CONGRESS.

YESTERDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

The Senate Passes the Bill for the Construction of Steam War Vessels—The Number Increased to Ten—The Senate Passes the Bill Abolishing the Franking Privilege—The Bills for the Admission of Colorado and the Encouragement of Commerce Discussed in the House.

SENATE.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 1873.

MISSISSIPPI LEVEES.

Mr. West presented a memorial of the citizens of Louisiana, asking that the national Government assume the construction and care of the levees of the Mississippi. Referred to the Committee on the Levees of the Mississippi.

GRADES OF ADMIRAL ABOLISHED.

Mr. Cragin, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported House bill to abolish the grades of admiral and vice admiral in the navy of the United States, to take effect when vacancies occur in said grades. Passed.

DENVER AND GEORGETOWN RAILROAD.

Mr. Tipton, from the Committee on Public Lands, reported a bill granting right of way through the public lands to the Denver and Georgetown railroad, of Colorado.

VALUE OF ENGLISH SOVEREIGN.

Mr. Ames, from the Committee on Finance, reported an original bill establishing four dollars eighty-six cents and six and a half mills as the custom-house value of the sovereign or pound sterling of Great Britain and the par of exchange. The bill also provides that all contracts made after the 1st day of January, 1874, based on an assumed par of exchange with Great Britain of fifty-four pence to the dollar or four dollars forty-four and four-ninths cents to the pound sterling and vice versa, shall be void. It also provides generally that the value of all foreign coin as expressed in the money account of the United States shall be that of the pure metal of such coin of standard value; and the value of such coin of standard value, and the value of foreign standard coins in circulation in this country shall be estimated annually by the director of the mint and promulgated on the 1st day of January by the Secretary of the Treasury.

INVESTIGATION OF SEVENTH NAVY.

Mr. Edmunds, from Judiciary Committee, reported a substitute for Morton's bill to regulate the distribution of the Geneva award. The substitute authorizes the President to appoint five commissioners, to be called the Court of Commissioners of the Alabama Claims; one of them to be called the presiding judge. The court is to make and publish its own rules of procedure, conforming as far as possible to the modes of practice in the United States circuit courts, and is to have the same power to compel attendance of witnesses and production of testimony. Special provision is made that books and papers material to the consideration of any claim must be produced. Salaries are as follows: Judges, $6,000 each; clerk, (to be appointed by the President,) $3,000; short-hand reporter, $2,500. The President is especially authorized to appoint a person to act as counsel for the United States before the commissioners.

The sittings of the court are to be held in Washington city, and it is to exist for one year from the date of first convening, and six months longer if the President deems necessary. It shall be the duty of the court to receive and examine all claims (not excepted as hereinafter stated) directly resulting from damage caused by the Alabama and Florida and their tenders and by the Shenandoah after her departure from Melbourne, February 16, 1865, and to decide upon the amount and validity of such claims according to the principles of law and their merits, and in conformity with the provisions of this bill. No claim shall be admissible or allowed for any loss or damage for or in respect to which the party injured, his assignee or legal representative, shall have received compensation or indemnity from any insurance company or otherwise, but allowance may be made for the difference between loss suffered and insurance received.

No claim shall be admitted or allowed for unearned freights, gross freights, prospective profits or for officers' and seamen's wages for a longer time than one year from the breaking up of any voyage.

No claim shall be admissable or allowed in behalf of any insurance company or insurer, either for themselves or as assignees of the rights of parties insured, unless such claimant shall show to the satisfaction of said court that during the late rebellion the sum of its or his losses by war risks exceeded the sum of its or his premiums or other gains by reason of war risks; and in case of such allowance the same shall not exceed such excess of loss.

No claim shall be allowed in favor of any insurance company not lawfully existing at the time of the loss under the laws of some State of this Union, or in favor of any person not at the time entitled to the protection of the United States in the premises, or in favor of any person who did not at all times during the late rebellion bear true allegiance to the United States.

In estimating the compensation of claimants the court shall ascertain and certify to the Secretary of State, with the judgment, the amount of interest, at four per cent. per annum, upon the actual loss sustained from the respective dates in each case, when it was sustained by the claimant. Five per cent. of the total amount of the judgments shall be retained in the Treasury for the reimbursement to the United States of expenses, and the remaining ninety-five per cent. shall be paid to the claimants, together with interest as aforesaid, unless the amount received from Great Britain shall prove insufficient, in which claimants shall be paid *pro rata*.

THE NAVY.

Mr. Cragin, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported favorably House bill to prevent the employment of officers on the naval retired list; also, favorably on the bill to promote the securing of efficient seamen for the navy.

THANKS TO CAPTAIN RITCHIE.

On motion of Mr. Fenton, the House joint resolution tendering the thanks of Congress to Captain Daniel Ritchie, commanding the revenue steamer Mosquito, and the officers and men under his command, was taken up and passed.

BILLS RETURNED.

Mr. Tipton, from Committee on Public Lands, reported favorably on bill granting right of way through public lands to the Denver, South Park, and Colorado railroad.

Mr. Buckingham, from Committee on Indian Affairs, reported bill authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to negotiate with the Creek Indians for a portion of the lands occupied by them. Passed.

Mr. Carpenter, from Judiciary Committee, reported, with amendment, House bill for the relief of Silas C. Boardman.

Mr. Stewart, from Committee on Pacific Railroad, reported bill authorizing Texas Pacific railroad to pay their bonds in gold or other lawful money of the United States. Passed.

BILL FOR RELIEF OF DEMPSEY AND O'TOOLE.

Mr. Stevenson reported bill for the relief of the late firm of Dempsey & O'Toole, of Washington; which was discussed until the expiration of the morning hour, and then went over.

CREDENTIALS OF M'MILLAN AND RAY.

Mr. West presented credentials of W. M. McMillan, elected Senator from Louisiana for the short term by the Fusion Legislature; also, the credentials of John Ray, elected for the same term by the Kellogg Legislature.

Both sets of credentials were read, and then, on motion of Mr. West, referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections.

BILL TO CONSTRUCT WAR VESSELS.

The unfinished business, being the bill to construct six additional sloops-of-war, was then taken up, the question being on the amendment of Mr. Sherman, pending at adjournment yesterday, which was agreed to.

The question was then taken on increasing the number of ships to be constructed to 10; which was agreed to—yeas 34, nays 15—Casserly, Fenton, Goldthwaite, Hamilton of Md., Hamilton of Texas, Johnston, Kelly, Machen, Norwood, Stevenson, Thurman, Tipton and Trumbull.

Mr. Sherman moved an amendment, the effect of which would virtually repeal the 12th section of the act of March 7, 1872, authorizing the appointment of shipping commissioners. Passed.

MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT.

The Speaker laid before the House a message from the President vetoing the bill in relation to trials in the Court of Claims. Referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

DAKOTA ELECTION CASE.

Mr. Merrick, of Md., from the Committee on Elections, submitted a report in the Dakota election case and a resolution declaring Moses K. Armstrong, the sitting Delegate, entitled to retain his seat; and also a resolution appropriating $1,428 to W. A. Burleigh for expenses incurred in contesting the seat; which were adopted.

The House then, at 4:15 p. m., adjourned.

THE MARKETS.

FINANCIAL.

Furnished by Lewis Johnson & Co., Bankers, northwest corner of Tenth and D streets, Washington.

WEDNESDAY, January 22, 1873.

United States 6's, 1881, clean, 117¼; United States 5-20's, '62, Coupon, 114¼; United States 5-20's, '64, Coupon, 114¼; United States 5-20's, '65, Coupon, 114¼; United States 5-20's, '65, new '65, Coupon, 115¼; United States 5-20's, '67, Coupon, 115¼; United States 5-20's, '68, Coupon, 115¼; United States 10-40's, Coupon, 114¼; United States Five per cents, 112; Western Union Telegraph Company, 86¼; Pacific Mail, 32¼; New York Central and Hudson Railroad, 96¼; New York and Erie Railroad, 45¼; Harlem, 130; Lake Shore, 94¼; Michigan Southern, 86¼; Union Pacific Railroad, 36¼; Northwest, preferred, 86¼; Rock Island, 112¼; Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad, 55¼; Milwaukee and St. Paul preferred, 77¼; Wabash and Western Railroad, 22¼; Ohio and Mississippi certificates, 34¼; Columbus, Chicago and Indianapolis Central, 35¼; Tennessee State stock, old, 79¾; Tennessee State stock, new, 80; Virginia state, consolidated bond, 55¼; Missouri state, 90; Central Pacific bonds, 99¼; Union Pacific 1st Bonds, 97.

Gold, 112¼.

MARRIED.

CRABB—RIGGS.—On the 16th instant, by the Rev. G. O. Baker, B. Franklin Crabb and Miss S. Elizabeth Riggs, all of Washington.

NUSSBICKEL—SEITZ.—On the 19th instant, by the Rev. F. Brand, in the German Lutheran Church, corner Fourth and E streets, Mr. E. A. Nussbickel, of Baltimore, Md., and Miss Sophia R. Seitz, of Washington, D. C.

DIED.

STOREY.—Mary, beloved wife of Robert Storey. Funeral will take place from his late residence on South Capitol street, between S and O streets, this Thursday, at 1 p. m. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend.

[Philadelphia papers copy.]

CUSSACK.—On the 21st instant, at 6:30 o'clock, p. m., Patrick Cussack, aged forty-six years, a native of county Limerick, Ireland, but a resident of this city for the last twenty-three years.

The friends and acquaintances of the family are invited to attend the funeral from his late residence, No. 427 L street, between Sixth and seventh northwest, to-day, January 23, at 2 o'clock, p. m.

GREEN.—On Tuesday evening, January 21, Edward Statler, son of David S. and Mary A. Green, aged two years and three months.

The friends of the family are invited to attend his funeral on Friday, at 2 p. m., from the residence of his parents, No. 339 B street northwest.

McNERHANY.—On Wednesday, 22d instant, at 1:30 a. m., of croup, Raymond, aged two years, four months and twenty-six days, beloved son of Emma and Francis McNerhany.

Relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral from his parents' residence, No. 130 Twentieth street northwest, on Friday afternoon, at 1:30 o'clock. Funeral service at St. Matthew's church, at 2 p. m.

MARCEY.—On Monday, January 20, of water on the brain, David L. Marcey, aged three years.

The remains will be interred in Oak Hill cemetery. His funeral will take place from his grandmother's residence, No. 80 Market street, Georgetown, D. C., this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

BARRY.—At Baltimore, on Tuesday, the 21st inst., George W. Barry, who was for many years a resident of this city, and a valuable clerk in the Treasury Department.

His remains will arrive at the Baltimore and Ohio depot at 1:30 o'clock, p. m., to-day, and be removed thence for interment to Oak Hill Cemetery. Friends of the deceased are invited to attend.

DOWNS.—On the 20th instant, at 11 o'clock, p. m., of typhoid fever, J. Clayton Downs, aged twenty years and eight months.

The friends and acquaintances of the family are invited to attend the funeral from the residence of his parents, No. 214 I street northwest, on Thursday, 23d instant, at 2 o'clock.

STEWART.—On Tuesday, 21st instant, Sarah G. Stewart, in the seventy-fifth year of her age.

Funeral will take place on Thursday, 23d instant, at 3 o'clock, from her late residence, No. 426 Twelfth street northwest. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend.

FALLON.—In the twenty-fourth year of her age, Mina C., wife of Thomas J. Fallon.

Funeral will take place on Thursday, at 2 o'clock, from 1318 I street.

UNDERTAKERS.

RICHARD F. HARVEY,
UNDERTAKER,
(SUCCESSOR TO HARVEY & MARR,)
NO. 934 F STREET,
Between Ninth and Tenth streets.
METALLIC BURIAL CASES AND CASKETS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION; SHROUDS, HABITS, &c. [n25-1f

RICHARD W. BARKER,
Cabinet Maker & Undertaker,
612 Eleventh Street, near F.
FURNITURE OF ALL KINDS MADE AND REPAIRED. [n24-1f

PROPOSALS FOR FENCES.

OFFICE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER, DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF, NEW ORLEANS, La., December 30, 1872.

Sealed proposals in triplicate, with a copy of this advertisement attached, will be received at this office until twelve o'clock m., FRIDAY, February 7, 1873, for the erection around each of the national cemeteries at Alexandria, Baton Rouge and Fort Hudson, Louisiana, of a wall of stone (with coping) or brick, or an iron fence, and at each a lodge of stone or brick; also, for three iron gates for each of the above named cemeteries.

Bids may be for the whole work of all the cemeteries, or for a single cemetery.

The amount required for the faithful performance of the contracts will be in amount twenty per cent. of the whole amount of each contract.

Proposals to be addressed to the undersigned and indorsed "Proposals for erecting lodges (or walls or iron fences around cemeteries.)"

By order of the Quartermaster General.

WILLIAM E. HUGHES, Chief Quartermaster. [ja3

HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS.

THE ALHAMBRA,
CORNER NINTH AND F STREETS,
MEALS AT ALL HOURS.
FREE LUNCH DAILY.
CHAS. S. JOHNSON, Proprietor. [n28-1f

THE ARLINGTON,
Roessle & Son,
VERMONT AVENUE,
BETWEEN H AND I STREETS,
Washington, D. C.
[n23-1f

WILLARD'S HOTEL,
WASHINGTON, D. C.
REMODELED, REFURNISHED.
FIFTY PRIVATE BATH-ROOMS AND ELEVATOR ADDED.
OPEN NOVEMBER 3, 1872.
J. F. CAKE, Proprietor. [oct15-1f

THE IMPERIAL HOTEL,
JAMES SYKES, Proprietor,
FRONTING PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE,
Between Thirteenth and Fourteenth streets,
WASHINGTON, D. C.
Thankful to the public for generous patronage in the past, the proprietor asks his old friends and patrons to test the accommodations of his present establishment, which he promises shall be found at least equal to the best in Washington. [jan11-1f

C. C. WILLARD,
EBBITT HOUSE,
WASHINGTON, D. C. [n531

ST. JAMES HOTEL,
S. E. Corner Sixth Street and Penn. Avenue,
ON THE EUROPEAN PLAN.
Liberal Discount to Regular Boarders.
WOODBURY & DUREN. [n26-3m

CONTINENTAL HOTEL.
FIRST-CLASS ACCOMMODATIONS.
TERMS.....$3.50 PER DAY.
T. I. MERICK. [n26-3m

WASHINGTON HOUSE,
Corner Pennsylvania avenue and Third street.
A. F. DEVERIDGE, Proprietor. [n26-3m

"The Chesapeake."
GOELL & MOLAIR,
PROPRIETORS.
928 and 930 Penn. Ave., Washington, D. C.
[jan4-1f

Aman's
RESTAURANT,
318 Ninth Street N. W.

JOHN BECK'S
ATHENEUM RESTAURANT,
630 D Street, and 631 Louisiana avenue,
Mr. BECK has engaged one of the most celebrated Cooks in the country, and in his
ELEGANT DINING DEPARTMENT
can at all times be found all the DELICACIES OF THE SEASON served in the best style and at the most reasonable prices. [oct18-1f

STOVES AND TINWARE.

STOVES AT COST.

To close out my entire stock of HEATING STOVES I will sell for the NEXT THIRTY DAYS, AT COST, AN ELEGANT ASSORTMENT OF BASE BURNING STOVES, PARLOR STOVES, &c., &c., AT COST FOR CASH. Repairs for all patterns of Stoves, Ranges, &c., &c., at usual rates.

ROBERT BRIDGET,
434 Ninth, between D and E streets.
[ja14

313 W. H. HARROVER, SEVENTH STREET. 313
Five doors from Pennsylvania avenue north.
STOVES, RANGES, FURNACES, FIRE-BRICKS.
REPAIRS FOR ALL KINDS OF STOVES.
FULL ASSORTMENT OF HOUSE-FURNISHING GOODS. [sep5

BUILDING MATERIAL.

LUMBER! LUMBER!
Wheatley & Brothers,
CORNER 1ST SEVENTH AND G STREETS NORTHWEST, AND
Nos. 27 WATER STREET, GEORGETOWN, D. C.
[my31-tf

AUSTIN P. BROWN,
Corner of New York ave. and Fifteenth st.,
WASHINGTON, D. C.,
WHOLESALE DEALER IN LUMBER, LIME, CEMENT, SAND, &c., &c., &c.
LUMBER BILLS cut to order on short notice.
BLUESTONE for Building. Sand for plastering and Paving purposes delivered in any part of the District.
REAL ESTATE bought and sold, and money invested. To this branch of the business I will hereafter give my personal attention, and will be at my office daily from 10 a. m. until 4 p. m. [ob13-tf

WINES AND LIQUORS.

C. GAUTIER,
IMPORTER OF WINES, LIQUORS AND SEGARS,
1217 Pennsylvania avenue. 1217
has just received his
WINTER STOCK OF 1872 and '73,
Selected with especial care, and embracing all the various kinds of Liquors etc., viz:
CHAMPAGNE, Carte Blanche and Carte Noir, at $16 per case; and all the popular brands at New York prices. They are in store, which saves time and expense in sending abroad.
Port Wines, Sherry Wines, Tipas, Tonar, Vino de Pasto, Widow Harmony, etc., Madeira, South Side.
BRANDIES—Cuard, Hennessy, etc.
WHISKIES—Overholt, Old Crow, ($5 per gallon,) Robertson, Family, Nectar, Cyrus, Noble.
RUM—Santa Cruz, and a very fine N. E. Rum at $2 for family use.
Cooking Wines of all kinds.
Also, the celebrated wines of the Put-in Bay Mission Vine Company—Catawba Dry and Sweet—at $2 per gallon. [dec18-tf

CHAMPAGNE
Orders Received
BY
THOMAS RUSSELL,
(Successor to E. C. Dyer & Co., established in 1848,)
1213 Pennsylvania Ave.
PRICE LIST.

Payable in Coin or its Equivalent in Currency.	Net Cash.	30 days.	60 days.	90 days.
LOUIS ROEDERER'S				
Carte Blanche	$24.00	$25.00	$26.00	$26.50
Imperial	23.75	24.50	24.00	25.50
Dry Sillery	22.00	22.50	23.00	23.50
Sillery	24.50	25.50	26.50	26.50
Widow Clicquot				
G. H. MUMM & CO.'S				
Extra Dry	22.00	22.50	23.00	23.00
Dry Verzenay	20.75	21.50	21.75	22.00
Dry Sillery	21.50	22.00	22.00	23.15
PIPER HEIDSICK				
HEIDSICK & CO.'S				
Dry Monopole	22.50	23.00	23.00	24.00
Sillery	22.00	22.50	23.00	23.00
TURNER, PERE & FILS	20.25	20.75	21.00	21.50
CHARLES HEIDSICK'S				
Extra Dry	22.50	23.00	23.00	24.00
Sillery	18.75	19.25	19.50	20.75
POMMERY & GRENO	20.50	20.75	20.50	20.50
MOET & CHANDON'S				
Dry Sillery	19.00	19.50	20.00	20.50
Verzenay	19.50	20.25	20.50	21.50
Green seal	22.50	23.00	23.50	24.50
EKUD & CO.	21.00	21.50	22.00	22.00
GIESLER & CO.'S				
Dry Sillery	19.50	20.00	20.50	21.00
Gold Label Dry	23.50	24.00	24.50	25.00
Extra Superior Dry	24.50	25.00	25.00	26.25
DELMONICO	22.00	22.50	23.00	23.00
ST. MARCEAUX	19.25	19.75	20.25	20.75
DUC DE MONTEBELLO	23.50	23.00	24.00	25.00

☞ Goods delivered free of all charges.
☞ The above are New York prices.
☞ Plate of the above Wines extra $2, coin, per case, except Krug & Co., which is $3.
☞ TIME PURCHASES must be closed by note.

THOMAS RUSSELL,
SOLE DIRECT IMPORTER
Fine Wines, Liquors, and Segars,
oc30 1213 Pennsylvania Avenue.

INSURANCE.

THE EQUITABLE
LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.
The business of this Company has for years been the largest of any similar institution in the world.
F. HEYER,
General Agent,
503 and 505 Seventh Street.
FOR BALLS AND PARTIES.
DRESS COATS.
A LARGE STOCK AT REDUCED PRICES.
WALL, ROBINSON & CO.,
921 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE.

PROPOSALS.

UNITED STATES MAIL.

VIRGINIA.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, December 1, 1872.

Proposals will be received at the Contract Office of this Department until 4 p. m., of March 5, 1873, for conveying the mails of the United States from July 1, 1873, to June 30, 1876, in the State of Virginia, on the routes and by the schedules of departures and arrivals herein specified.

Decisions announced on or before March 20, 1873.

(Bidders should examine carefully the forms and instructions annexed. See laws requiring certified check or draft with bids of $5,000 and upward.)

VIRGINIA.

4430 From Rock Enon Springs, to Winchester, 16 miles, and back, six times a week from 1st June to 30th September, and from Rock Enon Springs to Back Creek Valley, 8 miles and back, three times a week from 1st October to 31st May.

1st June to 30th September.
Leave Rock Enon Springs daily, except Sunday, at 5 a m;
Arrive at Winchester by 9 a m;
Leave Winchester daily, except Sunday, at 2:30 p m;
Arrive at Rock Enon Springs by 7:30 p m.

1st October to 31st May.
Leave Rock Enon Springs Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7 a m;
Arrive at Back Creek Valley by 9:30 a m;
Leave Back Creek Valley Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 10 a m;
Arrive at Rock Enon Springs by 12:30 p m.

4731 From Broadway Depot, by Coots's Store, to Doverdale, 7 miles and back, twice a week;
Leave Broadway Depot Wednesday and Saturday at 3 p m;
Arrive at Doverdale by 7 p m;
Leave Doverdale Wednesday and Saturday at 1 a m;
Arrive at Broadway Depot by 11 m.

4732 From Hambaugh's to Front Royal, 8 miles and back, twice a week;
Leave Hambaugh's Wednesday and Saturday at 10 a m;
Arrive at Front Royal by 12:30 p m;
Leave Front Royal Wednesday and Saturday at 1 p m;
Arrive at Hambaugh's by 3:30 p m.

4733 From Loudon to Gum Spring, (n. o.,) 8 miles and back, once a week.
Leave Loudon Saturday at 10 a m;
Arrive at Gum Spring by 12:30 p m;
Leave Gum Spring Saturday at 1:30 p m;
Arrive at Loudon by 3 p m.

4734 From Baptist Valley to Knob, 26 miles and back, once a week.
Leave Baptist Valley Monday at 7 a m;
Arrive at Knob by 4 p m;
Leave Knob Tuesday at 7 a m;
Arrive at Baptist Valley by 4 p m.

4735 From Shiloh, by Payne's Store (n. o.,) Rock Springs (n. o.,) to Leedstown (n. o.,) 14 miles and back, three times a week.
Leave Shiloh Tuesday and Saturday at 8 a m;
Arrive at Leedstown by 12 m;
Leave Leedstown Tuesday and Saturday at 1 p m;
Arrive at Shiloh at 5 p m.

4736 From Miller's Tavern, by Enterprise (n. o.) and Mount Zion (n. o.,) to Tappahannock, 12 miles and back, once a week.
Leave Miller's Tavern Wednesday at 8 a m;
Arrive at Tappahannock by 12 m;
Leave Tappahannock Wednesday at 1 p m;
Arrive at Miller's Tavern by 5 p m.

4737 From Manquhick, by Etna Mills, to Hanover C. H., 8 miles and back, three times a week.
Leave Manquhick Tuesday and Friday at 10 a m;
Arrive at Hanover C. H. by 12:30 p m;
Leave Hanover C. H. Tuesday and Friday at 1 p m;
Arrive at Manquhick by 3:30 p m.

4738 From Suffolk, by Nansemond and Holy Neck, to Somerton, 18 miles and back, twice a week.
Leave Suffolk Tuesday and Saturday at 12 m;
Arrive at Somerton by 4 p m;
Leave Somerton Tuesday and Saturday at 7 a m;
Arrive at Suffolk by 11 a m.

4739 From Pattonsville, by Cedar Point, to Snoedeville (n. o.,) 30 miles and back, once a week.
Leave Pattonsville Friday at 7 a m;
Arrive at Snoedeville by 6 p m;
Leave Snoedeville Saturday at 7 a m;
Arrive at Pattonsville by 6 p m.

4740 From Nottoway C. H., by Mt. Mark's Church (n. o.) and Marshall's store (n. o.,) to Olive Branch (n. o.,) 11 miles and back, once a week.
Leave Nottoway C. H. Thursday at 7 a m;
Arrive at Olive Branch by 12 m;
Leave Olive Branch Thursday at 1 p m;
Arrive at Nottoway by 6 p m.

4741 From Thaxton's, by Coonesville (n. o.) and Sandy Ford (n. o.,) to Stewartsville (n. o.,) 16 miles and back, once a week.
Leave Thaxton's Tuesday and Saturday at 7 a m;
Arrive at Stewartsville by 12 m;
Leave Stewartsville Tuesday and Saturday at 1 p m;
Arrive at Thaxton's by 6 p m.

4742 From Wolf Trap to Omega, 5 miles and back, twice a week.
Leave Wolf Trap Wednesday and Saturday at 9:15 a m;
Arrive at Omega by 11 a m;
Leave Omega Wednesday and Saturday at 7:30 a m;
Arrive at Wolf Trap by 9 a m.

4743 From Laurel Grove to Carterburgh, 14 miles and back, twice a week.
Leave Laurel Grove Wednesday and Saturday at 8 a m;
Arrive at Carterburgh by 12 m;
Leave Carterburgh Wednesday and Saturday at 1 p m;
Arrive at Laurel Grove by 5 p m.

4744 From Summerfield, by Spring Valley, to Stephens' Creek, 9 miles and back, twice a week.
Leave Summerfield Tuesday and Saturday at 4 p m;
Arrive at Stephens' Creek by 7 p m;
Leave Stephens' Creek Tuesday and Saturday at 12 m;
Arrive at Summerfield by 3 p m.

4745 From Danville, by Hall's Cross Roads and Spring Garden, to Riceville, 30 miles and back, twice a week.
Leave Danville Wednesday and Saturday at 7 a m;
Arrive at Riceville by 5 p m;
Leave Riceville Tuesday and Friday at 7 a m;
Arrive at Danville by 5 p m.

4746 From Independence, by Long's Gap, Clem's Branch, and Flat Ridge, to Rye Valley, 30 miles and back, once a week.
Leave Independence Monday at 7 a m;
Arrive at Rye Valley by 4 p m;
Leave Rye Valley Tuesday at 7 a m;
Arrive at Independence by 4 p m.

4747 From Martin's Station to Draperesville. Bidders to state distance and propose schedule.

4748 From Rural Retreat (Mt. Airy Depot) to Black Lick (Dixie Mills) (n. o.,) 8 miles and back.
Leave Rural Retreat Wednesday and Saturday at 4 p m;
Arrive at Black Lick by 5:30 p m;
Leave Black Lick Wednesday and Saturday at 1 p m;
Arrive at Rural Retreat by 2:30 p m.

4749 From Blacksburgh, by Price's Fork (n. o.,) to Cowan's Mills (n. o.,) 11 miles and back, once a week.
Leave Blacksburgh Saturday at 8 a m;
Arrive at Cowan's Mills by 11:30 a m;
Leave Cowan's Mills Saturday at 12 m;
Arrive at Blacksburgh by 3:30 p m.

4750 From Vickers to Price's Fork, (n. o.,) 3 miles and back, once a week, daily.
Leave Vickers Saturday at 5 p m;
Arrive at Price's Fork by 7 p m;
Leave Price's Fork Saturday at 3 p m;
Arrive at Vickers by 5 p m.

4751 From Gladesville (n. o.) to Grundy, 40 miles and back, once a week.
Leave Gladesville Wednesday at 7 a m;
Arrive at Grundy Thursday by 7 p m;
Leave Grundy Monday at 7 a m;
Arrive at Gladesville Tuesday by 7 p m.

4752 From Lynchburg, by Bigbee's Shop, to Perrow's Store, 24 miles and back, three times a week.
Leave Lynchburg Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 2 p m;
Arrive at Perrow's Store by 7 p m;
Leave Perrow's Store Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 7 a m;
Arrive at Lynchburg by 12 m.

4753 From Forksville, by South Hill, Lombardy Grove, Union Level, (n. o.,) and Stony Creek, to Boydton, 36 miles and back, twice a week.
Leave Forksville Tuesday and Saturday at 8 a m;
Arrive at Boydton by 4 p m;
Leave Boydton Monday and Friday at 8 a m;
Arrive at Forksville by 4 p m.

FORM OF PROPOSAL, GUARANTEE, AND CERTIFICATE.

PROPOSAL.

The undersigned, ——, —— whose post office address is ——, State of ——, proposes to convey the mails of the United States, from July 1, 1873, to June 30, 1876, on route No. ——, between ——, and ——, under the advertisement of the Postmaster General, dated December 1, 1872, "with celerity, certainty, and security," (law of June 8, 1872,) for the annual sum of ——, dollars.

This proposal is made with full knowledge of the distance of the route, the weight of the mail to be carried, and all other particulars in relation to the contract service; and, also, by careful examination of the laws and instructions attached to the advertisement of mail service, and of the provisions contained in the act of Congress of June 8, 1872. Bidder.

Dated ——.

GUARANTEE.

The undersigned, residing at ——, State of ——, undertake that, if the foregoing bid for carrying the mail on route No. ——, be accepted by the Postmaster General, the bidder will, prior to the 1st June, 1873, enter into the required obligation, or contract, to perform the service proposed, with sufficient sureties.

This are acknowledging distinctly the obligations and liabilities assumed by guarantors.

Dated ——.

CERTIFICATE.

The undersigned, postmaster at ——, State of ——, certify, 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; and that bidder and guarantors are above the age of 21 years.

Bids of $5,000 and upward must be accompanied by a certified check, or draft, on some solvent national bank, equal to 5 per centum on the proposed annual pay of the route; or in case of new service, not less than 5 per centum of one year's pay proposed in bid.—(Section 255, Act of June 8, 1872.)

The postmaster must not sign the certificate until the mail route shall be inserted and the bid and guarantee signed by all the parties, and dated.

OATH REQUIRED BY SECTION 246 OF AN ACT OF CONGRESS, APPROVED JUNE 8, 1872, TO BE TAKEN BY BIDDER FOR CARRYING THE MAIL, AND TO BE TAKEN BEFORE AN OFFICER QUALIFIED TO ADMINISTER OATHS.

I, ——, of ——, bidder for conveying the mail on route No. ——, from ——, do swear that I have the ability pecuniarily to fulfill my obligations as such bidder; that the bid is made in good faith, and with the intention to enter into contract and perform the service in case said bid shall be accepted; and that the signatures of the guarantors thereto are genuine, and that I believe the said guarantors to be pecuniarily responsible for and able to pay all damages the United States shall suffer by reason of my failing to perform my obligations as such bidder.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, ——, for the ——, of ——, this ——, day of ——, A. D. 187—, and in testimony thereof I hereunto subscribe my name and affix my official seal the day and year aforesaid. [SEAL.]

NOTE.—When the oath is taken before a justice of the peace, the certificate of the clerk of a court of record should be added, under his seal of office, that the person who administered the oath is a duly qualified justice of the peace.

INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS AND POST-MASTERS:

Embodying also conditions to be incorporated in the contracts to the extent the Department may deem proper.

1. Seven minutes are allowed to each intermediate office, when not otherwise specified, for assorting the mails.

2. On routes where the mode of conveyance admits of it, the special agents of the Post Office Department, also post office clerks, mail bags, locks and keys, are to be conveyed without extra charge.

3. "Way bills" or requests prepared by postmasters, or other agents of the Department, will accompany the mails, specifying the number and destination of the several bags, to be examined by the postmasters, to insure regularity in the delivery of bags and pouches.

4. No pay will be made for trips not performed; and for each of such omissions, if the failure be occasioned by the fault of the contractor or carrier, three times the pay of the trip will be deducted. For arrivals so far behind time as to break connection with departing mails, and not sufficiently excused, one fourth of the compensation for the trip is subject to forfeiture. For repeated delinquencies of the kind herein specified, enhanced penalties, proportioned to the nature thereof, and the importance of the mail, may be made.

5. 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.

6. 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 to be wet, injured, destroyed, robbed or lost; and for refusing, after demand, to convey the mail from any office the contractor runs, or is concerned in running, a coach, car or steamboat on a route.

7. 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 running an express on a route; or for transporting persons or packages conveying mail also matter out of the mail.

8. The Postmaster General may order an increase of service on a route by allowing therefor a proportionate increase on the contract pay. He may change schedules of departures and arrivals in all cases, and particularly to make them conform to connections with railroads, without increase of pay, provided the time fixed shall not be shortened. The Postmaster General may also discontinue or curtail the service, in whole or in part, in order to place on the route supplies to which, or whenever the public interests, in his judgment, shall require such discontinuance or curtailment, for any other cause; he also may arrest payment to contractors for such service or a proportional part of the amount of service dispensed with, and a pro rata compensation for the amount of service retained and continued.

9. Payments will be made by collections from, or drafts on, postmasters or otherwise, after the expiration of each quarter—say in November, February, May and August, provided that requires evidence of service has been received.

10. The distances given are believed to be substantially correct; but no increased pay will be allowed should they be greater than advertised, if the route to be supplied are correctly stated. *Bidders must examine the routes themselves on the ground, and also in reference to the weight of the mail, the condition of mile roads, streams, &c., and all incidentals, turnpikes, plank roads, ferries or obstructions of any kind by which expense may be incurred.* No claim for additional pay, based on such ground, can be considered; nor for alleged mistake or misapprehension as to the degree of service; nor for bridges destroyed, ferries discontinued, or other obstructions causing or increasing distance or expense occurring during the contract term. Offers established after this advertisement is issued, and also during the contract term, are to be visited without extra pay, if the distance is not increased.

11. Bidders are cautioned to mail their proposals in time to reach the Department by the day assigned for opening bids, viz., March 5, 1873, and not received after that time *will not be considered* in competition with bids, of reasonable amount, received in time. Neither can any bids be considered which are without the guarantee required by law, and a certificate of the sufficiency or such guarantee, and the oath of the bidder according to section 246, act of June 8, 1872.

12. Bidders should first propose for service strictly according to the advertisement, and then, if they desire, *separately* for different service; and if the *regular* bid be the lowest offered for the advertised service, the bidder's proposition for other service will be considered.

13. There should be but one route bid for in a proposal. Consolidated or combination bids ("proposing one sum for two or more routes") cannot be considered.

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

15. Bidders are requested to use, as far as practicable, the printed proposals furnished by the Department, to write out the sum in their bids, and to retain copies of them.

Altered bids should not be submitted; nor should bids once submitted be withdrawn. No notice of withdrawal of a bidder or guarantor will be allowed unless the withdrawal is received twenty-four hours previous to the time fixed for opening the proposals.

Each bid must be guaranteed by two responsible persons. The bid and guarantee should be *signed* plainly, with the full Christian names.

The Postmaster General reserves the right to reject any bid which may be deemed extravagant; and also to distribute the bids of rating contractors and bidders. (Act of June 8, 1872, section 246.)

16. The bid should be sealed, superscribed "Mail Proposals, route ——," addressed to the Second Assistant Postmaster General, Contract Office, and sent by *mail*, not by or to an agent. Bids of $5,000 and upward must be accompanied by a certificate of a certified check or draft on some solvent national bank, equal to 5 per cent. of the amount. (See law of Congress of June 8, 1872.)

17. *The contracts are to be executed and returned to the Department by or before the 1st day of June, 1873, otherwise the acceptance of the bidder will be considered as declined, and the Postmaster General may proceed to contract for the service with other parties, according to law.*

Proposals for the transportation of the mails, by contracts, are forbidden by law, and consequently cannot be allowed. Neither can bids, or interest in bids, be transferred or assigned. Such proposals will be rejected and will therefore take notice that they will be expected to perform the service awarded to them through the mails contract they may obtain.

18. Section 249 of the act of June 8, 1872, provides that contracts for the transportation of the mail shall be "awarded to the lowest responsible bidder offering sufficient guarantees for faithful performance, without other reference to the mode of such transportation it may be proposed to provide, than to the due celerity, certainty and