EASTON GAZETTE.

WHERE THE PRESS IS FREE—"Literature well or ill-conducted, is the Great Engine by which all Popular States must ultimately be supported or overthrown. RELIGION purifies the Heart and teaches us our Duty—Morality refines the Manners—Agriculture makes us Rich, and Politics provides for the enjoyment of all.

VOL. XVII. EASTON MD. SATURDAY MORNING, JULY 5, 1834. NO, 27.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED EVERY
SATURDAY MORNING
BY ALEXANDER GRAHAM.

TERMS

TWO DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS
Per annum, payable half yearly in advance.

ADVERTISEMENTS

Not exceeding a square inserted three time for ONE DOLLAR; and TWENTY FIVE CENTS for every subsequent insertion.

Great Bargains, Great Bargains
ARE NOW TO BE HAD AT THE
COACH, GIG & HARNESS

MANUFACTORY
OF
ANDERSON & HOPKINS
In the Town of Easton, Talbot co. Md.

THE Subscribers take this method of returning their grateful acknowledgments to those gentlemen of Talbot and the adjacent counties, for their liberal patronage, since they commenced the above Business; & beg leave to inform them, and the public generally, that they have now on hand,
a superior assortment of articles in their line
CONSISTING IN PART OF
Eight new Gigs,
price from 180 to 300 dollars, of various patterns & finish:—also SIX second hand ditto, of various prices, and too good
SULKIES
one of them is hung on Six Steel Springs, and a splendid assortment of
NEW HARNESS,
all of which will be disposed of on moderate terms, for cash or good paper, and liberal prices given for old Carriages in exchange.

They have under way a first rate Coachee, and a number of GIGS, in an unfinished state, which can be finished at the shortest notice and to any particular directions, according to order. They have also [illegible] large assortment of
MATERIALS
in their line, of every description, from which by the assistance of the best workmen, and their own knowledge of the business, they are persuaded they can finish off as handsome and substantial COACHEES, BAROUCHES, GIGS, &c. &c. as any establishment in the State. All kinds of repairs done in a neat and durable manner, and steel springs of every description, made and repaired, all of which will be done at the shortest notice and on reasonable terms.

The Public's Ob't Serv'ts
ANDERSON & HOPKINS.

N. B. A. & H., have also for sale, a large & superior turning Lathe, and tools, which can be bought low. Two boys of good steady habits, from 13 to 15 years of age, will be taken as apprentices, the one at the woodwork, and the other at the trimming Branch of the Business. Letters addressed to Anderson and Hopkins, Easton, Talbot county Md. specifying the kind of carriage wanting, will be promptly attended to, and the carriage brought to their own door.

A. & H.

Feb. 15 3m
The Eastern Shore Whig and Cambridge Chronicle will publish the above three months.

Easton and Baltimore Packet, by way of Miles River,

SCHOONER—WILLIAM & HENRY,
JAMES STEWARD, MASTER.

The subscribers beg leave to inform the public that the above fine, fast sailing, new and substantially built, copper fastened Schooner, is now in complete order for the reception of freight and Passengers; having a very commodious Cabin, she is well calculated for the accommodation of Gentlemen and Ladies.—She will commence running as a regular Packet between the above named places—and will leave Miles River Ferry on Sunday the 25d of March inst. at 9 o'clock, A. M., for Baltimore. Returning will leave Light Street wharf, Baltimore, opposite the store of A. B. Harrison, at 9 o'clock, A. M on the following Wednesday, and will continue to run on the above named days, during the season. She will take on board and land passengers at Wm. Townsend's; going to and from Baltimore.

All orders left at the Drug Store of Messrs. Spencer and Willis, Easton, or with Mr. Jas. Jorden, at the Ferry, will be strictly attended to. The Subscribers, intending to use every exertion to give general satisfaction, solicit the patronage of the public.

WM. TOWNSEND and
JAS. STEWARD.

N. B. For Capt. James Steward's capacity and attention to business, as a commander of a vessel, the public are referred to Messrs. Nicholas Goldsborough Tench Tilghman, Benjamin Bowdle and John Newnam, of this county.

March 5

NOTICE.

The subscriber gives notice to all persons interested, that it is necessary that business in his hands should be promptly closed, as he is determined that his securities shall not suffer by any delay.

He also wishes to call attention to the notice of Joshua M. Faulkner, Esq. by which it will be seen, that all his business as late Sheriff, is placed in the subscriber's hands, for settlement and the TENTH of the present month is fixed as the time by which it must be closed.—Those who wish to avoid further cost and trouble will, it is expected, attend to this notice—those who neglect must abide the consequences.

JO: GRAHAM, Shff.

march 4—22 tf

THE UNION TAVERN,
EASTON, MARYLAND.

JOSHUA M. FAULKNER,

RESPECTFULLY begs leave to inform his friends and the public in general, that he has taken the above named property in Easton, Talbot county, Md., known as the "*UNION TAVERN*," on the corner of Washington and Goldsborough streets, immediately opposite the Bank, adjoining the office of John Leeds Kerr, nearly opposite to that of Wm. Hayward, Jr. and directly that of Wm. R. Price, Esq.—e his house is situate in the most fashionable Td pleasant part of the town, within a few pa an of the Court House; and a market (I cannot hesitate to say,) equal, if not superior, to any of a like population in this State—he is also gratified in assuring the public, that he has advantages this tavern never before had, viz: A aomfortable dwelling adjoining not heretofore ettached to the property, and all the property is about to go through a thorough repair; which will enable him to entertain private families, parties or individuals in comfort—he intends keeping in his bar the best of Liquors, and his Table shall be furnished in season with such as the market will afford. He has provided attentive Ostlers and Waiters, and has determined nothing on his part shall be wanting to give satisfaction. His *Hacks* will run regularly to the Steam Boat Maryland, for the accommodation of passengers, when they can be conveyed to any part of the adjacent county at almost a moment's warning Regular conveyances can be had from Easton to the principal [illegible] four horse [illegible] once a week to Philadelphia via Centreville; the Steam Boat Maryland twice a week to Baltimore, besides other conveyances in the two Easton Packets—so that passengers cannot fail to find an advantage in passing this way. Boarders will be accommodated on liberal terms by the day, week, month or year—he solicits the old stomers of the house and the public generally, to call and see him.

Oct. 5

NOTICE.

There is now in preparation, and will be published as soon as practicable, a work entitled, the Protest, containing a series of observation and remark against the high claims of the Romish Priesthood, and all others who set up pretensions to ecclesiastical power by *Divine* appointment. Addressed, *generally, to every denomination of professing christians*, by

J. FORMAN,
a Presbyter of the Protestant
Episcopal Church.

May 24

$100 REWARD.

RAN off from the subscriber between Saturday 17th and Wednesday the 21st of this month of May, a negro lad named

JACOB,

of tawney complexion and about 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high—his countenance is rather mild, but changeable when spoken to—he shows his white teeth a good deal when he speaks—in his ordinary walk he is laboured and seems to work his whole body. *It* is supposed he went off on the Saturday before or Sunday of the Whitsuntide Holydays—He is a shrewd and specious fellow—whoever will deliver to the subscriber the said absconding servant, or secure him so that the subscriber can get him, shall receive the above reward.

ROB'T. H. GOLDSBOROUGH,
near Easton Talbot county
Eastern Shore of Maryland.

May 24

$30 REWARD.

RANAWAY from the Subscriber, living in Talbot county (Deep Neck) on Wednesday last, the 4th inst. (June) a negro fellow, who calls himself DICK or

DICK ANDERSON,

about 21 years of age. Dick is very black and square built, about 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high. He took away with him a large quantity of wearing apparel, and *I* have no doubt has made his way to Delaware or New Jersey. Dick is an outrageous scoundrel, having made an attack on me for reprimanding him for his negligence, in not being in place for hours after my other hands were at work. *I* will give the above reward for his apprehension and delivery in the jail in Easton, Md. or secured in any jail so that I get him again.

FOSTER MAYNARD.
Talbot county Md., June, 7 1834.

TWENTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

REPORT OF THE MAJORITY.

Mr. Ewing made the following Report.

The Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, in obedience to the resolution of the Senate of the 29th of March, A. D. 1834, proceeded to inquire into the condition of the Post Office Department, and having made progress in their investigation, now Report—

That your committee, at an early day, after, they were invested with authority so to do, called for a statement of the available claims due from post masters and others to the department and of the funds on hand, and also the amount of its debts. *In* answer to this inquiry they were informed that it would be the work of several months, with all the disposable force of the department, to prepare the statement; the shortest time named as possible, extending much beyond the probable adjournment of Congress. Statements, therefore, said to be accurate, were obtained wherever it was practicable, and when such were not to be had, your committee received conjectural estimates, sworn to by the heads of the appropriate bureaux:

By those it appears that the department is largely insolvent and that since some time in the year 1832 the Postmaster General has, without warrant of law, borrowed from the banks large sums of money on interest for the purpose of sustaining it. The interest account, exhibited herewith, shows that some of those loans were made during the last session of Congress, and within a short time after the date of the annual report of the Postmaster General, which states that there is an available surplus fund on hand of $202,811 40, and which contains no intimation of any probable deficit present or future. *It* is also worthy of remark, that his last annual report is wholly silent on the subject of these loans. But the Postmaster General has, since the commencement of this investigation, represented to your committee that aid from the Treasury is necessary to enable him to carry on the operations of the department, and, he has stated that $450,000 is the smallest sum that will serve that purpose.

The sums borrowed and overdrawn on banks to the 11th April, 1834, and then existing as a debt against the department, are stated by the officers to be	$188,600
And they state the amount due to contractors on the 1st of April, 1834, at	635,000
Making the aggregate of its debts	$1,123,600

They also state that there was on the 11th April, 1834, a balance of deposites in banks in favor of the department of $37,000, 95‡

Of this there was deposited in banks which have failed	5,455 07
Leaving to the credit account, funds in bank, April 11th, 1834, available,	$31,545 88‡

They also reported, as a *conjectured estimate*, that there was due from postmasters for postages accruing prior to January 1st 1834, $300,000

The books from which this estimate was drawn have been examined by the committee and the result of that examination leaves no doubt that the amount of this credit is greatly exaggerated.

It appears that the receipts of the department for the last quarter of the year 1833, according to the best estimate that can be formed, (the books and accounts not having been made up as they should have been,) amounted to $467, 449

That there was deposited by several postmasters in banks, during the said quarter, for the use of the department,	322,904
Leaving an apparent balance outstanding in the hands of postmasters, of	$134,545

But it is understood that considerable sums were received from postmasters, exclusive of the deposites in banks, which is estimated to reduce the amount in their hands for receipts, during the last quarter of 1833, to $83,725.—Which sum, resulting from the several data to which we have access, is fixed upon as the nearest approximation to the truth, attainable within the limited time, which it was in our power to devote to this part of the investigation. We believe, however, that any person acquainted with the books, and the course of business of the department, and whose attention was exclusively devoted to the subject, could, in a little time, estimate the amount of debts due to the department with a very near approach to accuracy; and that the officers of the department can, at any time within a few days, make an abstract statement of its fiscal concerns at the termination of any quarter sufficiently accurate for the ordinary purposes of general information or legislation.

The officers of the department, also, estimated the amount due from postmasters for postages, accruing within the 1st quarter of the year 1834, at $50,000

Your committee examined, as far as practicable, the data upon which this estimate was made, and they have reason to believe that this sum is also much above the true amount. It is estimated by the chief clerk of the department, that the nett receipts for postages in the 1st quarter of 1833, will amount to $520,000

Your committee have ascertained that there was deposited in banks for the use of the department within that quarter, and prior to the first day of April	$314,704
Which will leave, of the receipts of that quarter, in the hands of postmasters, on that day,	$205,704

A considerable portion of this sum, probably, was received by the department in drafts on postmasters, but to what amount your committee have no means of ascertaining. They therefore take the above sum as the amount due for that quarter on the 1st of April, 1834.

This estimate of the sums due and outstanding, will still appear large, if we compare it with the amount of similar claims under a former administration; at a time, too, when the department was not involved in debt, and had no particular reasons to press its collections with peculiar urgency. *It* appears by the first report of the present Postmaster General, made on the 24th November 1829, that on the 1st day of July of that year, the whole amount due and outstanding, in the hands of the postmasters and others, was $94,400 21; and we can see no good reason why the amount of balances should have been suffered to rise to $289,429 much less to the enormous sum of $800,000, as is estimated by the chief clerk, especially at a time when the department is insolvent, and borrowing from banks, and overdrawing its deposites daily, and even descending to ask the credit of individuals to sustain it in its most necessary functions.

But, admitting the sum estimated by your committee to be due from Postmasters, the credits of the department will stand thus:

Amount of available debts for postages accruing within the 1st day of Jan. 1834,	83,725
Do do. for postages accruing in the quarter ending the 1st day of April 1834.	205,704
Funds deposited in solvent banks,	31,547
Making the aggregate of credits considered available,	$320,975

The amount of debts due on that day, as stated by the officers of the department was $1,123,600

Balance against the department on final settlement of all its accounts, would be $803,625

The above estimate due by the department, is taken entirely upon the credit of the officers of the bureaux to which the superintendance of those accounts properly belong. They profess to have given them with all practicable accuracy, and your committee, having no particular reason to doubt their correctness, have not gone into an investigation with a view to test them.

With respect to the credit and outstanding of claims of the department, your committee could not place the same reliance on the general estimate presented to them. The amount was much larger than they had reason to suppose correct from their knowledge of the general course of business in the department, and their investigation has satisfied them that the error was even larger than they at first anti[illegible] to upwards of $500,000.

Your committee have also made, and here present an estimate of the revenue and expenditures of the department of the last quarter of the year 1833, by which it will be seen that, without some real and substantial reform in the management of its concerns, there is little prospect that it will extricate itself from the present embarrassments.

It appears, as stated above, that the receipts for postages in that quarter amounted to		$467,449
The transportation for the same quarter amounted to	$522,714	
Incidental expenses to	27,935	
Total expenditure,		$550,109
Excess of expenditures over the revenue		$82,660
Which continuing in the same ratio throughout the year, would bear an annual deficit of		$340,640

An opinion was expressed by the immediate predecessor of the present Postmaster General, in his report of November 18, 1827, that the department by a vigilant administration of its affairs, would be able to supply all the wants of the community, and in a few years to pay into the treasury an annual sum of $500,000. this estimate seems to have been grounded upon the rapid increase of the receipts for postages, the improvement of roads and means of conveyance, and the great and increasing number of passengers in the stages, which add to the profits of the contractor, and thereby lessen the costs of transportation of the mail.—And your committee entertain no doubt, had its affairs been conducted prudently, with a view to the public interest, the anticipation would at this time have been realized; unless, indeed, it should have been thought expedient to reduce the postages, and thus relieve the community of a part of its present burden in the transaction of business, and the general diffusion of knowledge.

In order to present this subject more distinctly to the Senate, your committee have taken, and here present a comparative view of the revenue and expenditures of the department for the four years first preceding, and the four years next following the time at which it was placed under the superintendence of the present Postmaster General.

They find that, on the 1st of July, 1825, there was a surplus fund of	$283,089 00
That on the 1st July, 1829, the surplus fund was, according to the statement of the former Post Master General,	289,140
But according to the statement of the present Postmaster General, it was reduced to	230,48
Which, for the purpose of the present estimate merely, your committee assume to be correct. And on this supposition, the available funds of the department were diminished in four years	52,600 00
The receipts for postages during that four years, was	6,167,519 00
And the expenditures for the four years	6,220,119 00

The amount of funds sunk by the department since it came under the superintendence of the present Postmaster General, beyond the amount of its receipts, is

1st. The sum on hand, according to his statement on the 1st of July, 1829,	$230,489
Amount of debts on the 1st of April, 1834, over and above its available funds,	803,625
Aggregate	$1,034,114
Four fifths of that sum supposed to have been expended in the four first years of the present Postmaster General	$827,271
And the aggregate revenue of the department for those four years, was	8,731,032
Making the aggregate expenditures for the last named four years	9,558,303
Excess of expenditures over the preceding four years	$3,938,184

Within that time some new mail routes were established, and some improvements were made in previously existing routes, but all these bear a very small proportion to the increase of expenditures. Possessing, therefore, as this department has done, those increased elements of prosperity and means of usefulness, it appeared obvious to your committee that there must have been some mismanagement of its affairs, and a lavish expenditure of its funds, to reduce it in so short a time to its present insolvent condition, and to render necessary the appropriation of so large a sum as four hundred and fifty thousand dollars from the treasury to enable the Postmaster General to redeem its credit, and carry on its essential operations.

And before determining whether they should recommend such appropriation, your committee thought it their duty to ascertain, as far as practicable, the accuracy of the several official statements which were made to them, as well as those which have from time to time been transmitted to Congress touching the condition of the department; also, that they should investigate the cause of the sudden insolvency of this important department of the Government, which has heretofore sustained itself from its own resources, which, in former years actually contributed $1,103,063 to the general revenues of the country, and which was but a few years since in a most flourishing and prosperous condition.

The prosecution of that inquiry was attended with much difficulty and embarrassment. The annual reports of all contracts entered into by the department within the preceding year,* have, in two instances, been wholly omitted by the present Postmaster General, and, in a third, the report came in too late to be referred to by your committee, and to aid them in their investigation. No answer has yet been given by the Secretary of the Treasury to resolution of the Senate adopted on the 11th day of March last, on motion of one of your committee, which calls for copies of the duplicates of contracts, bids, and extra allowances which the law requires,† should be filed in the office of the Comptroller of the Treasury. The duplicates of the contracts and bids are said to have been consumed in the Treasury building; and it was also communicated to us by the officer employed to answer the call,‡ that no statement of extra allowances had been filed there by the present Postmaster General. And the report of the Postmaster General, which accompanied the President's message at the opening of the present Congress, apprizes us that his prior reports as to the liabilities and resources of the department are erroneous.—Thus the checks, few and imperfectual as they are, which the law imposes upon the transactions of the department having been in a great measure disregarded, or rendered abortive, and no certain means being left us to determine the accuracy of the statements and reports issuing from it, except by causing calculations to be made in all cases where there were data to found them, and by comparing those reports with themselves, and with each other, your committee adopted this course, and thus they believe have been able to arrive at a conclusion very nearly correct, as to the general value of those reports and statements.

In order to account for the increase of expense in the transportation of the mail, the Postmaster General has, in his several annual reports, presented us an enormous increase, also of mail transportation. In his report, accompanying the President's message of December, 1832, he states that the annual transportation of the mail on the 1st of July, 1829, was 13,700,000 miles; and in that accompanying the President's message, at the commencement of the present session of Congress, he states, that on the 1st day of July, 1833, it was 26,854,485 miles, making an increase of transportation from the 1st of July, 1829, to the 1st of July, 1834, of 13,154,485 miles.

From the knowledge which your committee possessed of the general situation and business of the department at those periods, it appeared to them, that the statement carried the stamp of improbability upon its very face. They therefore, for the purpose of ascertaining as nearly as possible the state of the matter, called on the officers of the department, for the particular data on which they had founded their estimates, and asked also, for the original papers showing the calculations; but they were told that those papers were all destroyed. Your committee having subpœnaed Doctor Thomas Bradley to attend before them, and gave evidence placed in his hands the advertisements for mail contracts, and the book containing the statement of extra allowances, and gave directions that he should be furnished with all such information from the department, as would enable him to make a full and fair estimate; and they instructed him to make out and report to them, under oath, a true statement of the amount of transportation, in miles, at the period above mentioned. After he had proceeded very far with his estimates, and was nearly ready to make his report, your committee was informed, through their chairman, that the calculations from which the report of transportation for 1832, was made out; had been found, and that a copy had been furnished. It was accordingly done, but came too late for your committee to compare it with the actual routes, and with the advertisements and books of the department. And it contains nothing of itself to enable us to determine on its correctness. It stands, therefore, on precisely the same ground with that of the annual reports above mentioned, and requires the same evidence to sustain it.

The report of Doctor Bradley, in whose diligence, integrity, and knowledge of the subject we have the fullest reliance, is hereto attached, verified by his oath. It shows that transportations of the mail on the 1st of July, 1829, inst. after the department came under the superintendence of the present Postmaster General, was 15,209,039 miles, being 1,509,039 miles more than it is stated in the annual report above referred to; and that the transportation on the 1st of July, 1833, was 21,156,844 instead of 26,854,485, being 5,697,651 miles less than the Postmaster General has reported it.

Thus, by underating the amount of transportation at the time he came into office, and exaggerating it since that time, the Postmaster General has fallen into an error, as to the amount which he has increased the transportation of the mail, of no less than 7,206,690 miles.

Your committee not having performed personally the labor of this part of the examination cannot vouch for the accuracy of the above estimates, but they believe them to be nearly correct; and if they err, that the error will be found to be approaching too near, rather than in departing too widely, from the statements in the official reports of the department.

The annual expense of transporting the mail under existing contracts, with all improvements was, by the report of the Postmaster General of the 30th Nov. 1833, set down at	2,033,289 42
The Blue Book of September. 1832, gives the aggregate of all mail contract and extra allowance at	1,992,920 14
Making a difference of expenditure not accounted for, of	$40,896 28

This difference is wholly unexplained. No answer has yet been given to a call made by the Senate, on the 11th day of March last, on a resolution offered by one of your committee, for a statement of the sums paid for transportation and extra allowance, if any, omitted in the Blue Book, which would have enabled them to present an explanation of the discrepancy; and we can perceive of no mode of accounting for it, consistent with the correct administration of the department, and a careful and accurate examination of the papers which issue from it, and under its official authority.

Your committee has also caused to be selected from the report, (of extra allowances,) made by the Postmaster General to the Senate on the 5th day of March last, all that have been there set down as subsisting allowances since the 29th day of June, 1833, which ought to include all that are embraced in the Blue Book.

Their aggregate by that report amounts to	$351,573
Their aggregate by the Blue Book is	277,947 60
Making a difference of	26,374 36
That the Blue Book gives an aggregate less than the annual report of	$40,369 02
The report of March 3, 1834, less than the Blue Book	26,374 36
Error between the annual report, and the report of March 3d, 1834,	$66,743 66½

The Postmaster General, in his annual report accompanying the President's message of December 1st, 1832, states a surplus of available funds, after defraying all the expenses of the department down to the 1st of July, 1832, at $202,811 40

In this report of November 30, 1833, he says that instead of having had on hand that amount of available funds the department was at that time really indebted beyond the whole amount of its resources, including its credits,	2,844 40
Showing an admitted error in that report, of	$205,655 80

In descending to the items, and comparing one by one the contracts, as set forth and certified in one report of the Postmaster General, with the same contracts, as set forth in another of his reports, are discrepancies still more remarkable. Your committee have set forth a few of these instances by way of example.

The Postmaster General, in his report of the 18th of April, 1812, (Doc. 212, p. 12,) states that Stockton and Neill had contracted to carry the mail on routes Nos. 1,204, 1,202, 1,309 and 1,400; that is to say, from Cumberland to Wheeling, Washington to Frederick, and from Frederick to Winchester, at $7,000 per annum.

By the advertisements, these routes were to go into operation on the 1st of January, 1832.

In his report to the Senate, of the 3d of March, 1834, [Doc. 188, p. 204,] he states the same contract at $150,950 per annum, exclusive of enormous extra allowances, which as they do not relate to the branch of the subject now under consideration, we may pass by for the present. The difference between the report of this contract in April, 1832, and March, 1834, is $8950 per annum, amounting

* Law of 1808, v. 2, p. 1092.
† 1825, vol. 3, p. 1088, s. 10.
‡ See 13.