

same penalties, for transporting persons acting as private expresses, as the persons themselves; but nothing in the act is to be construed as prohibiting the conveyance of letters or packages by private hands, when no compensation is tendered, or by a special messenger employed for a single occasion.

12. All persons who shall after the passage of the act transmit by any prohibited private express, mailable matter, or place at any designated spot, or deliver such matter for transportation, forfeit for each offence \$50.

13. Letters may be conveyed by steamboats, as provided by the act of 1825, provided they are delivered on arrival, to the authorized agent of the Post Office Department, who shall charge upon them ordinary postage; and no Postmaster shall receive, to be conveyed by mail, any packet weighing over three pounds.

14. The Postmaster General has power to contract with steamboat owners, for extra occasions, without the previous advertisements required by law, provided the price to be paid does not exceed the average rate.

15. Mailable matter is defined; and it allows the conveyance of books, magazines, pamphlets, or newspapers not directed nor intended for distribution, out of the mail, to subscribers, but for sale as merchandise.

16. Forging, or uttering stamps provided for in this law, is declared to be felony and to subject the offender to imprisonment for not less than six months nor more than five years, and to fine not over \$5,000.

17. Newspapers are defined, and a free exchange is allowed as heretofore.

18. All penalties and forfeitures incurred under this act go, half to the informer and prosecutor, and the other half to the Government; and all causes of action may be sued before the Judicial Courts of the States and Territories.

19. Mail contracts are to be given to the lowest bidder; and advertisements of letters uncalled for to be made in the newspapers having the largest circulation, the fact to be decided by evidence.

20. The Postmaster General is to divide the railroad routes into three classes, according to the size of the mails, the speed with which they are to be conveyed and the importance of the service; and for conveyance on the roads of the first class not more than \$200 per mile per annum; on the second class not over \$100; and on the third class not over \$50 shall be paid. And if the service can not be obtained for these rates, provision may be made for separating the letter from the general mail, and for the proper conveyance of each portion.

21. All causes of action under this act may be sued before any Circuit or District Court of the U. S. or of the District of Columbia, or the U. S. Territories.

22. The sum of \$750,000 is appropriated to supply any possible deficiency in the revenue of the Department under the operation of the law.

23. Any farther deficiency is to be paid out of moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

24. The franking privilege of the widows of Madison and Harrison.