

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives, in Congress assembled:—

THE undersigned, citizens of the United States, residing in the county of *New London* in the state of *Connecticut*, respectfully represent the great inequality now prevailing in the rates of postage on newspapers, the smallest being chargeable with the highest rates.

Whereas the principle of size and weight is now adopted in the laws of the United States as the basis of post office charges; and whereas newspapers not exceeding 1900 square inches are chargeable at the rate of 1 cent for 100 miles, and 1 1-2 cents for all greater distances, if without the state in which they are published; your petitioners would urge the importance of reducing said charges at least ONE HALF on all papers not containing more than 500 square inches.

Your petitioners represent that, within a few years past, numerous juvenile papers have sprung up in different sections of the United States, for the instruction of the young in science, morals, and religion, which papers are now extensively patronized by children, who, notwithstanding these papers are usually not *one quarter* the size or weight allowed by law, have to pay on them the same postage that is charged on the largest sheets that pass through the mails. Besides the manifest injustice of this regulation, your petitioners represent that many thousands of children and youth are deterred from subscribing to these useful papers solely by the comparatively excessive postage chargeable on the small sheets they desire to obtain.

A reduction therefore of postage, in favor of juvenile newspapers of small dimensions, would not only tend greatly to diffuse knowledge and piety, the bulwarks of our national prosperity, but would increase the revenues of the post office department.

For an immediate and proportionate reduction of postage, therefore, on all newspapers not containing more than 500 square inches, your petitioners respectfully and urgently pray.

NAMES.

Joseph Thomson
James Bahcock
William Greenman
Thimothy Batch
Morris Keeney
Eliakim Ebenauer
Joseph M. Cheney
Benjn P. Burrnell
John R. Thayer
Joseph Adams
Frederick Cole
Wm French
Ezra S. S. S.

NAMES.

Paul I. Knipe
Quare R. Rathbun
Ramsdell Spencer
W. G. Spencer
Edwyr Sabine
Lucius Wilson
George H. Webb
Palmer Newton
Chas W. B. Warren
Isaac B. Pharr
John

Sanford Benton

Robertson

H. C. Palmer

J. W. Fitch

Wm Green

William Shaffer

Barley Phelps

Thos Mink

E. R. Otis

J. H. Bennett

J. Prentice

J. M. Hyde

W. L. Avery

J. Carter

John W. Sizer

Edwin B. Gardner

John C. Tiffany

Russel Davenport

George S. Celestone

J. B. Little

Isabel P. Town

John C. Gibbs

John Willard

J. Gardner

Lawson Murry

Wm S. Gordon

J. P. Bailey

George W. Potter

H. P. Lee

G. E. Wright

James Houston

John Kern

Edwin Park

Roads Alexander

J. M. Bidwell

Et

Memorial of Joseph
Thomson and 58
other citizens of the
County of New London
in the State of Con-
necticut praying a
reduction of postage
on juvenile newspa-
pers.

Presented by

W. L. Murphy

February 8, 1848 Referred to
the Committee on the
Post Office & Post Roads.

Murphy

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