postal revenue to the money order funds; and he may transfer money order funds to to creditors of the Department, to be replaced by equivalent transfers from the postal revenues.

SEC. 118. That the Postmaster General may transfer to the postmaster at any money order office, by warrant on the treasury, countersigned by the Auditor for the Postoffice Department, and payable out of the postal revenues, such sum as may be required over and above the current revenues at his office to pay the money orders drawn upon him.

SEC. 119. That the Postmaster General shall require each postmaster at a money order office to render to the Postoffice Department weekly, semi-weekly, or daily accounts of all money orders issued and paid; of all fees received for issuing them; of all transfers and payments made from money order funds, and of all money received to be used for the payment of money orders or on account of money order business.

SEC. 120. That the Auditor for the Postoffice Department shall keep the accounts of the money order business separately, and in such manner as to show the number and amount of money orders issued at each office, the number and amount paid, the amount of fees received, and all the expenses of the money order business.

SEC. 121. That all money received for the sale of money orders, including all fees thereon, all money transferred from the postal revenues to the money order funds, all money transferred, or paid from the money order funds to the service of the Postoffice Department, and all money order funds transferred from one postmaster to another, shall be deemed and taken to be money order funds and money in the treasury of the United States. And it shall be the duty of the assistant treasurer of the United States to open, at the request of the Postmaster General, an account of "money order funds" deposited by postmasters to the credit of the Postmaster General, and of drafts against the amount so deposited, drawn by him and countersigned by the Auditor.

SEC. 122. That any postmaster, assistant, clerk or other person employed in or connected with the business or operations of any money order office who shall convert to his own use, in any way whatever, or loan, or deposit in any bank, or exchange for other funds, any portion of the money order funds, shall be deemed guilty of embezzlement; and any such person, as well as every other person advising or participating therein, shall, on conviction thereof, for every such offense, be imprisoned for not less than six months nor more than ten years, and be fined in a sum equal to the amount embezzled; and any failure to pay over or produce any money order funds intrusted to such person shall be taken to be prima facie evidence of embezzlement; and upon the trial of any indictment against any person for such embezzlement, it shall be prima facie evidence of a balance against him to produce a transcript from the money order account books of the Auditor for the Postoffice Department. But nothing herein contained shall be construed to prohibit any postmaster depositing, under the direction of the Postmaster General, in a national bank designated by the Secretary of the Treasury for that purpose, to his own credit as postmaster, any money order or other funds in his charge, nor prevent his negotiating drafts or other evidences of debt through such bank, or through United States disbursing officers, or otherwise, when instructed or required to do so by the Postmaster General, for the purpose of remitting surplus money order funds from one postoffice to another, to be used in payment of money orders. That disbursing officers of the United States shall be required to issue, under regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, duplicates of lost checks drawn by them in favor of any postmaster on account of money order or other public funds received by them from some other postmaster.

SEC. 123. That postmasters at money order offices may be allowed, as compensation for issuing and paying money orders, not exceeding one-third of the whole amount of fees collected on orders issued, and one-fourth of one per centum on the gross amount of orders paid at their respective offices, provided such compensation, together with the postmaster's salary, shall not exceed four thousand dollars per annum, except in the case of the postmaster at New York city as hereinbefore provided.

SEC. 124. That the Postmaster General may pay out of the proceeds of the money order business the cost of stationery and such incidental expenses as are necessary for the transaction of that business.

SEC. 125. That the Postmaster General may employ such an additional number of clerks at money order offices as may be necessary for conducting the operations of the money order system, who shall be paid out of the proceeds of the money order business.

SEC. 126. That for the greater security of valuable mail matter, the Postmaster General may establish a uniform system of registration.

SEC. 127. That mail matter shall be registered only on the application of the party posting the same, and the fee therefor shall not exceed twenty cents in addition to the regular postage, to be, in all cases, prepaid; and all such fees shall be accounted for in such manner as the Postmaster General shall direct; provided, that letters upon the official business of the Postoffice Department which require registering shall be registered free of charge, and pass through the mails free of charge.

SEC. 128. That a receipt shall be taken upon the delivery of any registered mail matter, showing to whom and when the same was delivered, which shall be returned to the sender, and be received in the courts as prima facie evidence of such delivery.

SEC. 129. That the Postoffice Department, or its revenue, shall not be liable for the loss of any registered mail matter.

SEC. 130. That mailable matter shall be divided into three class: first, letters; second, regular printed matter; third, miscellaneous matter.

SEC. 131. That mailable matter of the first class shall embrace all correspondence, wholly or partly in writing, except book manuscripts and corrected proof sheets passing between authors and publishers.

SEC. 132. That mailable matter of the second class shall embrace all matter exclusively in print, and regularly issued at stated periods from a known office of publication, without addition by writing, mark, or sign.

SEC. 133. That mailable matter of the third class shall embrace all pamphlets, occasional publications, transient newspapers, magazines, handbills, posters, unsealed circulars, prospectuses, books, book manuscripts, proof sheets, corrected proof sheets, maps, prints, engravings, blanks, flexible patterns, samples of merchandise not exceeding twelve ounces in weight, sample cards, phonographic paper, letter envelopes, postal envelopes and wrappers, cards, plain and ornamental paper, photographic representations of different types, seeds, cuttings, bulbs, roots, scions, and all other matter which may be declared mailable by law, and all other articles not above the weight prescribed by law, which are not, from their form or nature, liable to destroy, deface or otherwise injure the contents of the mail bag or the person of any one engaged in the postal service. All liquids, poisons, glass, explosive materials and obscene books shall be excluded from the mails. All matter of the third class, excepting books and other printed matter, book manuscripts, proof sheets and corrected proof sheets, shall not exceed twelve ounces in weight, and all matter of the third class shall be subject to examination and to rates of postage as hereinafter provided. Samples of metals, ores and mineralogical specimens shall not exceed twelve ounces in weight, and shall be subject to examination and to rates of postage as hereinafter provided.

SEC. 134. That no package weighing more than four pounds shall be received for conveyance by mail, except books published or circulated by order of Congress.

SEC. 135. That the Postmaster General shall furnish to the postoffices exchanging mails with foreign countries, and to such other offices as he may deem expedient, postal balances denominated in grams of the metric system, fifteen grams of which shall be the equivalent, for postal purposes, of one-half ounce avoirdupois, and so on in progression.

SEC. 136. That the Postmaster General may prescribe by regulation the manner of wrapping and securing for the mails all matter not charged with letter postage nor lawfully franked, so that it may be conveniently examined by postmasters; and if not so wrapped and secured, it shall be subject to letter postage.

SEC. 137. That postmasters at the office of delivery may remove the wrappers and envelopes from mail matter not charged with letter postage nor lawfully franked, when it can be done without destroying them, for the purpose of ascertaining whether there is upon or connected with such matter anything which would authorize or require the charge of a higher rate of postage thereon.

SEC. 138. That no newspapers shall be received to be conveyed by mail unless they are sufficiently dried and inclosed in proper wrappers.

SEC. 139. That where packages of newspapers or other periodicals are received at at a postoffice, directed to one address, the names of the subscribers to whom they belong, with the postage for a quarter in advance, is handed to the postmaster, he shall deliver such papers or periodicals to their respective owners.

SEC. 140. That postmasters shall notify the publisher of any newspaper or other periodical, when any subscriber shall refuse to take the same from the office, or neglect to call for it for the period of one month.

SEC. 141. That publishers of newspapers and periodicals may print or write, upon their publications sent to regular subscribers, the address of the subscriber, and the date when the subscription expires, and may inclose therein bills and receipts for subscription thereto, without subjecting such publication to extra postage.

SEC. 142. That any person who shall inclose or conceal any letter, memorandum or other thing in any mail matter not charged with letter postage, or make any writing or memorandum thereon, and deposit, or cause the same to be deposited, for conveyance by mail at a less rate than letter postage, shall, for every such offense, forfeit and pay five dollars, and such mail matter or inclosure shall not be delivered until the postage is paid thereon at letter rates; but no extra postage shall be charged for a card printed or impressed upon an envelope or wrapper.

SEC. 143. That contractors or mail carriers may convey, out of the mail, newspapers for sale or distribution to subscribers.

SEC. 144. That the Postmaster General may provide by order the terms upon which route agents may receive from publishers or any news agents in charge thereof, and deliver the same as directed, if presented and called for at the mail car or steamer, packages of newspapers and other periodicals not received from, or intended for delivery at any postoffice.

SEC. 145. That any postmaster who shall unlawfully detain in his office any letter or other mail matter, the posting of which is not prohibited by law, with intent to prevent the arrival and delivery of the same to the person to whom it is addressed, shall, on conviction thereof, forfeit and pay not exceeding five hundred dollars, and be imprisoned not exceeding six months, and he shall be forever thereafter incapable of holding the office of postmaster.

SEC. 146. That any person employed in any department of the postal service, who shall unlawfully detain, delay, or open any letter, packet, bag, or mail of letters intrusted to him, or which shall have come into his possession, and which was intended to be conveyed by mail, or carried or delivered by any mail carrier, mail messenger, route agent, letter-carrier, or other person employed in any department of the postal service, or forwarded through or delivered from any postoffice or branch postoffice established by authority of the Postmaster General; any such person who shall secrete, embezzle or destroy any such letter, packet, bag or mail of letters as aforesaid, which shall not contain any security for or assurance relating to money or other thing of value, every such person shall, on conviction thereof, for every such offense, forfeit and pay a penalty of not exceeding five hundred dollars, or be imprisoned not more than one year, or both, at the discretion of the court.

SEC. 147. That any person who shall take any letter, postal card, or packet which shall not contain any article of value or evidence thereof out of a postoffice or branch postoffice, or from a letter or mail-carrier, or which has been in any postoffice or branch postoffice, or in the custody of any letter or mail carrier, before it shall have been delivered to the person to whom it was directed, with a design to obstruct the correspondence or pry into the business or secrets of another, or shall secrete, embezzle or destroy the same, shall, on conviction thereof, for every such offense, forfeit and pay a penalty not exceeding five hundred dollars, or be imprisoned at hard labor not exceeding one year, or both, at the discretion of the court.

SEC. 148. That no obscene book, pamphlet, picture, print or other publication of a vulgar or indecent character, or any letter upon the envelop of which, or postal card upon which scurrilous epithets may have been written or printed, or disloyal devices printed or engraved, shall be carried in the mail; and any person who shall knowingly deposit, or cause to be deposited, for mailing or for delivery, any such obscene publication shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, shall, for every such offense, be fined not more than five hundred dollars, or imprisoned not more than one year, or both, according to the circumstances and aggravation of the offense.

SEC. 149. That it shall not be lawful to convey by mail, nor to deposit in a postoffice to be sent by mail, any letters or circulars concerning illegal lotteries, so-called gift concerts, or other similar enterprises offering prizes, or concerning schemes devised and intended to deceive and defraud the public for the purpose of obtaining money under false pretenses; and a penalty of not more than five hundred dollars nor less than one hundred dollars, with costs of prosecution, is hereby imposed upon conviction, in any federal court, of the violation of this section.

SEC. 150. That postage on all mail matter must be prepaid by stamps at the time of mailing, unless herein otherwise provided for.

SEC. 151. That all mail matter deposited for mailing, on which at least one full rate of postage has been paid as required by law, shall be forwarded to its destination, charged with the unpaid rate, to be collected on delivery.

SEC. 152. That if any mail matter, on which by law the postage is required to be prepaid at the mailing office, shall by inadvertence reach its destination without such prepayment, double the prepaid rates shall be charged and collected on delivery.

SEC. 153. That no mail matter shall be delivered until the postage due thereon has been paid.

SEC. 154. That no box at any postoffice shall be assigned to the use of any person until the rent thereof has been paid for at least one quarter in advance, for which the postmaster shall give a receipt.

SEC. 155. That the Postmaster General may provide by regulation for transmitting unpaid and duly certified letters of soldiers, sailors and marines in the service of the United States to their destination.

SEC. 156. That on all mail matter which is wholly or partly in writing, except book manuscripts and corrected proofs passing between authors and publishers and local or drop letters; on all printed matter which is so marked as to convey any other or further information than is conveyed by the original print, except the correction of mere typographical errors; on all matter which is sent in violation of law or the regulations of the department respecting inclosures; and on all matter to which no specific rate of postage is assigned, postage shall be charged at the rate of three cents for each half ounce or fraction thereof.

SEC. 157. That letters commonly known as drop or local letters, delivered through the postoffice or its carriers, shall be charged with postage at the rate of two cents where the system of free delivery is established, and one cent where such system is not established, for each half-ounce or fraction thereof.

SEC. 158. That on newspapers and other periodical publications, not exceeding four ounces in weight, sent from a known office of publication to regular subscribers, postage shall be charged at the following rates per quarter, namely: on publications issued less frequently than once a week, at the rate of one cent for each issue; issued once a week, five cents; and five cents additional for each issue more frequent than once a week. And an additional rate shall be charged for each additional four ounces or fraction thereof in weight.

SEC. 159. That on newspapers and other periodicals sent from a known office of publication to regular subscribers, the postage shall be paid before delivery, for not less than one quarter, nor more than one year; which payment may be made either at the office of mailing or delivery, commencing at any time; and the postmaster shall account for said postage in the quarter in which it is received.

SEC. 160. That the Postmaster General may provide by regulations for carrying small newspapers, issued less frequently than once a week, in packages to one address, from a known office of publication to regular subscribers, at the rate of one cent for each four ounces or fraction thereof.

SEC. 161. That persons known as regular dealers in newspapers and periodicals may receive and transmit by mail such quantities of either as they may require, and pay the postage thereon as received, at the same rates, pro rata, as regular subscribers to such publications who pay quarterly in advance.

SEC. 162. That the Postmaster General may prescribe, by regulation, an affidavit, in form, to be taken by the publisher, or by the clerk, agent, or servant of the publisher, of any newspaper or other periodical which may by law be sent to regular subscribers without prepayment of postage at the mailing office, to the effect that neither he nor any other proprietor, clerk, agent, or employe within his knowledge will send, cause or permit to be sent through the mail, without prepayment by postage stamps, any copies of such newspaper or other periodical (naming it) except to bona fide and regular subscribers thereto; and if any such newspaper or other periodical shall be thus unlawfully sent, with the knowledge or consent of such proprietor, or his agent, clerk, servant in charge of such business, or if such affidavit shall, when required by the Postmaster General or any special agent of the Postoffice Department, be refused, the person guilty of the offense, or refusing to make the affidavit, shall forfeit and pay fifty dollars in each case.

SEC. 163. That on mailable matter of the third class, except as herein stated, postage shall be charged at the rate of one cent for each two ounces or fraction thereof. Double these rates shall be charged for books, samples of metals, ores, minerals and merchandise.

SEC. 164. That packages of woolen, cotton or linen clothing, not exceeding two pounds in weight, may be sent through the mail to any non-commissioned officer or private in the army of the United States, if prepaid, at the rate of one cent for each one ounce or fraction thereof, subject to such regulation as the Postmaster General may prescribe.

SEC. 165. That the rate of United States postage on mail matter sent to or received from foreign countries with which different rates have not been established by postal convention or other arrangement, when forwarded by vessels regularly employed in transporting the mail, shall be ten cents for each half ounce or fraction thereof on letters, unless reduced by order of the Postmaster General; two cents each on newspapers; and not exceeding two cents per each two ounces, or fraction thereof, on pamphlets, periodicals, books and other printed matter, which postage shall be prepaid on matter sent and collected on matter received; and to avoid loss to the United States in the payment of balances, the Postmaster General may collect the unpaid postage on letters from foreign countries in coin or its equivalent.

SEC. 166. That all letters conveyed by vessels not regularly employed in carrying the mail shall, if for delivery within the United States, be rated with double postage, to cover the fee paid to the vessel.

SEC. 167. That for the purpose of making better postal arrangements with foreign countries, or to counteract their adverse measures affecting our postal intercourse with them, the Postmaster General, by and with the advice and consent of the President, may negotiate and conclude postal treaties or conventions, and may reduce or increase the rates of postage on mail matter conveyed between the United States and foreign countries.

SEC. 168. That the Postmaster General shall prepare postage stamps of suitable denominations, which, when attached to mail matter, shall be evidence of the payment of the postage thereon.

SEC. 169. That the Postmaster General shall provide suitable letter and newspaper envelopes, with such water marks or other guards against counterfeits as he may deem expedient, and with postage stamps with such device and of such suitable denominations as he may direct impressed thereon; and the said envelopes shall be known as "stamped envelopes," and shall be sold, as nearly as may be, at the cost of procuring them, with the addition of the value of the postage stamps impressed thereon; but no stamped envelop furnished by the government shall contain any lithographing or engraving, and no printing except a printed request to return the letter to the writer; and letters and papers inclosed in them (the postage stamp in every case being of a denomination sufficient to cover the postage properly chargeable thereon) shall pass in the mail as prepaid matter.

SEC. 170. That to facilitate letter correspondence and provide for the transmission of the mails, at a reduced rate of postage, of messages, orders, notices, and other short communications, either printed or written in pencil or ink, the Post master General shall be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to furnish and issue to the public, with postage stamps impressed upon them, "postal cards," manufactured of good stiff paper, of such quality, form, and size as he shall deem best adapted for general use; which cards shall be used as a means of postal intercourse, under rules and regulations to be prescribed by the Postmaster General, and when so used shall be transmitted through the mails at a postage charge of one cent each, including the cost of their manufacture.

SEC. 171. That the Postmaster General may, from time to time, adopt such improvements in postage stamps and stamped envelopes as he may deem advisable; and when any such improvement is adopted it shall be subject to all the provisions herein respecting postage stamps or stamped envelopes.

SEC. 172. That postage stamps and stamped envelopes shall be furnished by the Postmaster General to all postmasters, and shall be kept for sale at all postoffices; and each postmaster shall be held accountable for all such stamps and envelopes furnished to him.

SEC. 173. That postage stamps and stamped envelopes may be sold at a discount to certain designated agents, who will agree to sell again without discount, under rules to be prescribed by the Postmaster General; but the quantities of each sold to any one agent at one time shall not exceed one hundred dollars in value, and the discount shall not exceed five per centum on the face value of the stamps, nor the same per centum on the current price of the envelopes when sold in less quantities.

SEC. 174. That postage stamps shall not be sold for any larger sum than the value indicated on their face, nor stamped envelopes for more than is charged therefor by the Postoffice Department for like quantities; and any person connected with the postal service who shall violate this provision shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, shall be fined in any sum not less than ten nor more than five hundred dollars.

SEC. 175. That postage stamps affixed to all mail matter or the stamped envelopes in which the same is inclosed, when depositing for mailing or delivery, shall be defaced by the postmaster at the mailing office in such manner as the Postmaster General may direct; and if any mail matter shall be forwarded without the stamps or envelopes being so defaced, the postmaster at the office of delivery shall deface them, and report the delinquent postmaster to the Postmaster General.

SEC. 176. That any person employed in any branch of the postal service who shall willfully and unlawfully remove from any mail matter any postage stamp affixed thereto in payment of the postage, shall, on conviction thereof, for every such offense; be fined not more than one hundred dollars, or be imprisoned not more than six months, at the discretion of the court.

SEC. 177. That any person who shall use or attempt to use, in payment of the postage on any mail matter conveyed by mail or otherwise, any postage stamp or such stamped envelope, or any stamp cut from any stamped envelope, which has been before used for a like purpose, shall forfeit and pay fifty dollars. And any person who shall counterfeit the frank of any person entitled to the franking privilege, or willfully utter or use any counterfeit frank with the intent to avoid the payment of postage, shall, on conviction thereof, be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and be punished by a fine not less than fifty dollars nor more than five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment not less than three months nor more than twelve months, or by both fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court.

SEC. 178. That any person who shall forge or counterfeit any postage stamp, or any stamp printed upon any stamped envelope, postal card, or any die, plate or engraving therefor; any person who shall make, or print, or knowingly use or sell, or have in possession, with intent to use or sell, any such forged or counterfeited postage stamp, stamped envelope, postal card, die, plate, or engraving; any person who shall make, or knowingly use or sell, or have in possession, with intent to use or sell, any paper bearing the water-mark of any stamped envelope, postal card, or any fraudulent imitation thereof; any person who shall make or print, or authorize or procure to be made or printed, any postage stamp, stamped envelope, or postal card, of the kind authorized and provided by the Postoffice Department, without the special authority and direction of said Department; any person who shall, after such postage stamps, stamped envelopes, or postal card, have been printed, and with intent to defraud the postal revenue, deliver the same to any person not authorized by an instrument of writing duly executed under the hand of the Postmaster General and the seal of the Postoffice Department to receive them, every such person shall, on conviction thereof, be deemed guilty of a felony, and be punished by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment not exceeding five years, or by both fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court.

SEC. 179. That any person who shall forge or counterfeit, or knowingly utter or use any forged or counterfeited postage stamp of any foreign government, shall be deemed guilty of a felony, and, on conviction thereof, shall be punished by imprisonment of not less than two nor more than ten years, at the discretion of the court.

SEC. 180. That authority to frank mail matter is conferred upon and limited to the following persons:

First—The President, by himself or his private secretary, to cover all mail matter.

Second—The Vice President, to cover all mail matter.

Third—The chiefs of the several Executive Departments.

Fourth—Senators, Representatives, and Delegates in Congress, and the Secretary of the Senate and Clerk of the House of Representatives, to cover their correspondence, all printed matter issued by the authority of Congress, and all speeches, proceedings, and debates in Congress.

Fifth—Such principal officers of the Executive Departments, being heads of bureaus or chief clerks, as the Postmaster General may by regulation prescribe, to cover official communications only.

Sixth—Postmasters, to cover official communications to other postmasters only.

Seventh—Assessors and collectors and their assistants and deputies, for the interchange of official communications only.

And no person entitled by law to the franking privilege shall exercise said privilege otherwise than by his written autograph signature on the matter franked; and all mail matter not thus franked shall be charged with the legal rate of postage thereon.

SEC. 181. That the franking privilege of Senators, Representatives, and Delegates in Congress, and the Secretary of the Senate and Clerk of the House, shall commence with the term for which they are elected, and expire with the first Monday of December following such term.

SEC. 182. That all books or publications which may be procured or published by order of Congress shall be considered as public documents, and may be franked as such.

SEC. 183. That the maximum weight for franked and free mail matter shall be four ounces, except petitions to Congress, congressional and executive public documents, periodical publications interchanged between publishers, and packages of seeds, cuttings, roots, and scions, the weight of which latter may be fixed by regulation of the Postmaster General.

SEC. 184. That the following mail matter shall be allowed to pass free in the mail:

First—All mail matter sent to the President or Vice President.

Second—Official communications addressed to chiefs, heads of bureaus, chief clerks, or franking officer of either of the Executive Departments.

Third—Letters and printed matter sent to Senators, Representatives, or Delegates in Congress, the Secretary of the Senate, or the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

Fourth—Petitions to Congress.

Fifth—Copyright matter to the Librarian of Congress, if marked on the package, "copyright matter."

Sixth—All publications sent or received by the Smithsonian Institution, marked on each package, "Smithsonian Exchange."

Seventh—Newspapers, periodicals, and magazines reciprocally interchanged between publishers, and not exceeding sixteen ounces in weight; to be confined to a single copy of each publication.

Eighth—Weekly newspapers, one copy to each actual subscriber within the county where the same is printed and published; but carriers shall not be required to distribute such papers unless postage is paid upon them at the usual rates.

Ninth—Notices to the publishers of the refusal or neglect of subscribers to take newspapers, magazines or other periodicals from the postoffice, to be sent under such regulations as the Postmaster General may prescribe.

Tenth—Dead letters returned to the writers thereof.

Eleventh—Medals, certificates of thanks or other testimonials, which have been or may be awarded by the Legislatures of the several States and Territories to the soldiers thereof, to be sent by the adjutant general of said States and Territories, under such regulations as the Postmaster General may prescribe.

SEC. 185. That all mail matter to and from Mary Lincoln, widow of the late President Abraham Lincoln, shall be conveyed free during her natural life.

SEC. 186. That all mail matter not hereinbefore specially made free must be prepaid by postage stamps.

SEC. 187. That if any person, having the right to receive letters free, shall receive, inclosed to him, any letter or packet addressed to a person not having that right, it shall be his duty to return such letter or packet to the postoffice, marking thereon the place from whence it came, that it may be charged with postage.

SEC. 188. That the Postmaster General may direct the publication of the list of non-delivered letters at any postoffice by a written list posted in some public place, or, when he shall deem it for the public interest, he may direct the publication of such list in the daily or weekly newspaper regularly published within the postoffice delivery which has the largest circulation within such delivery; and where no daily paper is published within the postoffice delivery, such list may be published in the daily newspaper of any adjoining delivery having the largest circulation within the delivery of the postoffice publishing the list; and in case of dispute as to the circulation of competing newspapers, the postmaster shall receive evidence and decide upon the fact. Such list shall be published as frequently as the Postmaster General may deem proper, but not oftener than once a week.

SEC. 189. That the list of non-delivered letters addressed to persons foreign born may be published in a newspaper printed in the language most used by them, which shall be selected in the manner prescribed in the preceding section.

SEC. 190. That under such regulations as the Postmaster General may prescribe, all postmasters are hereby authorized to register, in the manner prescribed by law, but without payment of any registration fee, all letters containing fractional or other currency of the United States, which shall be by them sent by mail to the Treasurer of the United States for redemption; and it shall be the duty of the postmaster at the city of Washington, in the District of Columbia, to register, in like manner, without charge, all letters containing new currency returned for currency redeemed, which shall be received by him from the said Treasurer, in sealed packages, marked with the word "register" over the official signature of the said Treasurer.

SEC. 191. That every postmaster shall post, in a conspicuous place in his office, a copy of each list of non-delivered letters immediately after its publication.

SEC. 192. That the compensation for publishing the list of non-delivered letters shall in no case exceed one cent for each letter so published.

SEC. 193. That all letters published as non-delivered shall be charged with one cent in addition to the regular postage, to be accounted for as part of the postal revenue.

SEC. 194. That the Postmaster General may regulate the period during which undelivered letters shall remain in any postoffice, and when they shall be returned to the dead-letter office; and he may make regulations for their return from the dead-letter office to the writers, when they can not be delivered to the parties addressed.

SEC. 195. That all domestic letters, deposited in any postoffice for mailing, on which the postage is wholly unpaid or paid less than one full rate as required by law, except letters lawfully free, and duly certified letters of soldiers, sailors and marines, in the service of the United Stats, shall be sent by the postmaster to the dead-letter office in Washington; provided, that in large cities and adjacent districts of dense population having two or more postoffices within a distance of three miles of each other, any letter mailed at one of such offices and addressed to a locality within the delivery of another of such offices, which shall have been inadvertently prepaid at the drop or local letter rate of postage only, may be forwarded to its destination through the proper office, charged with the amount of the deficient postage, to be collected on delivery.

SEC. 196. That the dead letters containing valuable inclosures shall be registered in the dead letter office; and when they can not be delivered to the party addressed nor to the writer, the contents thereof shall be disposed of, and a careful account shall be kept of the amount realized in each case, which shall be subject to reclamation by either the party addressed or the sender, for four years from the registry thereof; and all other letters of value or of importance to the party addressed or to the writer, and which can not be returned to either, shall be disposed of as the Postmaster General may direct.

SEC. 197. That the action of the Postoffice Department respecting foreign dead letters shall be subject to conventional stipulations with the respective foreign administrations.

SEC. 198. That when the writer of any letter on which the postage is prepaid shall indorse upon the outside thereof his name and address, such letter shall not be advertised, but after remaining uncalled for at the office to which it is directed thirty days, or the time the writer may direct, shall be returned to him without additional charge for postage, and if not then delivered, shall be treated as a dead letter.

SEC. 199. That prepaid and free letters shall be forwarded from one postoffice to another, at the request of the party addressed, without additional charge for postage.

SEC. 200. That all the waters of the United States shall be post roads during the time the mail is carried thereon, as provided in section two hundred and nineteen.

SEC. 201. That all railways and parts of railways which are now or hereafter may be put in operation are hereby declared to be post roads.

SEC. 202. That all canals during the time the mail is carried thereon are hereby declared to be post roads.

SEC. 203. That all plank roads during the time the mail is carried thereon are hereby declared to be post roads.

SEC. 204. That the road on which the mail is carried to supply any court house which may be without a mail, as provided in section two hundred and sixteen, and the road on which the mail is carried, under section two hundred and twenty-one, providing for extending the line of posts, shall, during the time such mail is carried thereon, be post roads.

SEC. 205. That all letter carrier routes established in any city or town, for the collection and delivery of mail matter by carriers, are hereby declared to be post roads.

SEC. 206. That when there is more than one road between places designated by law for a post road, the Postmaster General may direct which shall be considered the post road.

SEC. 207. That the Postmaster General may change the terminus of post roads connecting with or intersecting railways when the service can be thereby improved.

SEC. 208. That whenever, in the opinion of the Postmaster General, the postal service can not be safely continued, the revenues collected, or the laws maintained on any post road, he may discontinue the service on such road or any part thereof until the same can be safely restored.

SEC. 209. That the Postmaster General may, when he deems it advisable, contract for the transportation of the mails to and from any postoffice; but where such service is performed over a route not established by law, it shall be his duty to report the same to Congress at its meeting next thereafter, and said service shall cease at the end of the next session of Congress, unless said route is established as a post route by Congress.

SEC. 210. That the Postmaster General shall arrange the railway routes on which the mail is carried, including those in which the service is partly by railway and partly by steamboat, into three classes, according to the size of the mails, the speed at which they are carried, and the frequency and importance of the service, so that each railway company shall receive, as far as practicable, a proportionate and just rate of compensation, according to the service performed.

SEC. 211. That the pay for carring the mail on any railway of the first class shall not exceed three hundred dollars per mile per annum; on any railway of the second class it shall not exceed one hundred dollars per mile per annum; and on any railway of the third class it shall not exceed fifty dollars per mile per annum; but if one-half the service on any railway is required to be performed in the night time, the Postmaster General may pay twenty five per centum in addition to the above maximum rates.

SEC. 212. That if the Postmaster General is unable to contract for carrying the mail on any railway route at a compensation not exceeding the maximum rates herein provided, or what he may deem a reasonable and fair compensation, he may separate the letter mail from the other mail, and contract, either with or without advertising, for carrying such letter mail by horse express or otherwise, at the greatest speed that can reasonably be obtained, and for carrying the other mail in wagons, or otherwise, at a slower rate of speed.

SEC. 213. That every railway company carrying the mail shall carry on any train which may run over its road, and without extra charge therefor, all mailable matter directed to be carried thereon, with the person in charge of the same.

SEC. 214. That all railway companies to which the United States have furnished aid by grant of lands, right of way, or otherwise, shall carry the mail at such prices as Congress may by law provide; and, until such price is fixed by law, the Postmaster General may fix the rate of compensation.

SEC. 215. That the Postmaster General shall provide for carrying the mail on all post roads established by law, as often as he, having due regard to productiveness and other circumstances, may think proper.

SEC. 216. That the Postmaster General shall cause a mail to be carried from the nearest postoffice on any established post road to the courthouse of any county in the United States which is without a mail.

SEC. 217. That the Postmaster General may contract for carrying the mail on the navigable canals of the several States, when, in his opinion, the public interest or convenience requires it.

SEC. 218. That the Postmaster General may contract for carrying the mail on any plank road in the United States, when the public interest or convenience requires it.

SEC. 219. That the Postmaster General may cause the mail to be carried in any steamboat or other vessel used as a packet on any of the waters of the United States.

SEC. 220. That the Postmaster General may, if he deem it for the public interest, make contracts for any period not exceeding one year, for carrying the mail in steamships between any of the ports of the United States.

SEC. 221. That the Postmaster General may enter into contracts for extending the line of posts to supply mails to postoffices not on any established route, and, as a compensation for carrying the mail under such contracts, may allow not exceeding two-thirds of the salary paid to the postmaster at such special offices.

SEC. 222. That the master of any vessel of the United States, bound from any port therein to any foreign port, or from any foreign port to any port of the United States, shall, before clearance, receive on board and securely convey all such mails as the Postoffice Department, or any diplomatic or consular officer of the United States abroad, shall offer; and he shall promptly deliver the same, on arriving at the port of destination, to the proper officer, for which he shall receive two cents for every letter so delivered; and upon the entry of every such vessel returning from any foreign port, the master thereof shall make oath or affirmation that he has promptly delivered all the mail placed on board said vessel before clearance from the United States; and if he shall fail to make such oath or affirmation, the said vessel shall not be entitled to the privileges of a vessel of the United States.

SEC. 223. That the master of any steamboat passing between ports or places in the United States, and arriving at any such port or place where there is a postoffice, shall deliver to the postmaster, within three hours after his arrival, if in the daytime, and if at night, within two hours after the next sunrise, and letters and packets brought by him, or within his power or control and not relating to the cargo, addressed to or destined for such port or place, for which he shall receive from the postmaster two cents for each letter or packet so delivered, unless the same is carried under a contract for carrying the mail; and for every failure to so deliver such letters and packets, the master or owner of said steamboat shall forfeit and pay one hundred and fifty dollars.

SEC. 224. That the Postmaster General may pay, to the master or owner of any vessel not regularly employed in carrying the mail, two cents for each letter carried by such vessel between ports or places in the United States, or from any foreign port to any port in the United States; but all such letters shall be deposited in the postoffice at the port of arrival.

SEC. 225. That any person who shall paint, print or in any matter place upon or attach to any steamboat or other vessel, or any stage coach or other vehicle, not actually used in carrying the mail, the words "United States mail," or any words, letters, or characters of like import; any person who shall give notice, by publishing in any newspaper or otherwise, that any steamboat or other vessel, or any stage coach or other vehicle, is used in carrying the mail, when the same is not actually so used, every person so offending, or willfully aiding or abetting therein, shall, on conviction thereof, for every such offense, forfeit and pay not less than one hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars.

SEC. 226. That every route agent, postal clerk, or other carrier of the mail shall receive any mail matter presented to him, if properly prepaid by stamps, and deliver the same for mailing at the next postoffice at which he arrives; but no fees shall be allowed him therefor.

SEC. 227. That any person concerned in carrying the mail, who shall collect, receive, or carry any letter or packet, or cause or procure the same to be done, contrary to law, shall, on conviction thereof, for every such offense, forfeit and pay not exceeding fifty dollars.

SEC. 228. That no person shall establish any private express for the conveyance of letters or packets, or in any manner cause or provide for the conveyance of the same by regular trips or at stated periods, over any post route which is or may be established by law, or from any city, town or place to any other city, town or place between which the mail is regularly carried; and every person so offending, or aiding or assisting therein, shall, for each offense, forfeit and pay one hundred and fifty dollars.

SEC. 229. That the owner of every stage-coach, railway car, steamboat, or other vehicle or vessel, which shall, with the knowledge of any owner, in whole or in part, or with the knowledge or connivance of the driver, conductor, master, or other person having charge of the same, convey any person acting or employed as a private express for the conveyance of letters or packets, and actually in possession of the same for the purpose of conveying them contrary to the spirit, true intent, and meaning of this law, shall, for every such offense, forfeit and pay one hundred and fifty dollars.

SEC. 230. That no person shall transmit by private express or other unlawful means, or deliver to any agent of such unlawful express, or deposit, or cause to be deposited, at any appointed place, for the purpose of being transmitted, any letter or packet, and for every such offense the party so offending shall forfeit and pay fifty dollars.

SEC. 231. That no stage coach, railway car, steamboat, or other vehicle or vessel which regularly performs trips at stated periods on any post-route, or from any city, town, or place to any other city, town or place between which the mail is regularly carried, shall carry, otherwise than in the mail, any letters or packets, except such as relate to some part of the cargo of such steamboat or other vessel, or to some article carried at the same time by the same stage coach, railway car or other vehicle, except as provided in section two hundred and thirty-nine; and for every such offense the owner of the stage coach, railway car, steamboat or other vehicle or vessel shall forfeit and pay one hundred dollars; and the driver, conductor, master or other person having charge thereof, and not at the time owner of the whole or any part thereof, shall in like manner forfeit and pay for every such offense fifty dollars.

SEC. 232. That no person shall carry any letter or packet on board any vessel which carries the mail otherwise than in such mail, except as provided in section two hundred and thirty-nine; and for every such offense the party offending shall forfeit and pay fifty dollars.

SEC. 233. That no vessel departing from the United States for any foreign port shall receive on board or convey any letter or packet originating in the United States which has not been regularly received from the postoffice at the port of departure, and which does not relate to the cargo of said vessel, except as provided in section two hundred and thirty-nine; and every collector, or other officer of the port empowered to grant clearances, shall require from the master of such vessel, as a condition of clearance, an oath or affirmation, that he has not received on board, has not under his care or control, and will not receive or convey any letter or packet contrary to the provisions of this section.

SEC. 234. That no vessel arriving within any port or collection district of the United States shall be allowed to make entry or break bulk until all letters on board are delivered at the nearest postoffice, and the master thereof has signed and sworn to the following declaration, before the collector or other proper customs officer:

"I, A. B., master of the ——, arriving from ——, and now lying in the port of ——, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I have, to the best of my knowledge and belief, delivered, at the postoffice at ——, every letter, and every bag, packet or parcel of letters, which were on board the said vessel during her last voyage, or which were in my possession or under my power or control."

And any master who shall break bulk before he has delivered such letters shall, on conviction thereof, forfeit not exceeding one hundred dollars for every such offense, one-half to the officer making the seizure and the other to the use of the United States.

SEC. 235. That any special agent of the Postoffice Department, when instructed by the Postmaster General to make examinations and seizures, and the collector or other customs officer of any port without special instructions, shall carefully search all vessels for letters which may be on board or which have been conveyed contrary to law.

SEC. 236. That any special agent of the Postoffice Department, collector, or other customs officer, or United States marshal or his deputy, may at all times seize all letters and bags, packets or parcels, containing letters which are being carried contrary to law on board any vessel or on any post route, and convey the same to the nearest postoffice, or may, by the direction of the Postmaster General or Secretary of the Treasury, detain them until two months after the final determination of all suits and proceedings which may, at any time within six months after such seizure, be brought against any person for sending or carrying such letters.

SEC. 237