

Wheeling Post Office Va
January 11th 1848

Hon^{ble} William G Brown

Dear Sir

I herewith send you a Petition, signed by the clerks in this Post Office, praying Congress to make some change in the Post office Law, regulating the per centage on Letters, so that they may get something like a fair compensation for their services.

The clerks in this Post Office, receive less pay, in proportion to their labour, than in any other office in the United States.

This being the great point for the West, makes the paper distribution immense. Frequently we have from Forty to Fifty Pages of papers to distribute at night from the Table of this office. The daily mail from the East, arrives here at 8 o'clock P.M., and leaves for the West, 1/2 past 10— The Western Mail arrives here from St. L. 1/2 past 4, A.M., and leaves for the East at 7 A.M., so, you can see we get but little rest at night. In the winter season, the railroads are frequent both from East and West. We have to remain at the office until 1/2 past ten at night and be there at 4 in the morning, mail or no mail, and when failures occur, it keeps us here at work the whole of next day— The Cross mails are constantly coming

in, and my clerks constantly employed.

It is the pro Centage on letters sent for delivery, that increases the Compensation of the Clerks, and whilst this is one of the largest distributing offices, taking into consideration the large paper distribution, the delivery is small.

We have to open all the Letter pouches, but one for Columbus, and distribute the packages for the whole west, this in connection with the distribution from this office, keeps us a busy, as we can be united in fact 10 at night, and it is a rare thing if we get to bed before 11 o'clock.

You will find from my account current, furnished the Auditor for last Quarter, that my best clerks do not receive more than \$125 per Quarter — They are good, faithful, and efficient Clerks, but good clerks, cannot be retained for that price, and if something is not done this office must suffer. It has already lost me considerable out of my own salary.

I trust that you will give your attention to this matter, and that Congress will do what is right.

With high regard

Yours Obedt

Ch Newman

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The receipt of the
above sum of
£1000
is hereby acknowledged
by the
Receiver of the
said sum
of £1000
on the
22nd day of
March 1861

Hon. Mr. G. V. Brown

House of Representatives

Washington

D.C.