

Postal Affairs of the Confederate States.

AN ACT, to be entitled an act to prescribe the rates of postage in the Confederate States of America, and for other purposes.

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact,* That from and after such period as the Postmaster General may by proclamation announce, there shall be charged the following rates of postage, to-wit: For every single letter sealed and for every letter in manuscript or paper of any kind upon which information shall be asked for, or communicate in writing, or by marks or signs conveyed in the mail for any distance between places within the Confederate States of America, not exceeding 500 miles, 5 cents; and for any distance exceeding 500 miles, double that rate; and every letter or parcel not exceeding half an ounce in weight, shall be deemed a single letter, and every additional weight of half an ounce or additional weight less than half an ounce shall be charged with an additional single postage; and all packages containing other than printed or written matter, and money packages included in this class, shall be rated by weight as letters are rated, and shall be charged double the rates of postage on letters; and all drop letters or letters placed in any postoffice not for transmission but for delivery only, shall be charged with postage at the rate of two cents each; and in all the foregoing cases the postage must be prepaid by stamps; and all letters which shall hereafter be advertised as remaining over or uncalled for in any postoffice shall be charged with two cents each in addition to the regular postage, both to be accounted for as other postages of this Confederation.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That all newspapers not exceeding three ounces in weight, sent from the office of publication to actual and bona fide subscribers, shall be charged with postage as follows, to-wit: the postage on the regular numbers of a newspaper published weekly within the State where published, shall be 6 1/2 cents per quarter; and papers published semi-weekly, double that rate; and papers published thrice a week, triple their rate; and papers published daily, six times that rate; and the postage on all newspapers to actual subscribers without the State where published, shall be charged double the foregoing rates; and periodicals sent from the office of publication to actual and bona fide subscribers, shall be charged with postage as follows, to-wit: the postage on the regular numbers of a periodical, not exceeding one and a half ounces in weight, and published monthly, within the State where published, shall be 3 cents per quarter; if published semi-monthly, double that rate; and for every additional ounce or fraction of an ounce, double the foregoing rates shall be charged; and periodicals published quarterly or bi-monthly shall be charged one cent an ounce; and the postage on all periodicals without the State where published, shall be double the above specified rates; and regular subscribers to newspapers and periodicals shall be required to pay one quarter's postage in advance. And there shall be charged upon every other newspaper and each circular not sealed, handbill, engraving, pamphlet, periodical and magazine which shall be unconnected with any manuscript or written matter, not exceeding three ounces in weight, 2 cents; and for each additional ounce or fraction of an ounce, 2 cents additional; and in all cases the postage shall be prepaid by stamps. And books bound or unbound, not weighing over four pounds, shall be deemed mailable matter, and shall be charged with postage, to be prepaid by stamps, at 2 cents per ounce, for any distance. The publishers of newspapers or periodicals may send to each other, from their respective offices of publication, free of postage, one copy of each publication.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That it shall be the duty of the Postmaster General to provide and furnish to all Deputy Postmasters and to all other persons applying and paying therefor, suitable postage stamps, and stamped envelopes of the denomination of two cents, five cents, and twenty cents, to facilitate the prepayment of postage provided for in this act, and any person who shall forge or counterfeit any postage stamp

provided or furnished under the provisions of this or any former act, whether the same are impressed or printed on or attached to envelopes or not, or any dies, plate or engraving therefor, or shall make, or print, or knowingly use or sell or have in possession, with intent to use or sell, any such false, forged or counterfeited dies, plate, engraving or postage stamp, or who shall make, or print, or authorize, or procure to be made or printed, any postage stamps of the kind provided and furnished by the Postmaster General as aforesaid, without the especial authority and direction of the Postoffice Department, or who, after such postage stamps have been printed, shall, with intent to defraud the revenues of the Postoffice Department deliver any postage stamps to any person or persons other than such as shall be authorized to receive the same by any instrument of writing, duly executed under the hand of the Postmaster General and the seal of the Postoffice Department shall, on conviction thereof be deemed guilty of felony, and be punished by a fine not exceeding \$500, or by imprisonment not exceeding five years, or by both such fine and imprisonment; and the expenses of procuring and providing all such postage stamps and letter envelopes as are provided for or authorized by this act, shall be paid after being adjusted by the Auditor of the Postoffice Department on the certificate of the Postmaster General out of any money in the Treasury arising from the revenues of the Postoffice Department.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That it shall be the duty of every Postmaster to cause to be defaced in such manner as the Postmaster General shall direct, all postage stamps of this Confederacy to letters deposited in his office for delivery or to be sent by mail; and if any Postmaster sending letters in the mail with such postage stamps attached shall omit to deface the same, it shall be the duty of the Postmaster to whose office such letters shall be sent for delivery, to deface the stamps and report the delinquent Postmaster to the Postmaster General. And if any person shall use, or attempt to use, in prepayment of postage, any postage stamps which shall have been before used for like purposes, such persons shall be subject to a penalty of fifty dollars for every such offense, to be recovered in the name of the Confederate States of America in any court of competent jurisdiction.

Sec. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That from and after the day when this act goes into effect, the franking privilege shall be abolished; provided, that the Postmaster General and his chief clerks, and the Auditor of the Treasury for the Postoffice Department shall be and they are hereby authorized to transmit through the mails, free of postage, any letters, packages, or other matters relating exclusively to their official duties, or to the business of the Postoffice Department; but they shall in every such case endorse on the back of the letter or packages to be sent free of postage over their own signatures, the words, 'Official business,' and for any such endorsement falsely made, the person so offending shall forfeit and pay taxes \$300; and provided further, the several Deputy Postmasters throughout the Confederate States shall be and hereby are authorized to send through the mails free of postage all letters and packages which it may be their duty, or they may have occasion to transmit to any person or place, and which shall relate exclusively to the business of their respective offices, or to the business of the Postoffice Department; but in every such case the Deputy Postmaster sending any such letter or package shall endorse thereon, over his own signature, the words 'Postoffice business,' and for any and every such endorsement, falsely made, the person making the same shall forfeit and pay \$300.

Sec. 6. *And be it further enacted,* That the third section of an act entitled an act further to amend an act entitled an act to reduce and modify the rates of postage in the United States, and for other purposes, passed March 3, 1851, approved March 3, 1855, whereby the letter registration system was established, be and is hereby repealed from and after the day when this act goes into effect.

Sec. 7. *And be it further enacted,* That no letters shall be carried by the

express or other chartered companies, unless the same shall be prepaid by being enclosed in a stamped envelope of this Confederacy; and any company violating the provision of this act shall forfeit and pay the sum of \$500 for each offense to be recovered by action of debt in any court of this Confederacy having cognizance thereof, in the name and for the use of this Confederacy.

Sec. 8. *Be it further enacted,* That the Postmaster General of the Confederate States be and is hereby authorized to make all necessary arrangements for the transportation of mails between the territories of this and other Governments, subject to the approval of the President until postal treaties can be effected." "Passed Feb. 21, 1861."

THE SHREVEPORT Weekly News,

Published in the city of Shreveport, Parish of Caddo, every Monday morning at the low price of \$2 50.—The News will not be forwarded to any address, until the subscription money is received, as it is published on the cash principle; and the terms being put at low figures, will not admit of credit.

It is the cheapest paper published in the State, the sheet is 24 by 36 inches, and contains twenty-eight columns of reading matter, set in solid type. The Weekly News is made up of the reading published in the daily, and contains the latest news received in Shreveport, and well selected articles. In fact it is one of the

BEST FAMILY PAPERS, published in the South.

Specimen copies will be forwarded to such as desire subscribing.

The columns will contain articles, selected and original, which will prove of interest and tend to the welfare of its readers. It will be devoted to the interests of the South; and internal improvements in the Parish and vicinity, will receive the undivided attention of the publisher.

The columns of the News will be open to every person. Personal articles will not, under any circumstances, (either as communications or advertisements,) be published.

Correspondence is solicited from all sections.

JNO. DICKINSON, Proprietor.

Papers publishing the above three months, will be entitled to an exchange for the Daily.

PROPECTUS OF THE BOSSIER BANNER.

THE Bossier Banner is published at Bellevue, La., at three dollars per annum to single subscribers. Advertisements inserted at \$1 per square of ten lines or less, and 50 cents for each subsequent insertion. Professional and business cards not exceeding one square, including paper, ten dollars per annum; five dollars for six months. Advertisements for the year inserted on very liberal terms. The Banner is an independent paper, and has a large circulation as any paper published in North Louisiana. Address **WM. H. SCANLAND,** Editor and Proprietor.

Read. To Country Printers, & Merchants.

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How the Kentuckians Handle a Rifle.—An Intelligent correspondent who lately left Baltimore for Harper's Ferry and other points in Virginia; gives the following account of observations in a private letter:

I believe there is now at least—troops in arms on the soil of Virginia. They are a very muscular and determined looking set of men, and every man is a terrible marksman. I never saw such an eagerness to fight exhibited by any people. At Harper's Ferry, a Kentuckian challenged a Virginian to shoot with the rifle.—The distance was a hundred and fifty yards. Old Kentucky covered his six bullet holes with a half a dollar, and Old Virginia was obliged to get a small tin cup to cover his; but he claimed the victory, on the ground that his bullets were twice the size of his adversary's. Twenty-eight men shot on the same day, at three hundred yards, at a log the size of a man, and twenty-two bullets pierced it.—These shots were all off-hand. There is a company here who practice firing at double quick time—as those who fire standing. They are terrible fellows, and they seem to have a most insatiable desire for a fight.

Col. Ellsworth Engaged to be Married.—The New York Herald says:

Col. Ellsworth has been engaged for the last two years to Miss Carre Spafford, a young lady of seventeen, daughter of Charles F. Spafford, a resident of Rockport Ill., Miss Spafford, was recently a student to the Carroll Institute, Brooklyn. The Marriage would probably have taken place ere this but for the breaking out of the war. Col. Ellsworth was twenty-seven years of age.

Letter of C. M. Clay to the London Times.—Cassius M. Clay (now in Europe as one of Lincoln's Ministers) writes to the London Times on the American struggle, briefly but decisively. He says the rebel States can be subdued; it is not proposed to subjugate them, but simply to put down the rebellion. England's interest is to stand by the Union. He inquires if England can afford to offend the United States? He concludes by saying England is a natural ally of the United States.—*U. S. Paper.*

A Thinking Club.—During the reign of terror under old John Adam's administration, when it was made treason for any man to open his mouth to discuss the acts of the administration, and the gag law was applied to men, about fifty democrats of Easton formed a thinking club.—They met once a week, thought what they pleased and adjourned.

Hon. Wm. A. Forward, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Florida, has enlisted as a private in the ranks of a company recently organized in Putnam county.

The man Lambert, reported to have been hung at Manassas Junction as a spy, has, it is said, been released. It seems that he is innocent.

Extensive Seizure of Counterfeit Money—New Orleans Banks Represented.—An extensive seizure of counterfeit money was effected in St. Louis on the 7th. Among the bills were ones and tens of the Citizens' Bank of New Orleans, and fifties of the Southern Bank of New Orleans

Congress has enacted the following law in reference to Newspapers, entitled the

NEWSPAPER LAW. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary, are considered as wishing to continue the subscription.

If subscribers order the discontinuance of their papers, the publishers may continue to send them till all that is due be paid.

If subscribers neglect or refuse to take their papers from the office to which they are directed, they are held responsible until they have settled their bills and ordered their paper discontinued.

If subscribers remove to other places without informing the publisher, and the paper is sent to the former direction, they are held responsible.

The courts have decided that refusing to take a paper or periodical from the office, is *prima facie* evidence of fraud

COMMERCIAL.

Shreveport Prices Current.

Corrected Expressly for the Daily News

SUGAR.....	8 @	10
COFFEE.....	00 @	22
RICE.....	6 1/2 @	7
BACON, Shoulders.....	13 @	—
Hams.....	00 @	18
Sides.....	15 @	18
LARD.....	17 @	—
ROPE.....	16 @	12 1/2
IRON.....	4 @	5 1/2
CANDLES.....	23 @	26
CHEESE.....	12 1/2 @	14
SPUNYARN.....	27 1/2 @	—
LEAD.....	9 @	10
WHISKY, P gal.....	40 @	50
MOLASSES.....	35 @	37 1/2
OIL, Lard.....	81 50 @	—
Linsed.....	1 00 @	—
FLOUR, P barrel.....	0 00 @	12 00
PORK.....	28 00 @	30
LIME.....	5 00 @	—
VINEGAR.....	3 50 @	6 00
CEMENT.....	4 00 @	—
POTATOES, P barrel.....	3 50 @	0 00
BAGGING, India.....	15 @	—
Kentucky.....	— @	15
CORN, P bushel.....	1 00 @	—
OATS.....	75 @	—
BRAN, P cwt.....	1 15 @	—
HAY.....	2 75 @	—
POWDER, P Keg.....	12 00 @	00
NAILS.....	4 50 @	—
SHOT, P bag.....	2 25 @	2 37 1/2
SALT, P Sack.....	2 00 @	—
UP FREIGHT.....	50 @	75
DOWN, COTTON.....	1 00 @	—

Shreveport Cotton Market

Corrected Expressly for the Daily News

Interior.....	0 @	9
Ordinary.....	0 @	0
Good Ordinary.....	0 @	0
Low Middling.....	7 @	0
Middling.....	8 @	0
Good Middling.....	9 @	00

New Orleans Prices Current.

SUGAR.....	5 @	6
COFFEE.....	19 @	—
RICE.....	5 @	5 1/2
BACON, Shoulders.....	14 @	—
Hams.....	18 @	—
Sides.....	14 @	15
LARD.....	13 @	—
ROPE.....	7 1/2 @	8 1/2
IRON.....	0 @	0
CANDLES.....	19 @	20
CHEESE.....	00 @	00
SPUNYARN.....	00 @	—
LEAD.....	0 @	00
WHISKY, P gal.....	37 1/2 @	—
MOLASSES.....	11 @	13
LARD OIL.....	95 @	1 00
Linsed.....	0 65 @	0 00
FLOUR, P barrel.....	9 00 @	10 00
PORK.....	26 00 @	00 00
LIME.....	2 00 @	0 00
VINEGAR.....	0 00 @	0
CEMENT.....	0 00 @	—
POTATOES, P bbl.....	1 25 @	1 75
BAGGING, India.....	14 @	—
Kentucky.....	11 @	14
CORN, P bushel.....	80 @	85
OATS.....	0 00 @	0 65
BRAN, P 100 lbs.....	1 50 @	00
HAY, P ton.....	— @	35 00
POWDER, P keg.....	0 00 @	—
NAILS.....	0 00 @	—
SHOT, P bag.....	0 00 @	0 00
SALT, P sack.....	1 45 @	0 00

New Orleans Cattle Market.

Texas, P head, 1st qty.....	20 00 @	30 00
2d qty.....	10 00 @	18 00
Veal Cattle, P head.....	7 09 @	10 00
Sheep, P head, 1st qty.....	4 00 @	5 00
Inferior.....	2 50 @	4 00
Hogs, P 100 lbs gross.....	5 00 @	6 00
Milch Cows, P head.....	30 00 @	60 00
2d quality.....	30 00 @	60 00

Shreveport Hide Market.

Corrected Daily by N. G. Tryon

DRY HIDES.....	5 @	6
GREEN do.....	— @	3
DEER SKINS.....	10 @	12 1/2
COON do.....	5 @	10
OTTER do.....	25 @	1 00
BEEF WAX.....	20 @	—
TALLOW.....	6 @	—

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