the mail.

5. A bid received after the last day and hour named, or without the guarantee required by law, cannot be considered in competition with a regular proposal reasonable in amount.

6. The route, the service, the yearly pay, the name and residence of the bidder, (that is, his usual post office address,) and those of each member of a firm, where a company offers, should be distinctly stated.

7. Altered bids should not be submitted; nor should bids once submitted be withdrawn.

8. Each bid must be guaranteed by two or more responsible persons satisfactory to the Postmaster General. General guarantees cannot be admitted. The bid and guarantee should be *signed* plainly with the full name of each person.

9. The department reserves the right to reject any bid which may be deemed extravagant, and also the bids of failing contractors and bidders.

10. The bid should be sealed; superscribed "Mail proposals for overland route to California," addressed "Second Assistant Postmaster General," Contract Office.

11. A modification of a bid in any of its essential terms is tantamount to a new bid, and cannot be received, so as to interfere with a regular competition, after the last hour act for receiving bids.

12. Postmasters are to be careful not to certify the sufficiency of guarantors or sureties without knowing that they are persons of sufficient responsibility; and all bidders, guarantors, and sureties are distinctly notified that, on a failure to enter into or perform the contracts for the service proposed for in the accepted bids, their legal liabilities will be enforced against them.

13. Present contractors, and persons known at the department, must, equally with others, procure guarantors and certificates of their sufficiency substantially in the forms above prescribed. The certificates of sufficiency must be signed by a postmaster, or by a judge of a court of record.

The attention of bidders, guarantors, sureties, &c., is directed to the following laws, viz:

Sec. 2. Act of March 3, 1825, requiring contractors, carriers, &c., to be sworn.

Sec. 44. Act of March 3, 1825, in relation to failure to enter into contract.

Sec. 27. Act of July 2, 1836, liabilities of guarantors.

Sec. 24. Act of July 2, 1836, authorizing bids of failing contractors to be rejected.

Sec. 28. Act of July 2, 1836, in relation to combinations amongst bidders.

Act of April 21, 1808, provides that no member of Congress can be a contractor.

Sec. 42. Act of March 3, 1825, provides that no postmaster, assistant postmaster, or clerk in a post office, shall be a contractor.

Sec. 7. Act of March 3, 1825, provides that no other than a free white male person shall be employed in carrying the mail.

The Postmaster General will reserve to himself the right of annulling any contract made under the above act whenever he shall discover that the same, or any part of it, is offered for sale in the market, for the purpose of speculation; and he will in no case sanction a transfer of the same, in whole or in part, to any assignee or sub-contractor less qualified, in his opinion, than the original contractor to carry the same into successful operation.

AARON V. BROWN,
Postmaster General.

Ap 21—3awt1tJune†

BANKING HOUSE OF CHUBB BROTHERS,
Washington, January 1, 1857.

JOHN D. BARROW and HENRY HOLMES are this day admitted as partners in the Banking House of Chubb Brothers. The firm from this date will be composed of Chas. St. J. Chubb, John D. Barrow, and Henry Holmes. The House in Dubuque, Iowa, is composed of Charles St. J. Chubb, Wm. H. Dougal, and Alexander H. Barrow, under the firm of Chubb Brothers, Barrow, & Co.

CHUBB BROTHERS.

Jan 1—tf

ST. JOSEPH'S ACADEMY FOR YOUNG LADIES, near Emmittsburg, Frederick county, Maryland.—The annual session of studies at this institution commences on the 24th August, and terminates on the last Thursday in June. The terms for board and tuition are $150 per annum, payable semi-annually in advance. There are extra charges for music, drawing, painting, and also for Spanish, Italian, German, and Latin. The terms for the primary department, composed of pupils under nine years of age, are $100 per annum, payable half-yearly in advance.

Letters of inquiry should be addressed to the MOTHER SUPERIOR of St. Joseph's Academy, Emmittsburg, Frederick county, Maryland.

July 9—d1year

BARNY'S CONFECTIONARY, No. 84 Bridge street, Georgetown, D. C., where all kinds of entertainments are furnished, with the best ice cream, cakes, water ices, confectionary, &c., at the shortest notice, and on the most moderate terms. Medal awarded at the last exhibition of the Metropolitan Mechanics' Institute.

Feb 5—tf

WATCH Repairing and Engraving.—Watches, chronometers, and pocket timekeepers of every description repaired by skilful workmen and warranted to perform accurately.

Engraving of every description done in the best style, including the cutting of arms, crests, mottoes, and initials on stone.

☞ Visiting and wedding cards elegantly engraved and printed.

M. W. GALT & BRO.,
Jewellers, 324 Pennsylvania avenue,
Jan 30—tf Between 9th and 10th streets

[No. 575.]

By the President of the United States.

IN pursuance of law, I, FRANKLIN PIERCE, President of the United States of America, do hereby declare and make known that public sales will be held at the undermentioned land offices in the TERRITORY OF OREGON, at the periods hereinafter designated, to wit:

At the land office at OREGON CITY, commencing on Monday, *the tenth day of August* next, for the disposal of the public lands within the following-named townships, viz:

North of the base line and east of the Willamette meridian.

Township one and fractional township two, of range *one*.

South of the base line and east of the Willamette meridian.

Township one, two, and three, of range *one*.
Township one, two, and three, of range *two*.

North of the base line and west of the Willamette meridian.

Township one, of ranges *one, two*, and *three*.

South of the base line and west of the Willamette meridian.

Township one, of ranges *one, two*, and *three*.
Township three, of range *one* and *two*.
Township four, of ranges *one, two*, and *three*.
Township seven, of ranges *two, three, four*, and *five*.
Township eleven, of ranges *three, four*, and *five*.
Township seventeen and eighteen, of range *four*.
Township seventeen and eighteen, of range *four*.

At the land office at WISCONSIN, commencing on Monday, *the tenth day of August* next, for the disposal of the public lands situated within the following-named townships, viz:

South of the base line and west of the Fifth principal meridian.

Sections one to fifteen, inclusive, the northeast quarter of section seventeen, the northeast quarter of section twenty-two, sections twenty-three, twenty-four, twenty-five, twenty-six, and thirty-five, of township twenty-two, of range *six*.

The southwest quarter of section seven, the southwest quarter of section fifteen, the northwest quarter and the south half of section seventeen; sections eighteen, nineteen, twenty, and twenty-one, the northwest quarter of section twenty-two, the southwest quarter of section twenty-eight, sections twenty-nine, thirty, thirty-one, and thirty-two, of township twenty-two, of range *seven*.

Lots one to six, inclusive, of section four; lots one to four, inclusive, of section five; lots one to five, inclusive, and the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section seven; lots one to seven, inclusive, and the southwest quarter of the northeast of section eight, the east half of section, the east half of the northwest quarter, the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter, and the east half of the southwest quarter of nine; the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section ten; the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section eleven; the southeast quarter of section twelve, sections thirteen, fourteen, and fifteen; the northwest quarter of the northeast, and the northwest quarter of section eighteen; lots one to nine, inclusive, and the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section twenty, sections twenty-one to twenty-seven, inclusive; the east half and the northwest quarter of section twenty-eight; lots one and two, and the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section twenty-nine; the northwest quarter of section thirty-three, and sections thirty-four and thirty-five of township twenty-two, of range *eight*.

Lots one and two of section seven; lots one to five, inclusive; and the east half of the southeast quarter of section eight, the west half of the southwest quarter of section nine, the north half of the northeast quarter, the north half of the northwest quarter, and lots one to four, inclusive, of section fourteen; the south half of the northeast quarter, the south half of the northwest quarter, and lots one to four, inclusive, of section fifteen; the northeast quarter of the northeast, and lots one and two of section seventeen, and lots one to six, inclusive, of section eighteen of township twenty-two, of range *nine*.

Township twenty-six and twenty-seven, of range *five*.
Township twenty-six and twenty-seven, of range *six*.
Township thirty-six, thirty-seven, and thirty-eight, of range *one*.

That part of township thirty-six south and east of the Indian reservation, township thirty-seven, sections one to six inclusive, sections eight to fifteen inclusive, and section twenty-four of township thirty-eight, of range *two*.

That part of township thirty-six south of the Indian reservation, of range *three*.

That part of township thirty-six south and west of the Indian reservation, of range *four*.

Sections four to nine inclusive, sections fifteen and seventeen to twenty-four inclusive, and sections twenty-eight to thirty-three, inclusive, of township thirty-six, of range *five*.

Township thirty-six, of range *six*.

Sections one, two, and ten, to fifteen, inclusive, and sections twenty-two to twenty-six, inclusive, of township thirty-six; sections one to seven, inclusive, seventeen, eighteen, nineteen, and thirty, to thirty-four, inclusive, of township thirty-seven; sections two to nineteen, inclusive, and twenty-one, twenty-two, and twenty-seven, the southwest quarter of section twenty-nine, sections thirty and thirty-one, the west half of section thirty-two and section thirty-four of township thirty-eight; sections nineteen to twenty-two inclusive, and twenty-seven to thirty-four inclusive, of township thirty-nine; sections four to eight inclusive, and eighteen of township forty, of range *seven*.

South of the base line and east of the Willamette meridian.

Township thirty-eight and sections one to six inclusive, nine to fifteen inclusive, and twenty-three, twenty-four, and twenty-five of township thirty-nine, of range *one*.

Lands appropriated by law for the use of schools, military, and other purposes, will be excluded from the sales.

The offering of the above lands will be commenced on the days appointed, and will proceed in the order in which they are advertised, until the whole shall have been offered, and the sales thus closed; but no sale shall be kept open longer than two weeks, and no private entry of any of the lands will be admitted until after the expiration of the two weeks.

Given under my hand, at the city of Washington, this thirteenth day of February, anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven.

FRANKLIN PIERCE.

By the President:
THOS. A. HENDRICKS,
Commissioner of the General Land Office.

NOTICE TO PRE-EMPTION CLAIMANTS.

Every person entitled to the right of pre-emption to any of the lands within the townships and parts of townships above enumerated is required to establish the same to the satisfaction of the register and receiver of the proper land office, *and make payment therefor as soon as practicable after seeing this notice*, and before the day appointed for the commencement of the public sale of the lands embracing the tract claimed; otherwise such claim will be forfeited.

THOS. A. HENDRICKS,
Commissioner of the General Land Office.

Feb 18—law13w [Int. & Star.]

TO LEASE, for a term of years, the mansion of the late General Towson, United States army. It contains all the modern improvements, as water works, furnace, gas, range, &c. Apply to J. R. H. SMITH, esq., at his office, on F street.

March 21—2w†

NOTICE TO ROAD CONTRACTORS.—It being the intention of