

HISTORY  
OF  
SCRANTON POSTOFFICE

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BY  
COL. E. H. RIPPLE.

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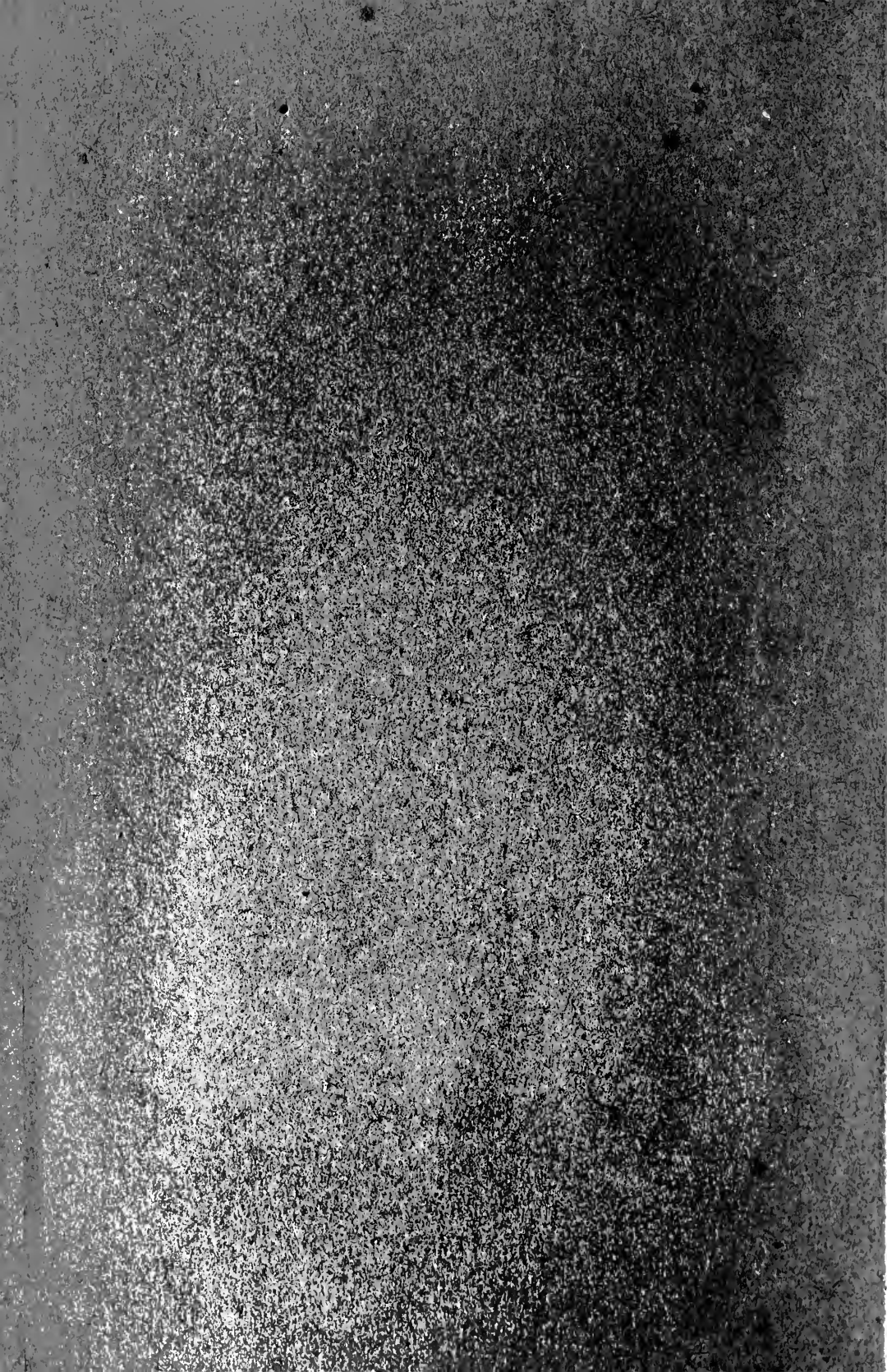
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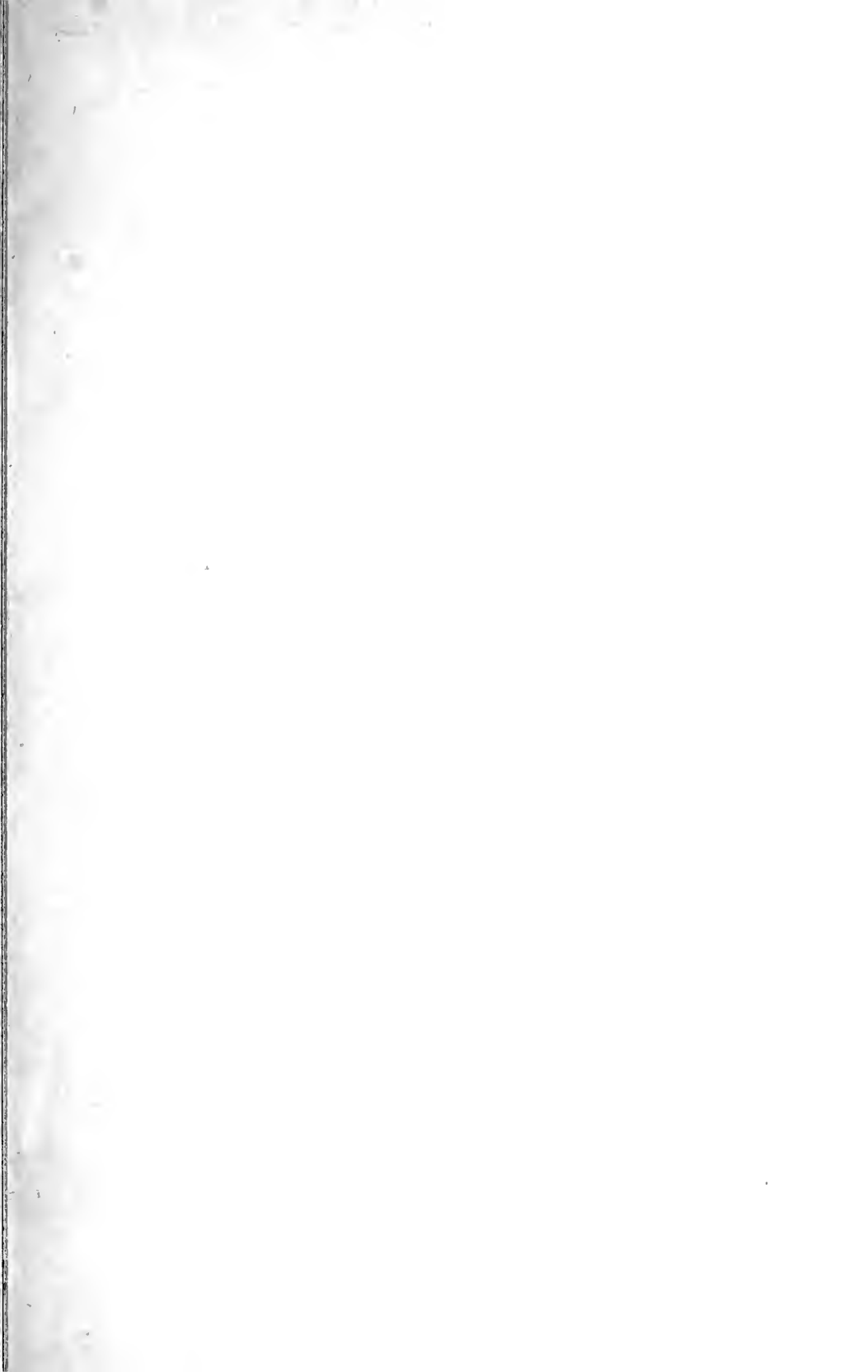
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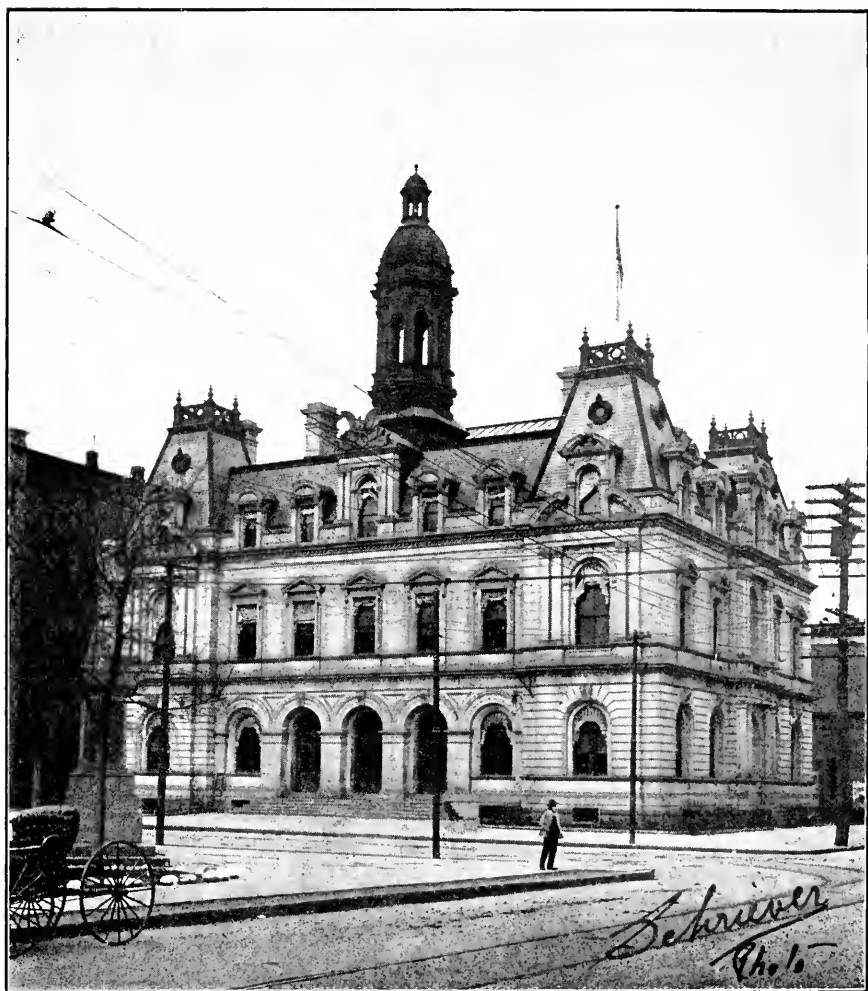
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History of Scranton post  
office; including the ear  
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valley post-offices, a co  
mplete list of Scranton,  
Providence and Hyde Park









Scranton Postoffice.

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*David W. Powell, Assistant Postmaster.*



*Col. E. H. Ripple, Postmaster.*



# HISTORY

OF

## SCRANTON POSTOFFICE

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INCLUDING

*The Early History of Lackawanna Valley Postoffices, a Complete List of Scranton, Providence and Hyde Park Postmasters, Date of Appointment and Length of Service—Biographies of Scranton's Postmasters—Anecdotes and Miscellaneous Matter. Interesting and Valuable Statistics, Etc.*

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By  
COL. E. H. RIPPLE,

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Scranton, Pa.  
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1901.

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Tribune Publishing Company.*

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*PREFACE.*

OFFICE OF THE POSTMASTER,  
SCRANTON, PA.

April 29, 1901.

TO THE PUBLIC:

ENTIRELY appreciating the many favors received at the hands of the people of this city and county, I hereby present to them this little history of the Postal Service of Scranton and vicinity, hoping it may be considered by them of sufficient interest and value to warrant its publication. It is as perfect as we have been able to make it from all obtainable data. As it may still be imperfect and incomplete, we ask your indulgence for any errors or omissions that may appear in it.

The growth of the postal service has kept pace with the business growth of this valley, and a study of the pages of this little work may give some very interesting and valuable facts which may have been overlooked in the rush and hurry of your business.

Whatever its value may be, I beg you to accept it with the friendly regard of its author.

EZRA H. RIPPLE,

Postmaster of Scranton, Pa.

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### *Posts in Olden Times.*

The post as a measure of speed, the sealing of letters to insure secrecy, and the first means of postal communication by post riders as messengers are referred to in the Old Testament as follows :

- B. C. 1520.—“Now my days are swifter than a post.”—Job ix-25.
- B. C. 900.—“So she wrote letters in Ahab’s name and sealed them with his seal, and sent the letters unto the nobles that were in his city, dwelling with Naboth.”—1st Kings xxi-8.
- B. C. 726.—“So the posts went with the letters from the king and his princes throughout all Israel and Judah, and according to the commandment of the king.”—2nd Chron. xxx-6.
- B. C. 726.—“So the posts passed from city to city through the country of Ephraim and Manasseh even unto Zebulon.”—2nd Chron. xxx-10.
- B. C. 595.—“One post shall run to meet another and one messenger to meet another to show the king of Babylon that his city is taken at one end.”—Jeremiah li-31.
- B. C. 510.—“And the letters were sent by posts into all the king’s provinces, to destroy, to kill, and to cause to perish all Jews, both young and old, little children and women.”—Esther iii-13.
- B. C. 510.—“Write ye also for the Jews as it liketh you in the king’s name and seal it with the king’s ring ; for the writing which is written in the king’s name and sealed with the king’s ring let no man reverse.”—Esther viii-8.

B. C. 510.—“And he wrote in the King Ahasuerus’ name and sealed it with the king’s ring, and sent letters by posts on horseback, and riders on mules, camels and young dromedaries.”—Esther viii-10.

B. C. 510.—“So the posts that rode upon mules and camels went out, being hastened and pressed on by the king’s commandment.”—Esther viii-14.

Darius I, of Persia, who reigned in the Fifth Century, B. C., caused couriers with saddle-horses to be always ready at different stations throughout his empire, at one day’s journey from each other, so that there might be no delay in getting reports from the provinces.

Emperor Augustus established among the Romans an institution similar to the modern post.

During the Ninth Century messengers who travelled on horseback, and who were employed by their respective governments, existed in Germany, France and Italy.

*Books Consulted in the Preparation of this Work.*

In the preparation of this work the following books, among others, have been consulted :

“History of Luzerne, Lackawanna and Wyoming Counties, Pa.” W. W. Munsell & Co., New York.

“Miner’s History of Wyoming Valley.”

“Pearce’s Annals of Luzerne.”

“Encyclopedia of Contemporary Biography of Pennsylvania.” Atlantic Publishing & Engraving Co., New York.

“Portrait and Biographical Record of Lackawanna County.” Chapman Publishing Co., New York.

“J. C. Platt’s Reminiscences.”

Dr. Hollister’s “History of the Lackawanna Valley.”

Dr. Benjamin H. Throop’s “A Half Century in Scranton.”

“Short History of the Slocum, Slocumb & Slocumb Families, 1737-81.” By Chas. E. Slocum, M. D., of Philadelphia, Pa.

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The work of compiling this history has been done by Mr. John Power O’Connor, who has patiently chased up authorities, sought out the old residents, cornered all the traditions and trailed every item of information to its lair with a persistence that has been most commendable. By correspondence and personal interviews he has procured much information that has never before been made public.

*Scranton, Providence and Hyde Park Postmasters*  
*Alphabetically Arranged.*

Amsden, Joel	Jones, D. M.
Atwater, Charles T.	Koon, D. S.
Atwater, Elizabeth	Merrifield, Robert
Blair, M. L.	Merrifield, Wm.
Bloom, J. R., Sr.	Moore, John W.
Bloom, J. R., Jr.	Pier, Dr. W. H.
Clarke, O. P.	Reichard, Henry
Connolly, D. W.	Ripple, Ezra H.
Couch, B. P.	Roberts, Dr. H.
Coursen, A. H.	Scranton, J. A.
Davis, Dr. A.	Searle, Voltaire
Eastabrooks, Sylvanus	Slocum, Benjamin
Fellows, Joseph Turvey	Slocum, Jas. Scovell
Fuller, E. C.	Thomas, Thomas D.
Fuller, Laton S.	Throop, Dr. B. H.
Griffin, Joseph	Vandling, Frank M.
Harding, John P.	Vaughn, John, Jr.
Hollister, Dr. H. H.	Wheeler, Dr. Silas
Jay, Douglas H.	

*Date of Appointment and Length of Service of Each  
Postmaster.*

OFFICE OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL,  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

February 27, 1901.

MR. EZRA H. RIPPLE, Postmaster,  
Scranton, Pa.

Dear Sir :

By direction of the Postmaster General I enclose you herewith a list of the postmasters at Hyde Park, Providence and Scranton, Pennsylvania, with the dates of their appointments, as requested in your letter of January 5.

Very truly yours,

CLARENCE E. DAWSON,

Private Secretary.

---

Hyde Park, Luz. Co.,	Wm. Merrifield,	July 14, 1832
	Robert Merrifield,	Aug. 9, 1832
	Wm. Merrifield,	1834-43
	Joseph Griffin,	1843-46
	O. P. Clarke,	1846-57
	Silas Wheeler,	1857-61
	Joseph Turvey Fellows,	1861-66
	Augustus Davis,	1866-67
	Wm. Merrifield,	1867-69
	M. L. Blair,	1869-73
	Thomas D. Thomas,	1873-82
Hyde Park, Lack. Co.,	Thomas D. Thomas,	Feb. 28, 1882
	Office discontinued	Oct. 22, 1883.

Providence, Luz. Co.,	Benjamin Slocum,	1811-29
	John Vaughn,	1829-39
	Voltaire Searle,	1839-40
	J. R. Bloom,	1840-45
	John P. Harding,	1845-46
	David S. Koon,	1846-49
	Henry Reichard,	1849-51
	Charles T. Atwater,	1851-52
	Elizabeth Atwater,	1852-54
	Sylvanus Eastabrooks,	1854
	H. Hollister,	1854-61
	B. P. Couch,	1861-67
	J. R. Bloom, Jr.,	1867-69
	Henry Roberts,	1869-80
Providence, Lack. Co.,	Henry Roberts,	Jan. 8, 1880
	Office discontinued Oct. 22, 1883.	
Scranton, Luz. Co.,	John W. Moore,	1850-51
Scranton, Luz. Co.,	John W. Moore,	1851-53
	Joel Amsden,	1853
Scranton, Luz. Co.,	Benjamin H. Throop,	1853-57
	Laton S. Fuller,	1857-61
	Douglas H. Jay,	1861-64
	A. H. Coursen,	1864-66
	W. H. Pier,	1866-69.
	James S. Slocum,	1869-74
	J. A. Scranton,	1874-81
Scranton, Lack. Co.,	E. C. Fuller,	May 5, 1881-5
	D. W. Connolly,	1885-89
	D. M. Jones,	1889-93
	Frank M. Vandling,	1893-97
	Ezra H. Ripple,	1897



### *Early History of Lackawanna Valley Postoffices.*

Under the name of "Providence," the first postoffice in the Lackawanna valley was established at Unionville, January 10, 1811.

Benjamin Slocum was the first postmaster in the place. His father and mother, Jonathan and Ruth (Tripp) Slocum, along with their seven sons and three daughters, were the first of the Slocums that came from Rhode Island to settle in the Wyoming valley. That was in the year 1777.

Frances Slocum, the Indians' captive, was Postmaster Benjamin's sister, and his father, Jonathan, and maternal grandfather, Isaac Tripp, were killed by the red men, December 16, 1778.

Unionville had also been known by the name of Dark Hollow or Deep Hollow. The Slocums christened it Unionville. It was a small hamlet, but soon became an important manufacturing centre, and afterwards formed part of the territory that was successively called Slocum Hollow or Slocum's Hollow, Lackawanna Iron Works, Harrison, Scrantonia and Scranton.

In 1798 Benjamin's brother, Ebenezer Slocum, went into partnership with James Duwain and purchased from John and Seth Howe, two of the earliest settlers in this district, the grist mill and undivided land at Deep Hollow. The transfer of the properties from the Howes to Slocum and Duwain was hastened by a terrible tragedy in the Howe family, which sad affair is thus described by Dr. Hollister: "Lydia, the eldest born of John Howe, depressed by some disappointed visions of girlhood, was found dead in her chamber, having hanged herself with a garter attached to her bedpost. The effect of this suicide—the first in the valley—removed every speculat-

ing consideration or cavil from a trade which placed the mill and the wild acres around it in the hands of the Slocums.”

Ebenezer Slocum and his partner Duwain enlarged the grist mill, added a distillery to it, and in 1799 built a saw mill and a blacksmith shop nearby. These plants, a copper shop, and a few rude dwellings were all the structures that could be seen in Slocum Hollow in 1800.

The spring freshet of 1799 carried away two of the mill dams and Duwain, becoming discouraged by their loss, withdrew from partnership with Ebenezer Slocum. Duwain's place was immediately filled by Benjamin Slocum, Ebenezer's brother, and the two new partners, with that sturdiness of character, perseverance and industry for which the Slocum family has always been noted, began operations which resulted in establishing a splendid business reputation for them and in bringing plenty of money to their treasury.

In 1800 the Slocum brothers built in the Hollow a forge which had two fires and one trip hammer. Anthracite coal, not having as yet come into general use, charcoal was used for heating purposes at the forge. Iron ore was placed in stone furnaces, melted and separated from the slag. The iron was again melted and formed into balls which were worked into any desirable shape by means of the trip hammer. All kinds of serviceable agricultural instruments were made in the Slocum plants and the farmers from the surrounding country eagerly began to purchase them. The Slocums began to prosper. The dams destroyed by the freshet were rebuilt by a farmer's "bee." Elisha Hitchcock, a hard-working and reliable young man—he afterward married Ebenezer Slocum's daughter, Ruth—repaired the mill and the firm put another in operation in 1811. The land about the Hollow was then cleared, and large quantities of iron, lumber, flour, feed and whiskey were produced by the several Slocum plants.

Joseph Slocum, a son of Ebenezer, speaking about his

father's and his uncle's business at the Hollow, said : "All transactions here, and all transactions on my father's books, bear the name of Unionville as late as 1828 ; but the place was known far and near as Slocum Hollow, and was so named in 1816 by a jolly Dutchman named James Snyder."

Forty or fifty men were employed at the works in the Hollow and the firm had several teams on the road carrying whiskey, provisions, flour and feed to neighboring towns.

Slocum Hollow iron was of good quality and was much sought after. But the ore began to fail, rival furnaces sprang up in other places, and prices for iron had to be so greatly reduced that its manufacture was no longer profitable. The star of the Slocums was no more in the ascendant. Nor did things generally show any signs of improvement.

The Slocums made their last iron June 10, 1822, and a few years later their last whiskey. In the spring of 1826 Ebenezer and Benjamin Slocum dissolved partnership. Benjamin went to Tunkhannock and died there in 1832. Ebenezer went to his reward the same year.

And then Unionville, which for a quarter of a century had been one of the busiest and happiest places in the country, became, for a time at least, a sad, silent and dark village.

During their operations at Unionville the Slocums became the owners of 1800 acres of land, the greater part of which was underlaid with coal.

Joseph Slocum, Ebenezer's son, built a saw mill in the Hollow in 1848. He sold it to T. P. Reddington, who was unable to pay for it, and it was disposed of at sheriff's sale. It was bought in by Mr. Slocum and he sold it to John Beekman in 1858. It has long since decayed, and there is nothing even of its ruins left to mark the spot where it stood.

#### MAIL ROUTES.

The History of Luzerne, Lackawanna and Wyoming Counties, says : "The first regular stage, a two-horse

vehicle, was established between Easton and Philadelphia in 1806 by Messrs. Robinson and Arndt. The trip was made weekly and required a day and a half each way. Conrad Teter is still remembered by some of the oldest citizens as one of the earliest stage proprietors. He carried the mail in his stage weekly between Sunbury and Painted Post by way of Wilkes-Barre, Tunkhannock, etc., from 1810 to 1816. Pearce says of him : 'He was a large, fat man, of a jovial disposition and desirous of making a favorable impression on strangers. He drove stage, his own stage, up the river. He took pleasure in pointing out *his* farms to the passengers. He frequently informed them as he passed the large residence and farm of Colonel Benjamin Dorrance, in Kingston, that he was the owner, and if asked why he drove stage would reply that he loved to rein four horses but had no taste for farming.'

"About the year 1822 the first stage ran between Wilkes-Barre and Dundaff. It was at first a two-horse vehicle, and was run by the brothers Daniel and John Searle. Two years later a four-horse vehicle replaced the first, and the route intersected the Milford and Owego Turnpike at Carbondale. The Searle Brothers were then the proprietors of the line. Pearce records George Root as the veteran stage driver of this region, a title which a service of forty years entitled him to."

When the postoffice was established at Unionville (Providence P. O.) the mail was carried on horseback by Zephaniah Knapp twice a week, and in bad weather once a week. His route was from Wilkes-Barre, via Slocum Hollow, to Wilsonville, then the county seat of Wayne county. He returned by way of Bethany, Belmont, Montrose and Tunkhannock.

The Unionville postoffice was at the upper distillery which stood on the site now occupied by the blast furnaces.

## OFFICE REMOVED TO PROVIDENCE, PA.

Postmaster Benjamin Slocum served for several years and then resigned in favor of John Vaughn, Jr., who in 1829 removed the office to his store on the southwest side of Razorville Corners, which was then known by several people as "Centreville," but which we now call Providence.

The removal of the postoffice from Unionville to Providence left the Unionville or Slocum Hollow part of the district without a postoffice for twenty-one years, or prior to the establishment of the office at Scranton on April 1, 1850, when John W. Moore was appointed postmaster.

"In the winter of 1847-48," said J. C. Platt, in a lecture before the Scranton Historical Society, "a census was taken to show the necessity of a postoffice at this place (Harrison, Scranton or the Lackawanna Iron Works). O. P. Clarke, postmaster at Hyde Park, gave a written statement showing that seven-tenths of the mail matter received at his office went to Harrison or the Lackawanna Iron Works. The petition asked to have Dr. B. H. Throop made postmaster, but President Polk's Postmaster General ignored the application.

## SCRANTONIA POSTOFFICE, PA.

"Another effort was made during the session of Congress of 1849-50, which resulted in the establishment of an office under the name of Scranton, and the late John W. Moore was made postmaster. The writer [J. C. Platt] took the first letter and paper from the office when it opened, April 1, 1850."

According to Dr. Throop, John W. Moore, who opened the first tailor shop in the Hollow—or Harrison, as it was then called in honor of that President's recent election—obtained permission to take the mail matter from Hyde Park to his store and there distribute it to the persons to whom it was addressed. He soon, however, tired of the thankless

job, says Dr. Throop, and induced Joel Amsden to assume the postmastership. Mr. Amsden, too, soon gave up the undertaking, asserts the doctor, and desired to be released from the position, as there were no facilities for conducting the business properly.

Dr. Throop goes on to say that he himself erected a dwelling and drug store about where Clark & Snover had their tobacco factory until a few years ago. It was a two-story frame-structure, and at the front end of the counter a desk was arranged to give ample facilities for handling the mail. "I was appointed postmaster," says Dr. Throop, "by S. R. Hobie, Assistant Postmaster General, May 6, 1853, and commissioned by Franklin Pierce, February 4, 1857, and continued under the administration of President Buchanan. The office was in charge of E. C. Fuller, my deputy, for all these years, until Laton S. Fuller, his brother, was appointed my successor."

#### FIRST POSTOFFICE.

It will, no doubt, have been observed by the reader, that, although the first postoffice in the Lackawanna valley was called "Providence," that that office was really opened at Unionville or Slocum Hollow, a place that afterward spread out and became the city of Scranton proper.

#### SCRANTON'S POSTMASTERS.

The following gentlemen served as postmasters of Scranton in the order named: John W. Moore, 1850-53; Joel Amsden, 1853; Benjamin H. Throop, 1853-57; Laton S. Fuller, 1857-61; Douglas H. Jay, 1861-64; A. Hampton Coursen, 1864-66; W. H. Pier, 1866-69; James Scovell Slocum, 1869-74; Joseph A. Scranton, 1874-81; E. C. Fuller, 1881-85; D. W. Connolly, 1885-89; D. M. Jones, 1889-93; Frank M. Vandling, 1893-97; Ezra H. Ripple, 1897.

#### SCRANTON INCORPORATED.

The city of Scranton was incorporated April 23, 1866,

and now embraces within its territorial limits the ancient boroughs of Providence and Hyde Park, but the two latter places continued to have separate postoffices until the extension of the free delivery service to them in 1883, when their offices were abolished.

#### SCRANTON'S RAPID GROWTH.

Very few cities in this or any other country have grown so rapidly in population and wealth as Scranton. In 1850, the population was 2,230 ; in 1860, 9,223 ; in 1870 (including Providence and Hyde Park boroughs), 35,092 ; in 1880, 45,850 ; in 1890, 75,000 ; in 1900, 102,000.

#### HYDE PARK POSTOFFICE.

The Hyde Park postoffice was established July 14, 1832, and the late Judge William Merrifield, father of our distinguished townsman, Edward Merrifield, was the first postmaster here. Judge Merrifield held the office for less than a month—from July 14, 1832, to August 9, 1832—then he moved out of Hyde Park, and his father, Robert Merrifield, was appointed. On returning to Hyde Park, Wm. Merrifield was reappointed postmaster, June 5, 1834. Judge Merrifield was succeeded by Joseph Griffin, 1843, and his successors were Oliver P. Clark, 1846 ; Dr. S. M. Wheeler, 1857 ; Joseph Turvey Fellows, 1861 ; Augustus Davis, 1866 ; Judge William Merrifield, 1867 ; Captain M. L. Blair, 1869-73 ; Thomas D. Thomas, 1873-83.

#### LOCATION OF SCRANTON POSTOFFICE.

In 1850 the Scranton postoffice was in a building near the iron works. It was removed to Amsden's block early in 1853 and soon afterward to a building which stood on the ground now occupied by the Scranton Bedding Company. In 1855 it was removed to Fuller's Drug Store ; in 1861 to a building on the site of the First National Bank ; in 1864 to a building on the site of 310 Lackawanna avenue ; in 1865 to



the corner of Center street and Penn avenue ; in 1871 to Wyoming avenue ; then to the corner of Penn avenue and Spruce street, and in 1894 the new postoffice was completed and the business was transferred to that establishment.

## *Biographies of Scranton's Postmasters.*

### BENJAMIN SLOCUM.

Benjamin Slocum was the first postmaster of the first post-office in the Lackawanna valley. That office, as already stated, was established in 1811 at Unionville, or Slocum Hollow, but it was officially known as the "Providence" post-office. Providence township was called after Providence, Rhode Island, by some of the pioneer settlers in this part of the country.

Benjamin Slocum was born December 7, 1770. He was the son of Jonathan and Ruth (Tripp) Slocum. In middle life he married Phœbe La France in Providence Township. The following four children were the result of this union: Maria, married Dr. Silas Robinson, of Hyde Park; Frances, married Samuel Nicholson, of Wilkes-Barre; Ruth, married Henry Stark, of Tunkhannock; Thomas Truxton, a son, also married. Mr. Slocum went into partnership with his brother Ebenezer, at Slocum Hollow, where they conducted the business connected with their grist mill, saw mills, forge, still house, and flour, feed and provision stores.

One of Benjamin's brothers, William, was sheriff of Luzerne county from 1796 to 1799. Luzerne county in those days included the territory now covered by Luzerne, Wyoming, Susquehanna and Bradford counties. Later, from 1849 to 1852, another brother, Joseph, was associate judge of Luzerne county.

Postmaster Benjamin's nephew, Joseph Slocum, the son of Ebenezer, was well known to the present generation hereabouts. By inheritance and purchase he owned at one time over 600 acres of coal lands in the heart of the city of Scranton, and by the sale of these lands he realized a considerable fortune. He was the first burgess of Scranton, and for many

years city auditor. In December, 1880, he and his faithful and devoted wife celebrated their golden wedding, and the affair was attended by the Slocums from all over the country. He died in June, 1890.

Joseph Warren Slocum, grandnephew of Postmaster Benjamin and son of Joseph Slocum, now lives with his family at the homestead in South Scranton. He was for many years Deputy United States Marshall. He possesses many interesting relics of the Slocum family and is an entertaining and instructive conversationalist.

#### FRANCES, THE INDIANS' CAPTIVE.

Postmaster Benjamin's sister, Frances, was carried into captivity by the Indians, November 21, 1778, and she never returned. Some of her relatives visited her in 1837, at her home near Logansport, Ind., and requested her to return to the Wyoming valley with them, but she refused to do so. She was married to an Indian and had a family. She died at her residence on the Mississinewa, near Peru, Ind., March 23, 1847. The postmaster's father and maternal grandfather, Jonathan Slocum and Isaac Tripp, respectively, were killed and scalped by Indians and Tories in the town post of Wilkes-Barre, December 16, 1778, and Benjamin's brother, William, was wounded at the same time by the red men.

Benjamin Slocum was postmaster of Unionville (Providence) from 1811 to 1829, when he resigned in favor of John Vaughn, Jr., who removed the office to "Razorville Corners," which at that time was called "Centreville" by some, and which is now known as Providence. Mr. Slocum soon afterward retired to Tunkhannock, where he died July 5, 1832. His brother, Ebenezer, with whom he had been so many years in partnership at Unionville, died twenty days later, July 25, 1832.

The Slocums were Quakers, and like most persons of their religious views were kind, patient, hard-working and perse-

vering. They had faith in the Supreme Being, in their fellow men and in themselves, and with that faith, and such other qualities as they possessed, it would have been next to impossible for them not to have made the world better for their having lived in it.

Today there is scarcely a town or city of any considerable size in the United States that one cannot find representatives of the Slocum family, and like their ancestors, they are all good, trustworthy people and an honor to every community in which they reside.

JOHN VAUGHN, JR.

John Vaughn, Jr., succeeded Benjamin Slocum as postmaster of Providence. The office as before stated was at first situated in Unionville or Slocum Hollow. Mr. Vaughn moved it to "Razorville Corners," now Providence, in 1829. He held the position of postmaster until 1839.

The Vaughns have a remarkable and interesting history. Mayor Frederick W. Vaughn, of Fremont, Neb., who is writing a full account of the family, in response to inquiries made by the compiler of this book, spoke as follows :

"My father, E. R. Vaughn, now over eighty years of age, says : 'There were three brothers came either from New York state or Connecticut. The brothers were named John, Edward and Richard.'

"Richard, my great grandfather, located near Wyalusing, John at Providence township and Edward went further south, and I think finally stopped at Philadelphia. Richard was a private in the Revolutionary War, enlisting September 1, 1777, in Captain Peter Grant's Company of Grayson's Regiment of Foot Continental Troops, commanded by William Grayson. When Richard's term of enlistment was over he came home and was appointed May 1, 1789, by Governor Mifflin, Lieutenant of the Fifth Company of Foot, in the Second Battalion of Militia in the County of Luzerne."

The John Vaughn referred to by Mayor Vaughn was Captain Vaughn, the father of Postmaster John Vaughn, Jr.

Dr. Hollister, in his "History of the Lackawanna Valley," writes as follows concerning the captain :

"Upon the road through Providence to Carbondale the observer cannot fail to notice in Blakely, lying just below the road in the meadows to the southwest, a large orchard where (Capt.) John Vaughn, who had seen service in border warfare, settled with his sons in 1797."

Captain Vaughn had several sons and daughters. Old residents of Providence remember some of them. John L. Travis, of Scranton, has a distinct recollection of John, Jr., Moses, and Isaac, three of the captain's sons. There was another son, Henry, who seems to have dropped out of the memory of the present generation. Samuel Wint, of Providence, himself an old soldier, who married one of Postmaster Vaughn's daughters, has documents in his possession which show that this Henry was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Sixth Company, 116th Pennsylvania Volunteers, and that while engaged as a ship carpenter on board the steamer Tasmania he fell overboard and was drowned in the Mississippi about the year 1821.

Postmaster John Vaughn, Jr., was born in 1797. In 1842 he was married to Malvina Marsh, of Carbondale. The following children of the marriage survive: Mrs. Frances Dunn, Mrs. Emma Wint, Mrs. Delcie McKean, Mrs. Valvacy Eppling, and Albert Vaughn, a machinist.

Mrs. John Vaughn died in February, 1898, aged seventy-four years.

In 1814, when the future postmaster, John Vaughn, Jr., was in his seventeenth year, he became a member of a detachment, under Captain Peter Hallock, from the 35th Regiment of old Luzerne county to, go, with four other detachments from regiments in adjoining counties, to defend the city of Bal-

timore when that place was threatened by the British. The detachments proceeded as far as Danville, when on the receipt of the news of the repulse of the enemy, they were ordered to return.

Postmaster Vaughn received a pension for this service up to the time of his death, which occurred in March, 1859. The pension was continued to his widow up to the time of her demise in February, 1898. Postmaster Vaughn was a Justice of the Peace in Providence. He was for many years a prominent merchant in the borough. He was, at one time, in partnership with John Heermans. The two conducted a general store. Mr. Vaughn had also Nathan Wint as a partner; that was in 1857-58, a year or two prior to the former's death.

Mr. Vaughn was made a member of Lodge 61, F. & A. M., at Wilkes-Barre, in 1825.

#### VOLTAIRE SEARLE.

Voltaire Searle, who succeeded John Vaughn, Jr., as postmaster of Providence, was born in 1810. He was the son of Miner and Eunice Searle, and great grandson of Constant Searle, one of the victims of the Wyoming massacre.

Mr. Searle was twice married—the first time in 1837 to Miss Caroline T. Vaughn, who bore him three children, one of whom, Duane Searle, survives. He is an architect and engineer and lives at 21 Astor place, Jersey City, N. J. Mr. Searle's second marriage took place in 1846, and this time he was wedded to Miss Amanda Carey. Two children were born of this union. They are George Searle, of New York, and Joseph Miner Searle, of Pittsburg.

Postmaster Voltaire Searle came of brave and patriotic stock. Pearce's Annals of Luzerne gives the following account of the Searle family :

“In reply to your question, I said that Mr. Stephen Abbot married a Searle—Abigail, daughter of William Searle. He

was a son of Constant Searle. The last named (Mrs. Abbot's grandfather) was in the battle. He was a man advanced in age, having several sons and daughters married, and being the grandfather of several children.

“What ! Old men ! Grandfathers ! were such subject to go out ?”

“They were ; the able-bodied men fit for war being marched away created the terrible necessity which drew to the battlefield old and young.

“Mr. Searle was there and a son of his, Roger Searle, quite a young man ; his son-in-law, Captain Dietrick Hewitt, commanded the Third Company raised at Wyoming by order of Congress, a very short time before the invasion.

“So there were three of the family in this engagement. A fourth, William Searle, would also have been there, but was at the time confined to the house by a wound received from a rifle shot while on a scouting party a few days previous to the battle.

“How unsuitable it was that a man like old Mr. Searle should go out will further appear from the fact that he wore a wig, as was not unusual with aged men in those days. The bloody savages, in their riotous joy after their victory, made this appendage a source of great merriment. A prisoner (adopted, I have reason to think, after the Indian fashion) was painted and permitted to go down from Wintermoots to Forty Fort to take leave of his mother, under a guard. When near the brook that runs by Colonel Denison's he saw a group of savages in high glee. On going near he beheld an Indian on a colt with a rope over the bridle having on his head, hind side before, the wig of Mr. Searle. The colt would not go and one of the wretches pricked him with his spear. He sprang suddenly ; the Indian fell on one side, the wig on the other, and the demons raised a yell of delight.

“Mr. Searle before he went out to battle took off a pair of



silver knee buckles which he wore and gave them to his family, saying that they might impede his movements ; if he fell he would not need them, and if he returned he could get them. There was evidently a strong presentiment in his mind, 'I go to return no more.'

"Old men, unfit for war, by the necessity of the case, were forced into the field against trained, youthful and expert warriors.

"The very young were there also. Roger Searle, son of Constant Searle, a young man of eighteen or nineteen, stood by the side of William Buck, a lad of fourteen. They fought together. Buck fell. Searle escaped.

"William Searle, Mrs. Abbott's father, went out through the wilderness with the family, having twelve women and children under his care. I have seen a memorandum kept by him. It runs thus :

" 'Battle of Westmoreland, July 3, 1778.

" 'Capitulation ye 4th.

" 'Prisoners obtained liberty to leave settlement ye 7th.'

"The account proceeds to the 25th when they arrived at their former residence in Stonington, Conn."

It will be seen from this memoranda that at that time it took eighteen days to go from the Wyoming valley to Connecticut.

Continuing his account of the Searle family, Mr. Pearce says :

"Four of the name, to wit : Roger, William, Constant and Miner Searle, were, forty-five years ago (in 1800), among the most intelligent and influential citizens upon the Lackawanna. But they all died in mid-life. Constant, who was in the battle, died at Providence, August 4, 1804, aged forty-five years. Their descendants retain or possess several of the most valuable farms in old Westmoreland."

In Postmaster Searle's time Nathaniel Cottrill kept a tav-

ern on the site now occupied by the Bristol House, in Providence. Mr. Cottrill also kept a general store on the opposite (southwest) corner of the street and the postmaster was once a clerk in the latter establishment.

Voltaire Searle held the office of postmaster at Providence between 1839-40.

JACOB R. BLOOM, SR.

Jacob R. Bloom, postmaster of Providence from 1840 to 1845, was born in Bennington, Vermont, November 14, 1802. He first settled in Blakely, afterward resided in Dunmore, and finally settled in Providence. There were only six houses in the north end when he settled there. He was a wheel-wright by trade, but was quite handy with all kinds of tools, and built with his own hands the house in which he resided. In the early forties he owned a hotel on North Main avenue and, as a host, he was always noted for his kindness and hospitality. He was quite liberal in his religious views and loved his fellow man of every and no denomination. There was nothing narrow or "small" about "Jake" Bloom. Although a non-Catholic he donated to the Catholics a large plot of land on which they built their church in Providence. He also gave several lots to persons too poor to pay for them.

When Mr. Bloom was constable in Providence there was as much, if not more, respect for persons and property as when there was a whole squad of police there.

In politics Mr. Bloom was a pronounced Democrat and would never, at any time, nor under any consideration, go back on his principles. It was one of his boasts that he voted for every Democratic nominee for president, from Andrew Jackson, in 1828, to William Jennings Bryan, in 1896.

Mr. Bloom was three times the Democratic nominee for sheriff of Luzerne county, but met with defeat each time.

He was possessed of considerable wealth but lost most of it by assuming several financial obligations incurred by his friends.

Mr. Bloom died at Providence, May 15, 1897. He was a member of Hiram Lodge of Masons, organized in Providence in 1852. He was twice married and was the father of seventeen children. His first wife was Clara La France. His second wife was Miss Clara Wall, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Wall, of Benton township.

Five children survive Mr. Bloom. They are Caleb, of St. Paul, Minn. ; Mrs. Ruth Clark, of California ; Mrs. C. P. Grant, of Green Ridge ; Frank M., of St. Louis, and Mrs. Joseph R. Silkman, of Providence.

Jacob R. Bloom, Jr., one of the sons of the subject of our sketch, was postmaster of Providence from 1867 to 1869. He died in 1871. A short biography of him appears elsewhere in this book.

#### JOHN P. HARDING.

John P. Harding was postmaster of Providence for one year (1845-46) under the administration of James Knox Polk. Mr. Harding was an employe in "Nat" Cottrill's hotel at "the corners," and was quite popular with all classes of the community. His predecessor, J. R. Bloom, notwithstanding that he was an ardent Democrat, and an appointee of President Martin Van Buren, managed to retain his office under the administrations of Presidents William Henry Harrison and John Tyler until 1845. John Silkman, one of the oldest residents of Providence, says that at that time a dispute arose between Mr. Cottrill and Mr. Bloom with the result that Mr. Cottrill used his influence to have Mr. Bloom superseded by Mr. Harding, and succeeded in displacing the latter as postmaster of Providence.

#### DAVID S. KOON.

David S. Koon was postmaster at Providence from 1846 to 1849 during the administration of President Polk. He was of Knickerbocker Dutch origin. His father, Henry Koon, settled in New York state and was a soldier in the war of 1812.

David S. was born in Dutchess county, September 9, 1818. He received a common school education and graduated in a printing office at Carbondale, Pa. He read law in the office of D. K. Lathrope, of Carbondale, and was admitted to the bar January 5, 1848. He practiced at Carbondale, Providence and Pittston. He was appointed cargo inspector of the North Branch Canal and had his office at Beech Haven for about a year. That was about 1853. He was afterward appointed collector of canal tolls, at Pittston, Pa., and held this office for four years.

Mr. Koon was elected to the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania in 1866, and in 1867 he was appointed deputy revenue assessor under President Johnson. He at different times held several township and borough offices. He was married in January, 1849, to Eliza A., daughter of Amasa Hollister, of Kingston township. He died a few years ago at Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

#### HENRY REICHARD.

Henry Reichard, postmaster of Providence between 1849 and 1851, was born at Easton, Pa., in 1814. He was a tailor by trade. His wife was Catherine Ackerly, daughter of John and Elizabeth Ackerly, of Abington township. Mr. Reichard took quite an active interest in politics. In his time it was customary to have vocal as well as instrumental music at political gatherings and he frequently sang for the delectation of the multitude.

I. A. Reichard, one of Postmaster Reichard's sons, holds an important position in the coal department of the Delaware & Hudson Company at Scranton, and another son, N. L. Reichard, is an employe of the Ontario & Western Railroad at Carbondale.

#### CHARLES TOWNSEND ATWATER.

Charles Townsend Atwater was appointed postmaster of Providence in 1851, and died the following year. His widow,

Elizabeth, finished the unexpired term of his postmastership (1852-54).

Postmaster Atwater was born in New Haven, Conn., March 2, 1813. He was educated in the public schools in that city. In the early twenties he came with his father, Heaton Atwater, to Mount Pleasant, Wayne county. The latter gentleman moved to Hyde Park about the year 1830 and, for a time, was proprietor of the White hotel. He died in Hyde Park in 1832.

On October 24, 1834, Postmaster Atwater was married to Elizabeth Snyder and went to Mount Pleasant where he remained a year. He then returned to Providence and shortly thereafter went into the mercantile business in that place and at Dunmore. He resided at Providence and died there October 22, 1853.

Postmaster Atwater had eight children—three sons and five daughters. His oldest son, H. H. Atwater, was for forty years cashier of the First National Bank at Patchuna and died there August 10, 1897. Charles, the second son, now resides in Scranton, and William, the third son, in West Pittston. Postmaster Atwater's daughter, Miss Ellen, was married on November 25, 1854, to Charles Law, one of West Pittston's most prominent and respected citizens. The couple still reside there. Miss Elizabeth was married to Solon Woodward and lives at Carbondale. The three other daughters were also married. They were Mrs. Angelina M. Gurney, of Vestal, N. Y., deceased; Mrs. Mary C. Ryman, of Dallas, Pa., deceased, and Mrs. Frances Woodward, of Willow Springs, Mo.

Postmaster Atwater was a lineal descendant of David Atwater, who emigrated from the South of England, and settled in New Haven, Conn., in 1638. David died in that city October 5, 1692. One of the ancestors of the subject of our sketch was killed in a battle with the British at Cornpo

Hill, April 28, 1777. Postmaster Atwater was a man of sterling honesty and was beloved and respected by all his neighbors, irrespective of their class, creed or nationality.

#### SYLVANUS EASTABROOKS.

Sylvanus Eastabrooks, postmaster of Providence in the year 1854, was born at Wysox, Pa., in February, 1818. He learned the wheel-wright trade at Troy, Pa., and was married at that place. He moved to Providence and conducted a wagon shop in all its departments until 1841, part of the time individually and part of the time as a partner in the firm of Eastabrooks & Barton, and later he was in partnership with Mr. Bell. He moved to Towanda, Pa., in 1864, and engaged in the mercantile business for a few years. From Towanda he went to Elmira, and was in the service of the Northern Central Railroad Company until 1882, when he died. Mr. Eastabrooks was a member of the first board of school directors of Providence borough.

W. N. Eastabrooks, a son of the deceased postmaster, lives at Elmira, N. Y. He is the vice-president and general manager of the New York and Pennsylvania Telephone and Telegraph Company.

#### DR. HORACE HOLLISTER.

Dr. Horace H. Hollister succeeded Sylvanus Eastabrooks in 1854 as postmaster of Providence, and held the office until 1861. He was a man of considerable literary ability and the writer of some historical works dealing with matters in the Lackawanna valley. He was one of the most skillful physicians in the country and had a large practice. He was of a kind, genial disposition and his greatest delight was to go about doing good.

Dr. Hollister was born in Salem, Wayne county, Pa., November 2, 1822. He was raised on his father's farm. He received a common school education at his home and was a pupil in academies at Bethany and Honesdale between 1840

and 1843. During the summer months of 1837 and 1838 he was engaged in transporting general merchandise on the North Branch canal, the Union canal and Schuylkill canal from Philadelphia to Wilkes-Barre, and was then known as Captain Hollister. He afterward studied medicine with Dr. Charles Burr, of Salem, with Dr. Ebenezer T. Losey, of Honesdale, and with Dr. Benjamin Throop, then of Providence. He graduated from the University of the City of New York in March, 1846, and immediately began the practice of his profession at Providence, Pa. Among his literary works are "History of the Lackawanna Valley," "Coal Notes," "History of the Delaware & Hudson Canal Company," and "Recollections of Our Physicians." He also wrote several interesting magazine and newspaper articles. He died in Scranton, December 29, 1893.

Dr. Hollister's collection of Indian stone relics is acknowledged to be the largest and most complete of its kind in the world. The collection comprises 20,000 pieces of stone, burned clay, bone and copper, each piece representing every kind of weapon used by the savages of North America. The collection is valued at \$10,000. Efforts have been made from time to time by the Smithsonian Institution at Washington, D. C., to obtain this fine collection, but the doctor refused to part with it, and it is still on exhibition at his late residence on North Main avenue, Providence.

Dr. Hollister was a member of several historical societies. His talented and gracious sister, "Stella of Lackawanna" (Mrs. Harriet G. Watres), is a poetess whose many tender and beautiful compositions have delighted thousands of people. Dr. Hollister's nephew, Dr. P. G. Goodrich, is the author of the "History of Wayne County, Pa."

BENJAMIN P. COUCH.

Benjamin P. Couch, postmaster of Providence from 1861 to 1867, was born in Connecticut in 1822, and came at an

early age to Pennsylvania, settling first at Uniondale. Shortly after his arrival there he was joined in marriage to Miss Catherine Hice. One son, George D., was born to them June 19, 1848.

The family moved from Uniondale to Providence in 1853 and Mr. Couch became a partner in business with Sweet Gardner.

George D. Couch, the postmaster's son, was educated at the public schools in Providence and afterward took a short commercial course in the Wyoming Seminary. He entered the Second National Bank of Scranton at the age of eighteen and remained with that institution for a year, after which he went to Carbondale and was engaged for twenty-six years as teller in the First National Bank there. He also conducted an extensive insurance business. Mr. Couch was married to Miss Lydia J. Clark, daughter of Stephen S. and Jane (Jordan) Clark, July 8, 1873. Four children, three of whom survive, were born to them. The latter are George Franklin, Helen and Fred. Mr. Couch died June 19, 1894. His widow, assisted by her eldest son, George, still conduct the insurance business started by Mr. Couch at Carbondale. Postmaster Benjamin Couch died May 1, 1874.

#### JACOB R. BLOOM, JR.

Jacob R. Bloom, Jr., was postmaster at Providence from 1867 to 1869. He was a son of Postmaster Jacob R. Bloom, Sr. He was born in 1843. He was a carpenter by trade. His wife was Miss Marion Burnham, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hezekiah Burnham. She is now the principal of the public school in Park Place. Mr. Bloom died November 20, 1871. At the time of his death he was weigh-master and telegraph operator for the Delaware & Hudson Company at the Cayuga shaft.

#### DR. HENRY ROBERTS.

Dr. Henry Roberts was postmaster of Providence from 1869 until 1883, when the office there was abolished and



merged into that of Scranton. He was born June 14, 1821, in the township of Eaton, Wyoming county, Pa. His father was the Hon. Henry Roberts, for many years associate judge, justice of the peace, and one of the commissioners of old Luzerne county.

Dr. Roberts took up his residence in Providence in 1850, when it was a small village, and when the land now comprising Scranton was almost an uninhabited swamp. He received a common school education. He entered Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, in May, 1843, and graduated in 1845. He married in 1848, Lucetta Hartley, daughter of Judge William Hartley, of Susquehanna county. Six children were born to them. One of the daughters was the wife of the late Dr. Furman B. Gulick, of Scranton. Dr. Roberts practiced medicine for five years at Laceyville, Wyoming county, and in May, 1850, took up his residence in Providence. He was a member of an expedition that set out in 1859 to explore the country west of the Missouri; he was accidentally shot by the discharge of a gun in the hands of a companion, July, 1859, and lost the use of his right arm; he removed to Salt Lake City and was the guest of Brigham Young's family physician; he travelled through California; returned to Providence in 1861 and resumed the practice of medicine.

In 1863 Dr. Roberts enrolled a full company of men in less than twenty-four hours and accompanied them to Camp Curtin at Harrisburg where he organized the Thirtieth Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteer Militia, with W. N. Monies as their colonel, and served with it as volunteer surgeon until the discharge of the regiment.

In 1864 he was commissioned by President Lincoln, examining surgeon for claimants for pensions and held that office for years. In 1866 he was elected a member of the select council of the newly formed city of Scranton and was re-elected to that office for nine years.

Dr. Roberts is of Whig stock and when the Republican party came into existence he became one of its staunchest supporters. He was a candidate for Congress from the Twelfth District of Pennsylvania in 1878 and not only secured his full party vote, but drew largely from the ranks of the Democrats. Dr. Roberts is a man of refinement and culture and has a winning manner. He is the soul of honor and is intelligent, amiable and wise.

JOHN W. MOORE.

John Wildrick Moore was appointed postmaster of Scranton in 1850, and held the office for nearly three years. His successor was Joel Amsden who was postmaster for only two or three months in 1853.

Postmaster John W. Moore was born in Hardwick, N. J., September 28, 1809, and was married to Miss Edna Laing, of his native place. At an early age he went to Belvidere, N. J., and spent some years there. In 1846 he came to what is now Scranton, and opened his tailor shop in the Hollow here. He had four sons—Martin, Austin, Sylvester and Eugene. Austin died in 1894. The other sons are now living in New Jersey. M. G. Moore, son of Austin Moore and grandson of Postmaster Moore, holds a responsible and lucrative position with the Cambria Steel Company, at Johnstown, Pa.

Postmaster Moore was for many years chief clerk in the grocery department of the Lackawanna Coal & Iron Company's store in Scranton.

During Mr. Moore's postmastership the name of the post-office was changed from Scranton to Scranton (January 27, 1851). Postmaster Moore died in 1882.

MAJOR JOEL AMSDEN.

Major Joel Amsden, who, for a couple of months in 1853, was John W. Moore's successor as postmaster of Scranton, was born in Hartland, Vt., September 5, 1812, and was the son of Joseph and Jerusha Brown Amsden. In 1834 he grad-

uated from the Norwich University—a military academy founded at Norwich, Vt., in 1819 by Captain Alden Partridge, a graduate of West Point in 1806. His first employment was with what is now the New York, Lake Erie & Western Railroad. From 1838 to 1846 he was the resident engineer of Erie and Black River canals with headquarters at Booneville and afterward at Rome, N. Y. He then spent three years practicing his profession in Boston, Mass., and afterward located at Easton, Pa., where he was called to remodel the Glendon Iron Works at that place. At the solicitation of Colonel George W. Scranton he came to Scranton in 1850, and became connected with the Lackawanna Iron & Coal Co.

Major Amsden laid out for the company the plot for the borough of Scranton, and drew plans for St. Peter's Cathedral. He was the resident engineer of the Northern and Southern Division of the D. L. & W. R. R. at Scranton, and subsequently chief engineer. From 1857 to the time of his death in 1868 he practiced his profession of architect and engineer in Scranton.

During Mr. Amsden's residence in Rome, N. Y., he was commissioned as brigade inspector, with the rank of major, of the Fifth Brigade of Artillery of New York State. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Major Amsden was married at Booneville in 1838, to Anna Theresa Power, daughter of Nicholas Power, who belonged to a distinguished Waterford and Tipperary Irish family of that name. Mrs. Amsden survived her husband about fourteen years. Five children were born of the marriage : Frank P., a student of the Norwich University; Fred. J., Lieut. Signal Corps, U. S., Brevet Captain and now an architect and highly esteemed and respected resident of Scranton; Anna L., Charles J. and Victoria A. Admiral George Dewey was a graduate of Norwich University, from which Major Amsden graduated, and it has been the alma

mater for such distinguished men as Gideon Wells and Ex-Governor Horatio Seymour, of New York, and General G. M. Dodge.

Captain Frank P. Amsden, above referred to, was commissioned First Lieutenant, Battery H, First Pennsylvania Volunteer Light Artillery, August 1, 1861. In the spring of 1862 he was detailed on recruiting service and placed in charge of Camp Curtin, Harrisburg, Pa. He was afterward made Acting Adjutant and Quartermaster of the Artillery Battalion, First Division, Fourth Corps, Army of the Potomac. Just prior to the Peninsular Campaign, Mr. Amsden was transferred to Battery G, Seymour's Division, Fifth Corps, Army of the Potomac. He was in the battles of Mechanicsville, Kings Mills, Charles Street Cross Roads and Malvern Hill.

At Kings Mills, Captain Kern was wounded and Lieutenant Amsden was put in command. Two of the six guns of the Battery were lost.

At the second battle of Bull Run Captain Kern was killed and the remainder of the battery, except two caissons, were lost.

Lieutenant Amsden was then ordered to Washington and commissioned captain. He reorganized the battery and was assigned to duty with Artillery Brigade, Third Division, First Corps, Army of the Potomac. He was engaged in the battle of Fredricksburg, December 13, 1862, where his horse was shot under him. He served in Burnside's second campaign at Chancellorsville. Captain Amsden resigned May 25, 1863, on account of disabilities contracted in the service.

#### DR. BENJAMIN H. THROOP.

Dr. Benjamin H. Throop, postmaster of Scranton between 1853 and 1857, was born in Oxford, Chenango county, N. Y., November 9, 1811. He received his earlier education in the old Oxford Academy where he had as classmates Hon.

Horatio Seymour, Hon. Ward Hunt and other distinguished men. He graduated in medicine at the Fairfield Medical College.

Dr. Throop first practiced medicine at Honesdale, Pa., and rose rapidly to a high position in his profession. He removed to Oswego, N. Y., in 1835 and spent nearly a year there. He then went to New York city and practiced his profession until 1840 and returning to Pennsylvania the same year he settled at Providence, October 8. He soon after married a sister of the wife of Sanford Grant, a gentleman connected with G. W. and Selden T. Scranton in the purchase of Slocum Hollow. Of the five children born to Dr. and Mrs. Throop only one, Mrs. H. B. Phelps, survives. His son, Dr. George S. Throop, was a well known and popular young physician, although he did not practice his profession to any great extent. He died in 1894.

Dr. Throop removed to Scranton in 1845. In 1853 he purchased valuable tracts of coal land, and when the opening of the D. L. & W. R. R. established direct communication with New York, the value of these tracts was very much enhanced. By leasing some of these valuable properties he soon began to acquire wealth, and to extend his operations. He organized many companies, laid out the village of Price in Blakely township and sold land to the early settlers in that place. He took a prominent part in the movement for the creation of Lackawanna county.

He was one of the first physicians of old Luzerne county to respond to the call for volunteers in 1861. He was commissioned surgeon of the Eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, April 23, 1861, and immediately thereafter established the first field hospital. After the battle of Antietam the doctor did duty for several weeks as a volunteer surgeon and established the Smoketown field hospital in a forest. All the seriously wounded were taken there from the other field hospitals

and treated. Dr. Throop remained with the army till it went to Harper's Ferry. The hard work and exposure he had been subjected to began to tell on his hitherto splendid physique. He suffered from a severe attack of typhoid fever and was reluctantly compelled to abandon his army duties. On his return home his business engagements required so much of his time and attention that he was obliged to give up almost altogether the practice of medicine.

Postmaster Throop was one of the originators of the Scranton Gas & Water Company. He organized the first milk route in the city and established the first drug store here. He contributed to the support of St. Luke's Church of which he was a member. He also donated money to churches of other denominations. He was prominent in the establishment of the first lodge of Odd Fellows in Scranton. He was one of the incorporators and a member of the first board of directors of the Lackawanna Hospital. His daughter, Mrs. Horace B. Phelps, built the Throop Memorial attached to the St. Luke's Episcopal Church at a cost of \$30,000. It is one of the finest institutions of its kind in the county.

#### LATON S. FULLER.

Laton S. Fuller, postmaster of Scranton between 1857 and 1861, was born on a farm in the Wyoming valley, May 2, 1824, and continued to reside there till he was twenty-five years of age. He was educated in the public schools. He was a druggist by profession and conducted a drug store in Scranton until 1886, when he retired. In 1891 he built a handsome residence at Elmhurst and resided there till shortly before his death. The parents of Mr. Fuller were Charles and Maria (Scovell) Fuller, natives respectively of Connecticut and the Wyoming valley. Both of them died at an advanced age. They had nine children, the following of whom survive: Mary L., and Mrs. C. E. Brown, both of whom reside at Binghamton, N. Y., and Francis M.

Postmaster Fuller kept the postoffice in his drug store in this city, on Lackawanna avenue near Penn avenue. He began business with a very small capital but managed by his ability and industry to accumulate a modest fortune. He was a Democrat in politics.

DOUGLAS H. JAY.

Douglas H. Jay, postmaster of Scranton from 1861 to 1864, is the son of Nelson and Sydney (Hiles) Jay. He was born in Belvidere, Warren county, N. J., December 19, 1830, and educated in the schools there. He came to Scranton with Colonel Scranton in 1847.

Mr. Jay remained with Colonel Scranton for some time and then served as mail agent under President Pierce on the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western R. R. He was appointed postmaster in 1861 by President Lincoln, but resigned in 1864 to join the army. He was enrolled as a member of Company G, One Hundred and Eighty-Seventh Pennsylvania Infantry, and during his service he was detailed as clerk under Generals Couch, Cadwalder and Meade. He was mustered out in 1865 and returned to Scranton to take a position in the postoffice. After a few years he became bookkeeper for the Lackawanna Iron & Coal Company and remained with it until 1890.

Mr. Jay served as member of the poor board for six years and during his time the Hillside Home was started. He was at one time connected with the Odd Fellows and is a member of the Masonic fraternity. His wife was Miss Elizabeth Carling, and seven children were born to them. The children are Ellen C., wife of Attorney James H. Torrey; Annie L., wife of H. A. Connell, the well known jeweler; William C., foreman with the Pennsylvania Roofing Company; George G., an electrician; James Scranton, a clerk with the Colliery Engineer Company; Kate, Mrs. R. G. Jermyn, of Oswego, N. Y., and Joseph Nelson, at home.

## A. HAMPTON COURSEN.

A. Hampton Coursen, postmaster of Scranton from March 8, 1864, to November 30, 1866, was born in Deckertown, N. J., in 1832. He is a self-taught gentleman and a highly respected citizen. He came to Scranton when he was fourteen years old, and was engaged as clerk for the Lackawanna Iron & Coal Company for about three years. He went to New York at the age of seventeen and was a clerk for his uncle, G. H. Coursen, a wholesale grocer at 76 Cortlandt street. He remained in New York for three years and then returned to Scranton, immediately thereafter going to Buffalo, N. Y., where he was employed in the coal office of the D. L. & W. R. R. Co. Coming back to Scranton again he was engaged in the same capacity. Then he returned to work at the Lackawanna Iron & Coal Company's store. In 1857, when the financial panic came, the company decreed that all unmarried men were to be discharged, and Mr. Coursen was among the number that had to relinquish his position with that corporation.

After quitting the Lackawanna Iron & Coal Company, Mr. Coursen was engaged as express messenger for A. D. Hope on the Lackawanna & Bloomsburg road.

In 1860 Mr. Coursen was appointed mail agent and was engaged in that capacity until 1864, when he was appointed postmaster by President Lincoln.

In 1866 President Johnston removed Mr. Coursen and appointed Dr. W. H. Pier to fill his place. Mr. Coursen, however, remained in the postoffice for nearly three years afterward as Dr. Pier's deputy.

After leaving the postoffice, Mr. Coursen opened a grocery store at 427 Lackawanna avenue where he did a large and prosperous business for over twenty years. He now lives in retirement with his family at No. 615 Mulberry street, Scranton, Pa.



Mr. Coursen was twice married, his first wife, whom he wedded in 1867, was Miss Anna M. Burr, of Northumberland, Pa. Two children, Mary B. and Jessie S., were born of the marriage. Miss Jessie is married to B. E. Watson, secretary of the Scranton Stove Works. Mr. Coursen's second wife, to whom he was married in 1874, was Miss Kate E. Wheatley, of Northumberland, Pa.

DR. WILLIAM H. PIER.

Dr. William H. Pier, postmaster of Scranton from 1866 to 1869, was the only son of William and Caroline (Hathaway) Pier. He was born in Warren, Warren county, Pa., in 1822; received his diploma from the Chenango County Medical Society in August, 1845, and opened an office in the October following in Hyde Park.

Dr. Pier was three times married. His first wife was Mary M., daughter of Dr. Silas B. Robinson, of Hyde Park. She died in 1853. His second wife was Frances D. Throop, of Nineveh, N. Y., a niece of the late Dr. Throop. She died in 1871. Dr. Walter B. Pier, of Duryea, and Dr. William F. Pier, of Avoca, are children of this union. Dr. Pier's third wife was Mrs. Coolbaugh (nee Sieger), of Dunmore.

Dr. Pier was elected prothonotary of old Luzerne county in 1861, and served in that office for four years. He was a splendid specimen of true manhood, an honor to the people and a credit to his profession. He was kind and generous to a fault, and was at all times ready to do everything he could to relieve human suffering in whatever form it appeared. He was beloved by rich and poor alike.

Dr. Pier was of New England stock. His ancestors came to America over one hundred and fifty years ago. He died in 1898, at the home of his son, Dr. William F. Pier, in Avoca, and was interred in the old Dunmore cemetery. His father and mother, and his two first wives were also laid to rest in this graveyard.

## JAMES SCOVELL SLOCUM.

James Scovell Slocum, postmaster of Scranton from 1869 to 1874, was the son of Laton Slocum and Gratey (Scovell) Slocum. He was born July 12, 1827, and was raised on a farm in Exeter. He moved to Scranton in 1854. He was a Republican in politics, and took an active part in the campaign of 1856. He was part owner of the Scranton Republican. He was elected a member of the Republican State Central Committee in 1860, and attended the National Convention in Chicago as a delegate from that body. He furnished two men to do his share of the fighting in the late Civil War, and, in 1862, went himself as a member of the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Militia, under Colonel Johnson. In 1863 he was chairman of the Sanitary Commission at Scranton, when over \$6,000 was raised for the soldiers.

President Grant reappointed him postmaster in 1874, but in a few weeks he resigned the office and went to live on his farm at Exeter, where he was elected justice of the peace, overseer of the poor and to other offices.

Postmaster James Slocum's sister, Frances Carey Slocum, was married to Colonel Richard A. Oakford, December 27, 1843. Three children were born to them—Laton S., who was accidentally killed in Virginia, Major James W. and Miss Annie. The latter is married to W. O. Cox. At the breaking out of the Civil War, Colonel Oakford was acting justice of the peace. As colonel of the Fifteenth Regiment, he went out with the first body of three months men, and on his return he raised the One Hundred and Thirty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers, of which he was elected colonel. While gallantly leading his men in the thickest of the fight he was killed at Antietam, September 17, 1862.

Postmaster Slocum was killed by a Lehigh Valley train near Exeter, April 19, 1897. His untimely death was sincerely mourned by all classes of the community.

## JOSEPH A. SCRANTON.

Joseph Augustine Scranton, postmaster of Scranton from 1874 to 1881, is the only son of Joseph H. and Eliza Maria (Wilcox) Scranton, and was born July 26, 1838, at Madison, Conn. He graduated from Phillips Academy, at Andover, Mass., in 1857. He then entered Yale College, but owing to delicate health he was compelled to withdraw from that institution during the freshman year.

On July 23, 1864, Mr. Scranton and Miss Ada Elizabeth, eldest daughter of General A. N. Meylert, were united in marriage. They have two children, Robert Meylert, born June 11, 1865, and Eliza, born July 20, 1868. Mrs. Scranton died October 22, 1900.

Robert M. Scranton married Miss Helen L. Sperry, of Hartford, Conn., November 19, 1890. They have had no children. Mr. Scranton is engaged in partnership with his father in the Republican establishment. Miss Eliza Scranton was married to Captain Daniel L. Tate, of the United States Army, on February 14, 1893. They have one child, Joseph Scranton Tate, born December 18, 1894.

In 1862 President Lincoln appointed Mr. Scranton Internal Revenue Collector for the Twelfth Congressional District, which then comprised the counties of Luzerne and Susquehanna. He served in that office until 1866.

In September, 1867, Mr. Scranton purchased an interest in the Scranton Republican and founded the daily edition of that paper in the following November. In March, 1869, he assumed full ownership of the paper, and in 1871 he built the fine and well appointed printing house on Wyoming avenue. In April, 1888, the Republican was moved to the five-story building on Washington avenue, built by Mr. Scranton for the business, its growth demanding more commodious quarters.

President Grant appointed Mr. Scranton postmaster of

Scranton April 1, 1874, and he was reappointed by President Hayes in 1878.

Mr. Scranton was the Republican candidate for Congress for sixteen consecutive years. He was elected to the National House of Representatives in 1880 from the Twelfth Congressional District which then comprised parts of Luzerne and Lackawanna counties. He was re-elected to the Forty-ninth, Fifty-first, Fifty-third and Fifty-fourth Congresses. During his first term in Congress he passed a bill authorizing the erection of a Federal building in Scranton. In his second term he passed a bill securing sessions of the United States courts in Scranton, and increased the appropriation for the Scranton Federal building to \$250,000. During his congressional career he introduced and established the letter carrier system in the cities of Scranton, Carbondale and Wilkes-Barre.

Mr. Scranton has been an active member of the Republican party for over forty years. In 1872 he was a delegate to the National Republican convention at Philadelphia, and in 1888 a delegate to the National Republican convention at Chicago; has frequently been delegate to the state and county conventions of the party, and chairman of county committees, both in Luzerne and Lackawanna counties. In November, 1900, he was elected treasurer of Lackawanna county.

#### EDWARD CHARLES FULLER.

Edward Charles Fuller, postmaster of Scranton from 1881 to 1885, under the Garfield and Arthur administrations, was born in Wyoming, Luzerne county, June 8, 1826. He was a brother of Postmaster Laton S. Fuller. He was educated in Wyoming Seminary. Having learned the rope-making trade, he became salesman for his father in this section of the state. After two years of this service he went to Baltimore, Md., where he was clerk in Barnum's hotel, which was at that time one of the principal hostelries at "the mouth of the South." Returning from there to Scranton he studied pharmacy under

Dr. Benjamin Throop, and was later associated with the doctor in the drug business. When this partnership was dissolved, Mr. Fuller went to Hawley, Pa., and opened a drug store there. He removed to Scranton in 1852 and resided in the Electric city till the time of his death, which occurred on January 25, 1894.

On his return from Hawley, Mr. Fuller opened a drug store at 303 Lackawanna avenue, under the name of L. S. & E. L. Fuller, and continued to do business at that stand for four years.

In 1860 Mr. Fuller was elected school controller, which position he held for several years. He was treasurer of this board for some time. In 1890 he was elected assistant assessor, retiring in 1893, but remaining for a while in the office as a clerk to the board. He was director and treasurer of the Lackawanna Hospital, when that institution was established. He was president of the Dunmore Cemetery Association, and was also one of the charter members of the First Presbyterian Church. He was a kind, genial and charitable man, a splendid conversationalist and popular with all classes. He took an active part in politics and was one of the leaders of the Republican party.

On January 2, 1849, Mr. Fuller was married to Miss Helen Ruthven, of Wyoming. The three surviving sons of this marriage are: Charles R., Edward L. and James A. Fuller. Mrs. Fuller died in 1893.

#### D. W. CONNOLLY.

D. W. Connolly, postmaster of Scranton between 1885 and 1889, was born at Cochection, Sullivan county, N. Y., April 24, 1847. His parents located in Hyde Park when he was only two years of age, and he received his education in the public schools of that borough. He was was bright and studious and gave promise of making his mark in the world. In his nineteenth year he entered the office of the Lacka-

wanna Herald, which was edited by the late E. S. M. Hill, and was employed as a clerk and proof-reader. In 1872 he was the nominee of the "Labor Reform Party" for the district attorneyship. Although he failed of election he received very flattering Republican support, especially in his own district where he received a large majority of that party's vote. In 1878 he was nominated for president judge of Lackawanna county by the Democratic and National Greenback Labor parties, and received a larger vote than any other candidate on the ticket. His opponent was Judge Benjamin S. Bentley, of Williamsport. After the election the question was brought before the Supreme court that no vacancy for a president judge existed, and Mr. Connolly was therefore unable to take his seat on the bench.

In 1882 Mr. Connolly was elected as a Democrat to the Forty-eighth Congress, and at the expiration of his term he was appointed postmaster by Grover Cleveland. He was an able lawyer and a man of unimpeachable character, and was popular with all classes of citizens. Mr. Connolly's father was a prominent railroad contractor. He married Miss Ann Adelia Allyn, a daughter of Deacon Allyn, of Montgomery, Mass., whose father fought under General Washington in the War for Independence. Miss Allyn's grandmother was a Tyler and a near relative of the president of the United States.

Postmaster Connolly died December 4, 1894.

#### D. M. JONES.

D. M. Jones, postmaster of Scranton from 1889 to 1893, was born at Rhymney, Breconshire, Wales, June 26, 1839. He came to America with his father in 1851. The family went to Hyde Park in 1854. David worked as a boy in the old Diamond mine, and later was apprenticed to the moulder's trade in the foundry of the D. L. & W. R. R. shops. In 1858 he traveled in California and other western states, where he was engaged in prospecting and mining. He

returned to Scranton via the Isthmus of Panama, and in 1864 he was mustered into Company I, One Hundred and Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania Infantry, and was sent to his regiment.

On April 2, the day on which Richmond and Petersburg fell, he was serving as a corporal in the charge on Fort Gregg, and was shot in the right thigh, receiving such a serious wound that it was necessary to amputate his leg, the operation being performed on the field. He was honorably discharged from the service, October 1, 1865. He was elected alderman of the Fourth ward in May, 1876. In the fall of that year he was elected to the legislature and served during the sessions of 1877-78. He was appointed deputy city treasurer, under Reese T. Evans, in June, 1878, and succeeded him in office by election in February, 1879. He served two terms in that office. He was several times chairman of the Republican county central committee and its treasurer in 1894.

President Benjamin Harrison appointed Mr. Jones postmaster of Scranton April 20, 1889, Mr. Jones being the first postmaster appointed under that administration. He held the office for four years and one month. Mr. Jones was an active business man during all his life. He assisted in organizing the Scranton & Pottsville Coal & Land Company, of which he was secretary; aided in forming the Cambrian Mutual Fire Insurance Company, in 1871, and was treasurer of the concern till his death; was also treasurer of the Schuylkill Coal Company, and several other corporations.

Mr. Jones was for two years associate judge of the mayor's court of Scranton. The passage of the bill creating Lackawanna county was due, in a considerable degree, to his untiring efforts and the efforts of his friends.

Mr. Jones was twice married. His first wife was Miss Hannah Edwards, of Clifford, Susquehanna county. She died in Scranton in December, 1871. Two children were

born of this marriage, but both of them are deceased. On September 23, 1873, Mr. Jones married Miss Annie E. Williams, a daughter of James Williams, formerly a merchant of Plymouth and now a resident of Nanticoke. Their children are Edgar A., Helen E., Dorothy M. and Ethel H.

Comrade Jones attended several Grand Army encampments. He was a member of the Willie Jones Post, No. 199, named in honor of his brother; he was connected with the Lieutenant Ezra Griffin Post, No. 139, in which he served as quartermaster and trustee. He was a member of the Knights of Pythias and was Past Chancellor of Hyde Park lodge, No. 306. He died October 25, 1896. Mr. Jones was a good and patriotic citizen and the world is better for his having lived in it.

#### FRANK M. VANDLING.

Frank M. Vandling, postmaster of Scranton from May 13, 1893, to 1897, was born at Harrisburg, Pa., October 29, 1865. He is the son of John and Mary (Jack) Vandling, natives of Northumberland county and Harrisburg, respectively. He attended the public schools at Harrisburg; learned telegraphy and was appointed operator for the Delaware & Hudson Company at Providence, Pa. Immediately thereafter he was appointed weigh-master and coal inspector for the same company at Moosic, and a year later, general coal inspector for the Wilkes-Barre division of the road. He held that position until 1893, when he was appointed postmaster under Mr. Cleveland's second administration.

Mr. Vandling is married to Miss Helen Von Storch, daughter of Theodore Von Storch. The couple have two children, Theodore and Margaret. Mr. Vandling is a member of Hiram lodge, F. & A. M., and also of Melita Commandery, K. T., and the Consistory in Scranton. He is also a member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. He served for two years in the common council, to which body



he was elected when he was barely twenty-one years old. He is a Democrat, but was elected from a Republican ward in Providence.

He was a member of the Democratic county committee from 1890 to 1893, and at different times its chairman, secretary and treasurer. He was present at every state convention of his party since he entered politics, and in 1892 was a delegate to the National convention at Chicago that nominated Grover Cleveland for a second term. He was president of the Central Democratic Club in 1890. He was a member of the state central Democratic committee that elected William F. Harrity to succeed W. L. Scott as national committeeman.

#### WILLIAM MERRIFIELD.

The second postoffice established in the township of Providence was at the village of Hyde Park, on July 14, 1832, and William Merrifield was appointed postmaster. Shortly afterwards, having concluded to change his residence, he resigned the office and his father, Robert Merrifield, was appointed. The office was kept in a small building located at the place on Main street where now stands the Masonic hall. After an absence of about one year he returned to Hyde Park and was reappointed under date of June 16, 1834. He removed the office to his store house, a short distance northerly on Main street, and continued postmaster for about nine years. The old building, recently remodeled, still remains. On April 20, 1867, he was again appointed postmaster of Hyde Park by President Johnson. This appointment came wholly unsolicited and without his knowledge, having been made through the instrumentality of United States Senator Charles R. Buckalew. He erected a small building on the very spot where the postoffice had first been established and continued to hold the office for about two years, with his son, William, as chief deputy.

He was the second son of Robert Merrifield, whose bio-

graphical sketch follows. He was born in Dutchess county, New York, April 22, 1806. A few years after he had come to Providence township, in 1819, he engaged in teaching school, and was thus employed at Wyoming, Pa., when he made the acquaintance of Almira Swetland, whom he married on April 14, 1831. He entered into the mercantile business at Hyde Park, but through the solicitation of his brother-in-law, William Swetland, went to Centremoreland and opened a store. Here he was appointed postmaster. He returned to Hyde Park in about one year, where he continued the mercantile business, with the exception of occasional intervals, for more than forty years.

In 1842 he was elected a member of the house of representatives of Pennsylvania from Luzerne county. He was re-elected in 1843 and in 1844. The main issue at the time was the erection of the new county of Lackawanna. At the session of 1843, it was passed through the house and only defeated in the senate by a tie vote.

October 14, 1856, he was elected an associate judge of Luzerne county, which office he held for the term of five years. April 5, 1867, he was appointed one of the council for Hyde Park borough, and at different times served as school director. June 16, 1869, he was appointed mayor of Scranton in place of E. S. M. Hill, resigned, but refused to take upon himself the duties of the office. In August, 1870, he was elected president of the Hyde Park Bank, holding the position until his death. During his administration the institution had the confidence of the public and was prosperous.

In 1838 he, with William Rickeson and Zeno Albro, became the purchasers from the Slocum heirs of five hundred and three acres of land which now comprises the very heart of the business portion of the city of Scranton. They immediately set to work, by correspondence and otherwise, to call attention to the mineral wealth of this section and the advan-

tages of the locality for manufacturing purposes ; and in 1840 made a sale thereof to the Scrantons and Grant.

He died at his home in Hyde Park on June 4, 1877. He was a man of learning and ability and the esteem in which he was held by the community, was attested by the closing of the business places in Hyde Park on the day of his burial. He was the father of six children, all having died, with the exception of Edward Merrifield, the well known lawyer of Wyoming avenue.

Following is a copy of William Merrifield's first commission as postmaster :

POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, 14th July, 1832.

SIR :

I have concluded to establish a postoffice, by the name of Hyde Park, in the county of Luzerne and state of Pennsylvania, and to appoint you postmaster thereof, in which capacity you will be authorized to act, upon complying with the following requirements :

1st. To execute the enclosed bond, and cause it to be executed by two sufficient sureties, in the presence of suitable witnesses, and the sufficiency of the sureties to be certified by a qualified magistrate.

2nd. To take and subscribe the oath or affirmation of office enclosed, before a magistrate, who will certify the same.

3rd. To exhibit your bond and qualification duly executed, taken and certified as aforesaid, to the postmaster of Pittston, and then to deposit them in the mail, addressed to this department, office of appointments.

You are then entitled to enter on the duties of the office.

A packet, containing a mail key, blanks, laws and regulations of the department, and a table of postoffices, is transmitted to you, addressed to the care of the postmaster of Pittston, Luzerne county, Pa.

After the receipt, at this department, of your bond and qualifications, duly executed, taken and certified, and after my approval of the sufficiency of the same, a commission will be sent to you.

This letter will be your authority for calling on the mail carrier to supply your office with mail.

It will be your duty to continue in the charge of the office, personally or by assistant, till you are relieved from it by the consent of the department, which will be signified by the discontinuance of your office or appointment of your successor.

The quarters expire on the 31st of March, 30th of June, 30th September, and 31st December. Accounts must be rendered for each quarter.

Postmasters are unauthorized to give credit for postage. Want of funds, therefore, is no excuse for failure of payment.

Payments to the department must be punctually made, if called for by drafts, whenever the draft is presented.

If deposits are ordered, they should be made within ten days after the termination of the quarter, unless required to be made sooner.

No postmaster must change the name by which his office is designated on the books of the department, without my order therefor previously given.

Be careful, in mailing letters, to postmark each one, in all cases, with the name of your office and state ; and in all communications to the department, to embrace, in the date, the name of your postoffice, county (or district) and state.

Special attention to the foregoing instructions, and a careful perusal of, and frequent reference to, the law and general instructions, are expected of you and your assistants.

I am respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. T. BARRY,

by J. N. HOBBIÉ,

To WILLIAM MERRIFIELD, Esq.,  
Hyde Park, Pa.

Ass't P. M. Gen'l.

## ROBERT MERRIFIELD.

The second postmaster of Hyde Park was Robert Merrifield, whose commission is dated August 9, 1832. The location of the office was not changed. He remained postmaster until 1834, when he resigned, and William Merrifield was reappointed.

Robert Merrifield was born in Columbia county, New York, on November 16, 1778; was married to Catherine Welsey, February 12, 1804, by whom he had five children. In 1819 he moved with his family to Pennsylvania, settling upon lands in the immediate vicinity of what subsequently became Hyde Park village. In due time he became the occupant of the place owned by Rev. William Bishop, the pioneer preacher of this region, and the first settler on the church lands in Providence township which had been set apart by the Susquehanna Land Company for religious purposes. Here he was principally engaged in cultivating the farm of his son William. He died December 29, 1864, beloved as a good citizen and universally respected for his unflinching integrity.

His father was William Merrifield, born in Rhode Island in 1752. From there he went to Dutchess county, New York. In this and the adjoining county of Columbia he followed the occupation of a school teacher. He died in 1836.

His father, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was Robert Merrifield, born in Devonshire, England, in 1703. He was at one time an officer in the British Navy.

He emigrated to Rhode Island about 1740, and subsequently went with his family to Dutchess county, New York, where he died in 1800.

## JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

Joseph Griffin was the third postmaster appointed at Hyde Park. His appointment occurred during the administration of John Tyler in the year 1843. Mr. Griffin was postmaster

until 1846 when he was succeeded by O. P. Clarke. He moved the office from the village proper down to the store of William Blackman at Fellow's corners and held it about two years. Mr. Blackman, whose wife was a niece of Mr. Griffin, had almost the entire charge.

Joseph Griffin was born in Westchester county, New York, just prior to the year 1800. He was one of five brothers who came to Providence township, Stephen, Thomas, James, Isaac and Joseph. The latter came in 1816, and shortly purchased from a William Taylor a large farm at the lower end of the city, which included what is known as the round woods. He was at one time a justice of the peace of Providence township. In 1839 he was elected to the state legislature, serving one term. He was a man of intelligence and filled the various offices to the satisfaction of the public. His children were Henry, Joseph, Buriah, Adam, Mary, John, Elizabeth and Annie. During his life Henry was quite prominent in this city. He was one of the originators of the Hill-side Home for the Poor and occupied various public positions. They are all dead, with the exception of Buriah, now in the eighties, and living with his son on Market street, in this city.

#### OLIVER P. CLARKE.

Oliver P. Clarke, postmaster at Hyde Park from 1846 to 1857, was born in Wurtsboro, Ulster county, N. Y., in 1818. His parents were from Connecticut. At an early age he became a clerk in Honesdale, Pa. From there he went to Waymart and engaged in mercantile business. He came to Hyde Park in 1845 and entered into partnership with William Blackman, whose store was at Luzerne street and South Main avenue. In 1848 he moved to what is now 120 South Main avenue. He retired from business in 1871 and died at his home in 1889, aged seventy-two years. In politics he was a Republican. He was a public spirited citizen and was highly esteemed by everybody.

Mr. Clarke's wife was Miss Sarah A. Barton, of Washington, N. J. She died in Scranton in 1886. Seven children, four of whom are living, were born to them. Edwin A. is treasurer and manager of the Clarke Store Company of Scranton, and secretary, treasurer and manager of the West Ridge Coal Company. He received his education in the public schools and at the Claverack College, near Hudson, N. Y. Like his worthy father, he takes a deep interest in all that concerns the welfare of the city, and is quite popular with the whole community. He married Miss Kate A. Tanner, daughter of Alonzo Tanner, of Prompton, Wayne county, who for many years was connected with the Delaware & Hudson Railroad & Canal Company. They have two sons, Fred. A. and Edwin H. They are bright and promising boys whose education is being carefully attended to.

DR. SILAS M. WHEELER.

Dr. Silas M. Wheeler was postmaster of Hyde Park from 1857 to 1861, under the administration of James Buchanan. Dr. Wheeler located the office at the store of R. W. Luce, immediately opposite Price street, and made him the deputy. He was succeeded as postmaster by Joseph Turvey Fellows, who was appointed during the presidency of Abraham Lincoln.

Dr. Wheeler was born in Delaware county, New York, October 3, 1816. He received an academic education, read medicine and graduated at the University of New York. On March 20, 1849, he was married to Sarah G. Russell, of Windham, Bradford county, Pa., who is now residing with her daughter in Scranton.

Early in his professional career the doctor located at Hyde Park, where he became eminent as a skillful practitioner. He was a man of decided ability. In politics he was democratic, and devoted considerable of his time thereto, at one time holding the position of editor of the Herald of the Union. In the early sixties he moved to Waverly, Pa.,

where he devoted his entire time to his profession. He died there on April 1, 1876. He was a man of sterling character and honesty.

JOSEPH TURVEY FELLOWS.

Joseph Turvey Fellows was appointed postmaster of Hyde Park by President Lincoln in 1861, and served until 1866. Mr. Fellows' deputies were Fred. W. Mason, his son-in-law, and Orrin Frink.

Postmaster Fellows was born August 30, 1813, on the old homestead known as Fellows' Corners. He was educated in the public schools. He was married about the year 1830 to Marilla Pettibone, sister of the late Payne Pettibone, of Wyoming. The couple had several children of whom the following survive: Mrs. F. W. Mason, Mrs. S. B. Mott, Mrs. Caroline P. Fenner (of Ashley, Pa.), Mrs. Martha Heiser, Mrs. Frances Edwards, and one son, Edward Allen Fellows. The postmaster was the son of Benjamin and Elizabeth Fellows. Benjamin was the son of Joseph, Sr., who with his entire family emigrated from England to America, coming over here in the good ship "Fair America." He was born in 1755 in the city of Worcester, England, and was married to Catherine Turvey on July 3, 1776, in the town of Dudley, Worcestershire. The following children were the result of the union: Joseph, born at Redditch, England, July 2, 1782, Elizabeth, born February 9, 1784 (married Ephriam Leech in this country); Nancy, born April 5, 1786 (married Zephaniah Knapp); Mary, born August 10, 1789, in the city of Worcester (married Philip Heermans); Benjamin, father of Postmaster Joseph Turvey Fellows, born September 21, 1791, in the city of Worcester (married Elizabeth La-France); Lydia May, born May 23, 1793, at Worcester (married Benjamin Brown); Henry Treadwell, born at sea, September 25, 1794 (married Jerusha Griffin, daughter of Stephen Griffin); Sylvanus, born in Providence in 1798



(married Maria Griffin, sister of Jerusha) ; Catherine, born in 1800 in Providence (married Dr. Hill, of Genesee, N. Y., who was a graduate of Oxford University, England). On the death of Catherine, his first wife, in 1814, Dr. Hill married Margaret Simrell, of Scott township, who bore him two children—Artemesia, born in 1819, and Alfred, born April 30, 1821. Both of them went west and settled there.

John Fellows, a brother of Postmaster Joseph Turvey, was the father of Mayor John Fellows and of Horatio, who has held some public offices in the city of Scranton.

Eugene Fellows, secretary of the school board of the city of Scranton, is a son of Joseph Fellows, who is a grandson of the Joseph Fellows first mentioned.

#### DR. AUGUSTUS DAVIS.

Dr. Augustus Davis, postmaster of Hyde Park from 1866 to 1867, was born in Jaffrey, N. H., December 4, 1827. He was married to Miss Marietta Muzzy, at Jamaica, Vt., December 6, 1848. Three children were born of this union—J. Alton Davis, the well-known Scranton lawyer, who died November 19, 1897; Edward Allen Davis, who died July 15, 1872; and Fred. Whitney Davis, who is now a practicing physician and surgeon in East Orange, N. J. The late postmaster served for nine months as an assistant surgeon of the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. He was a good and patriotic citizen, and popular with everybody.

Mrs. M. M. Davis, the postmaster's widow, survives him. Dr. Sumner D. Davis, a nephew of the late doctor, and who was his deputy in the Hyde Park postoffice, is also a medical gentleman. He was postmaster of Jermyn, Pa., from 1871 to 1881 and from 1885 to 1889. He still resides in that town.

#### MAJOR M. L. BLAIR.

Major M. L. Blair, postmaster of Hyde Park from 1869 to

1873, was born in Madison county, New York, January 18, 1836. He is the son of Alvan and Venera (Brooks) Blair. Major Blair is of Scotch-Irish origin. His father, Alvan, served in the war of 1812 and took part in the battle of Sackett's Harbor. He was a well-to-do farmer. In politics he was a Republican. He died in 1882, and his wife Venera (Brooks) died about the same time in her native town, Pownal, Vt.

Major Blair was educated in the schools of his native district and at the Cazenovia Seminary. He taught school in Madison county, New York, and in 1858 went to Hick's Ferry, near Wilkes-Barre, where he was also engaged in teaching. He came to Hyde Park in 1859 and opened a school at Tripp's crossing. He then embarked in the grocery and provision business, with W. H. Freeman as his partner.

Major Blair has a splendid army record. In 1862 he was commissioned a second lieutenant by the governor of the state, and he recruited a company, known as Company E, which was the nucleus of what afterward became the famous One Hundred and Forty-third Pennsylvania Infantry. The regiment was mustered in in August, 1862, at Camp Luzerne, Mr. Blair being elected captain. After being in camp for six weeks the One Hundred and Forty-third went to the front and fought gallantly in several battles, among them the following: Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Rappahannock, Wilderness, Spottsylvania, North Anna River, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, Weldron Railroad and Hatcher's Run. Captain Blair's company was in the thickest and bloodiest part of the fight on the first day at Gettysburg and was nearly annihilated. Out of sixty-nine men that went into the fray in the morning only eleven escaped from being either killed, wounded or captured. Captain Blair himself was so seriously wounded that he was sent home to have his injuries attended to and recuperate. After three

months' rest he again reported for duty and resumed command of his company. He was mustered out June 13, 1865.

So undermined was Major Blair's constitution from the wounds he received in the war and the hardships he endured that he was unable to engage in any active business for some time. When he was somewhat restored to health he went into partnership with C. H. Wells in the insurance and real estate business.

In 1876 Major Blair was elected alderman of the Fifth ward on the Republican ticket, was re-elected several times to fill the same office, and has been an alderman longer than any other magistrate in Scranton. He is a strong advocate of Republican principles. He never allows his politics, however, to interfere with the performance of his magisterial duties.

Major Blair's wife was Miss Hattie Phillips. She was born in Nusquehoning, Carbon county, Pa. She was a daughter of the late Thomas Phillips, an expert mining engineer, who for some time was connected with the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad.

Five children were born to Major and Mrs. Blair. One of the daughters, Annie V., died at the age of fifteen. The four surviving children are L. Augusta, Thomas A., Edith Wynn, and M. L., Jr.

After the war Major Blair became a member of the staff of Commander General E. S. Osborne of the Ninth Division, N. G. P., and held the rank of major and paymaster for eight years. He is a member of Hyde Park lodge, No. 339, F. & A. M., and of Lieutenant Ezra S. Griffin post, No. 139, G. A. R.

#### THOMAS D. THOMAS.

Thomas D. Thomas was the last postmaster of Hyde Park. He held the office from 1873 to 1883. Mr. Thomas was born at Blaina, Monmouthshire, England, in 1827. He came to America in 1848, and shortly thereafter settled in Hyde Park.

In 1854 he was married to Miss Martha Edwards. Four children—Mary, Margaret, Jennie and Martha—were born of this union.

While serving as foreman in the Mount Pleasant mine in 1868, Mr. Thomas met with an accident which crippled him somewhat for the remainder of his life. He died in May, 1898. He was a Republican in politics and was appointed postmaster of Hyde Park by Ulysses Grant.

Postmaster Thomas was of a kind and genial disposition and a man of industrious habits.

### *Lackawanna County Postoffices.*

Before the division of the county of Luzerne and the creation of the county of Lackawanna, the undermentioned post-offices existed, and most of them are still in operation.

GOULDSBORO.—The postoffice at Gouldsboro, now called Thornhurst, was established in 1856, and Jay Gould, the famous railroad and telegraph operator and multi-millionaire, was the first postmaster in that place.

CARBONDALE.—Carbondale postoffice was established in August, 1829, with James W. Goff as postmaster. His successors were William Eggleston, 1833; Horatio S. Pierce, 1839; J. P. Williams, Calvin Benjamin, and C. T. Pierson, 1841; Martin Curtis, 1842; F. M. Crane, 1843; H. P. Ensign, 1844; Joseph Gillespie, 1849; Anthony Grady, 1854; D. N. Lathrop, 1861; Wm. R. Baker, 1864; Daniel Prendergast, 1867; P. S. Joslin, 1869; E. Y. Davis, 1882; Joseph Powderly, 1886; W. L. Yarrington, 1890; John Nealon, 1894; J. H. Thomas, 1899.

JERMYN.—Under the name of Gibsonburg, the postoffice was established at Jermyn in 1869. The name of the postoffice was changed to Jermyn in 1874. John Gardner was the first postmaster there. He came from Nottinghamshire, England, to Carbondale in 1845; married Elizabeth Pratt, a native of Yorkshire, England, by whom he has five children living. He has been justice of the peace for over twenty years; most of his life in this country has been passed at Archbald and Jermyn. His successors as postmasters were Dr. S. D. Davis, 1871 to 1881; Dr. T. C. Church, 1881 to 1885; Dr. S. D. Davis, 1885 to 1889; Thomas Walkey, 1889 to 1895; Thomas A. Hendrick, 1895 to 1899; John B. Griffiths, 1899.

ARCHBALD.—The postoffice was established at White

Oak Run, now the borough of Archbald, in 1847. The first postmaster was G. H. Snyder. His successors since 1861 were George Simpson, Charles Law, William Muir, Jacob Ritter, Edward Carroll, M. M. Gilroy, A. J. Mullen, Thomas Cosgrove and James O'Rourke. C. C. Battenburg is the present postmaster. His son, A. Battenburg, is a prominent member of the Lackawanna bar.

MOSCOW.—The Moscow postoffice was established in 1850. The first postmaster here was Leander Griffin. His successors were E. Simpson, William Brown, Joseph Loveland, J. Smith, James Parry, O. E. Vaughn, H. L. Gaige, Lue Pyle, R. Ehrhart and John A. LaTouche. The present postmaster is O. E. Vaughn.

LAPLUME.—The postmaster at this place in 1876 was William Slocum, an uncle of Joseph Warren Slocum, of Scranton. His successors were George T. Bailey, John Bailey, William Slocum, Mrs. William Slocum, R. H. Holgate, J. F. Tillinghast, Harry Kulp, George T. Bailey.

OLYPHANT.—The postoffice at Olyphant was at first known as Blakely, and was on the north side of the river. In 1867 the office was removed to Olyphant.

DICKSON CITY BOROUGH.—Dickson City Borough postoffice was established in 1874 with L. E. Judd as postmaster. His successors were Thomas Grier and Mathew McPherson. The office was always in the store of the Elk Hill Coal & Iron Company until the store business was discontinued last year and the postoffice removed.

DUNMORE.—The Dunmore postoffice was opened in 1848. G. P. Howell was the first postmaster. He was succeeded by Francis Quick, H. Sommers, George M. Black, A. J. Weidner, H. Sommers, D. H. Himrod, P. J. Duggan, Miss B. T. Mooney, Frank McDonald, Marcus K. Bishop.

CLARK'S GREEN.—The postoffice at Clark's Green was opened in 1850, with S. H. Northup as postmaster.

LEACH FLATS.—Leach Flats postoffice was established in 1880 under the name of Chinchilla. George Tanner was the first postmaster.

GLENBURN.—Glenburn was incorporated as a borough in 1877. The first postmaster was A. Ball. His successors were W. H. H. Wolfe, Eugene H. Reed, and W. H. H. Wolfe.

DALTON.—Dalton postoffice was established in 1854. H. L. Hallstead was the first postmaster. His successors were L. R. Green, N. D. Green, C. L. Briggs, H. H. Hoffecker, Asa Eaton, F. L. VanFleet, E. E. Rice.

ABINGTON AND WAVERLY.—Elder John Miller was the first postmaster, teacher and preacher at Abington. He was a native of Windham county, Conn., and came to Abington in 1775. He is credited with having preached 1,800 funeral sermons and baptized 2,000 persons. He often conducted revival meetings, too. He died in 1857, aged 82 years. When the Abington postoffice was moved to Waverly, Dr. A. Bedford was appointed postmaster.

FLEETVILLE.—Fleetville's first postmaster was John Wells. F. Chase also held the office.

CLIFTON.—Clifton's first postmaster was H. W. Drinker. The office was established about 1852. William Reese, a large lumber dealer, was also postmaster for a time.

DALEVILLE.—David Dale was the first postmaster at Daleville, and he was succeeded by his son, William Dale. Daleville was named for the Dales, who emigrated from England in 1819.

KIZER'S MILLS AND DRINKER.—Postoffices were established at Kizer's Mills and Drinker in 1875 and 1879 respectively. H. A. Kizer was the first postmaster at the former place, and G. M. Keyes at the latter.

MADISONVILLE.—The first postmaster at Madisonville, in Madison township, was John Evans. His wife was afterward postmistress of the place.

NEWTON TOWNSHIP.—Henry Litts was the first postmaster in Newton township. He came here with his family from Sussex county, N. J., in 1816. He transported all his earthly possessions from New Jersey to Pennsylvania on a sled drawn by a single yoke of oxen. In 1842 he built a frame dwelling, near Buttermilk Falls, and in 1844 he was appointed postmaster. The mail was brought once a week on horseback from Old Forge. Chauncey Sherwood succeeded Mr. Litts and removed the office to Newton Centre.

BALD MOUNT AND SCHULZVILLE.—At Bald Mount the store and first postoffice was kept by J. Hill, and at Schulzville, H. F. Barrett was the first postmaster.

OLD FORGE.—The first postmaster at Old Forge was William Drake. The Drakes were pioneer settlers in this place.

RANSOM TOWNSHIP.—Benjamin Gardner, whose grandfather was tortured to death by Indian squaws, a few days before the Wyoming massacre, was the first postmaster in Ransom township. The office was at Gardner's Ferry. Benjamin, although paralyzed, was quite an active business man. Milwaukee, Ransom village and Mountain Valley in this township, were also postoffice towns.

DUNNINGS.—The Dunnings postoffice in Roaring Brook township was established in 1852 and D. J. Peck was the first postmaster. The village is called after Gilbert Dunning who formerly owned all the land on which Dunnings stands.

SCOTT TOWNSHIP.—The first postoffice in Scott township was a short distance south of Heart Lake, on the Dundaff turnpike. Charles Berry was the first postmaster. He was succeeded by Wilmot Vail and the latter by Daniel Vail. The Berrys came from Connecticut and the Vails from Orange county, New York. Both families settled in Scott township in 1806 and 1808. Green Grove and Scott village in this township also have postoffices.



SPRING BROOK TOWNSHIP.—The first postmaster in Spring Brook township was William C. Turner. His office was near William Davis' store in Spring Brook village. The Turners settled in this township in 1832. The first mail was carried by George Swartz. William Davis was also postmaster at Spring Brook.

YOSTVILLE.—Yostville is called after Joshua Yost who went there in 1870 and in partnership with his son he now conducts a large lumber business. The postoffice was established there in 1876 and Joshua Yost has been postmaster since that time.

#### POSTOFFICE AT PITTSTON.

In regard to the establishment of the postoffice at Pittston, Luzerne county, the "History of Luzerne, Lackawanna and Wyoming Counties," says: "When the weekly mail route was established in 1799 between Wilkes-Barre and Owego, the mail for Pittston was distributed from the houses of William Slocum and Dr. Gibbings, and this irregular arrangement continued until 1810 as a sort of branch, by way of the Ferry, from the regular route, which was on the opposite side of the Susquehanna.

"In 1811 a postoffice was established and Eleazer Carey was appointed postmaster. The route from Scranton to Wilkes-Barre supplied the office with weekly mail. Deodat Smith and Zephaniah Knapp were mail carriers on this route till about 1821. Zephaniah Knapp, the second postmaster here, caused the removal of the office to Babylon and soon afterward the Pittston Ferry postoffice was established with John Alment as postmaster. Alment was an Irish Quaker, blind in one eye. He had kept an early store in a log house, near the Hughestown cemetery. The boys had robbed him and made his business quite unprofitable, so he bought a frame building on Parsonage street and moved it to the site of Pugh Brothers store on Main street."

The successive postmasters have been Abram Bird, Dr. Arison G. Curtis, William S. Ridin, Charles R. Gorman, James Searle, James Walsh, George M. Richart, Benjamin Ensign, J. B. Shiffer, E. F. Ensign, Jeremiah B. Shiffer, Stephen B. Bennett, Cyrus K. Campbell, John H. Mullin, Theo. Hart. The latter gentleman was also editor and proprietor of the Pittston Gazette, and was appointed postmaster in 1898. He served until his death, which occurred in April, 1901.

#### HARRISON, SCRANTONIA, SCRANTON.

Many otherwise well informed persons believe that the postoffice on its re-establishment in Old Slocum Hollow was known officially by the name of "Harrison," but this is a mistake.

#### SCRANTONIA POSTOFFICE.

J. C. Platt, in his "Reminiscences," says: "I am indebted to Hon. Joseph A. Scranton for a late letter from the third assistant postmaster general, A. D. Hazen, which states the postoffice at Unionville was established January 10, 1811, under the name of 'Providence,' and the Hyde Park postoffice July 14, 1832, and both continued under their respective names until merged into the carrier delivery system of Scranton, October 23, 1883. Also that the office of Scranton was established April 1, 1850, and changed to Scranton January 23, 1851. Its location here is the best evidence that it was then, as now, the business centre of this neighborhood, doubtless owing to its grist and saw mill, iron forge and distilleries."

#### IN HONOR OF HARRISON.

The "History of Luzerne, Lackawanna and Wyoming Counties," says: "The village had a population of 100 in 1840, and was laid out on a circumscribed scale in 1841 by Captain Stott, a Carbondale civil engineer. William Henry, whose sterling perseverance had sowed the seeds of progress

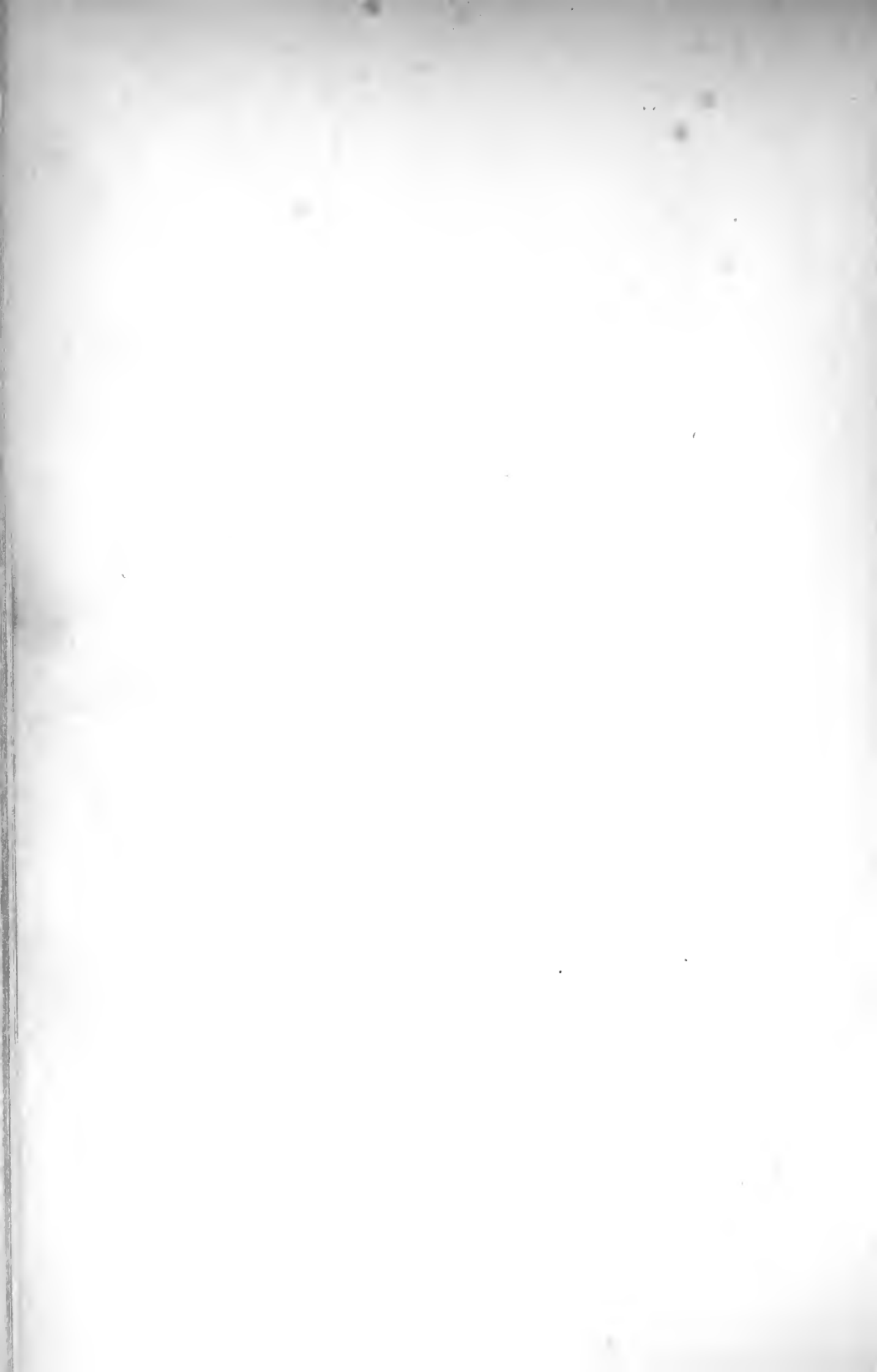
at the Hollow, was deeply interested in the election of William Henry Harrison to the Presidency of the United States, and in honor of his favorite candidate he gave the embryo city the name of Harrison in 1845, at which time the population was 500.

“The people were not ready to adopt it and the old name of Slocum Hollow still clung to the locality, even after it had attained a population of 2,730, and been rechristened, in honor of its founders, Scrantonia ; which name, likewise, did not fit nicely to the lingual capacities of the denizens of the Hollow, although the name, Scrantonia, had been given to the postoffice on its re-establishment, after much difficulty had been overcome, April 1, 1850. The postmaster was John W. Moore, for many years a merchant and now retired resident of Scranton. [Mr. Moore has died since this was written].

“J. C. Platt received the first letter and the first newspaper through the office. January 23, 1851, the name of the postoffice was shortened to Scranton, and so the borough and city have justly been known since.”



*APPENDIX.*



*National Association of Letter Carriers' Convention.*

The annual convention of the National Association of Letter Carriers was held in Scranton, Pa., during the week beginning September 4, 1899. Nearly 1,000 delegates were present and over 5,000 carriers from all parts of the United States took part in the magnificent parade on Monday afternoon, September 4.

Almost every building in the city was decorated, and at night these buildings were ablaze with electric lights. Washington avenue was especially beautiful. Electric arches spanning the thoroughfare, an electric pillar at the corner of Linden street, and an electric flag on the postoffice building produced effects that were bewitchingly charming. Thousands viewed the parade and gave the letter carriers a splendid reception.

Major T. F. Penman, chairman of the reception committee, received Governor William A. Stone, of Pennsylvania, at the depot early in the day. The governor was accompanied by Deputy Attorney General Frederick Fleitz. Mr. Penman escorted both gentlemen to the Hotel Jermyn, where Congressman William Connell awaited them and took them to his home in his carriage. Mr. Connell then went to the depot where he met Postmaster General Charles Emery Smith, whom he also conveyed to his residence. President John M. Parsons, of the association, and Hon. H. B. Dickerson, of Detroit, Mich., arrived in Scranton by later trains. Several of the wives and daughters of the visiting delegates and carriers arrived by different trains throughout the day also, and were taken in hand by the Ladies' Auxilliary entertainment committee of Scranton and escorted to places where refreshments and amusements were provided for them.

Postmaster Ezra H. Ripple was grand marshal of the par-

ade. The soldierly bearing of the boys in grey as they marched past the reviewing stand was greatly admired by Postmaster General Smith and Governor Stone.

After the parade the visitors were escorted to the Armory on Adams avenue and to other halls in the city where refreshments were provided for them.

#### PUBLIC RECEPTION.

Monday evening a public reception was tendered the carriers and their lady friends in the auditorium of the high school. Hon. L. A. Watres presided, and Mayor James Moir welcomed the visitors. Eloquent speeches were made by Governor Stone, Postmaster General Smith, John M. Parsons, president of the National Letter Carriers' Association, and Attorney A. J. Colborn. Among those on the platform were Hon. T. V. Powderly, Commissioner General of Immigration, and Congressman William Daly, from Hudson county, New Jersey. The New York Letter Carriers' Band played several beautiful selections during the evening and was loudly applauded. The Scranton Glee Club sang three or four pretty pieces and was encored. The visitors voted that they had spent a most pleasant evening. They also said that Scranton surpassed any city they had yet visited for its kindness and hospitality to strangers.

#### BANQUET TO POSTMASTERS.

Postmaster Ezra H. Ripple, of Scranton, gave a banquet on Monday evening, September 4, in the Hotel Jermyn, in honor of the visiting postmasters. The banquet was attended by about ninety guests, including Postmaster General Smith and Governor Stone. Responses to toasts were made as follows :

City of Scranton—Hon. James Moir, Mayor of Scranton, Pa.

President McKinley—Hon. Charles Emery Smith, Postmaster General.



The Commonwealth—Hon. W. A. Stone, Governor of Pennsylvania.

From the Civil Service Congress—Hon. William Connell, Representative from the Eleventh Congressional District.

The Letter Carrier and His Friends—Hon. T. V. Powderly, Commissioner General of Immigration.

National Association of Letter Carriers—John M. Parsons, President.

The banquet was a thoroughly enjoyable one in every respect.

#### CONVENTION OFFICIALY OPENS.

The convention opened for business on Tuesday morning, September 5, at St. Thomas' hall, on Wyoming avenue. The hall was tastefully decorated. An evening session was also held. President Parsons occupied the chair at the morning session and delivered an encouraging address.

Superintendent of Free Delivery Machen spoke at the morning session. He said that Postmaster General Smith took great pride in the appearance of the letter carriers in the parade. Mr. Machen paid a high compliment to the sagacity of President Parsons, and said he was the right man in the right place.

#### EIGHT-HOUR DAY.

Referring to the eight-hour day, Mr. Machen said that no step backward is contemplated. The men at the head of the postal department believe in an eight-hour day. Not only that, but they believe in an eight-hour law for all kinds of labor. "It is proposed," continued Mr. Machen, "to make the law conform to the peculiar conditions of the postal system. It is proposed to work forty-eight hours in six days, but the system must be so arranged that the letter carrier can satisfy his patrons and distribute his mail instead of carrying it back to the office when only a little time would be required to distribute it."

## SALARIES, RETIREMENT, ETC.

On Wednesday, September 6, the convention resumed its work. Resolutions looking to the readjustment of salaries were referred to the committee on legislation. A resolution was adopted instructing the lobbyists of the association at Washington to help the postal clerks in their efforts to secure legislation that would be to their interests. A resolution was also adopted to appoint a committee to prepare a substitute retirement bill. In the afternoon the delegates went to Mountain Park where they were the guests of the Wilkes-Barre letter carriers.

The convention held three sessions on Thursday, September 7. President Parsons read his annual report at the morning session and congratulated the association on the splendid work it was doing.

Postmaster Ripple visited the convention. He received quite an ovation and made a speech.

The convention in the afternoon discussed the report of the committee on revision.

In the afternoon the Ladies' Auxilliary entertained the visiting ladies with a basket picnic at Nay Aug Park. In the evening the New York Letter Carriers' Band and the Scranton Glee Club gave concerts at the residence of Congressman William Connell.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

On Friday, September 8, the convention elected officers as follows :

President, John M. Parsons ; vice-president, Charles H. Duffy, of Chicago, Ill. ; secretary, Edward J. Cantwell, Brooklyn, N. Y. ; treasurer, Alexander McDonald, Grand Rapids, Mich.

Members of Executive Committee—John F. McElroy, Bridgeport, Conn. ; Al. K. Young, Cincinnati, O. ; A. J. Michener, St. Louis, Mo. ; H. B. Seaton, Denver, Col. ; Wm. B. Moynihan, Rochester, N. Y.

Chairman Legislative Committee—James Arkeson, Fall River, Mass. (re-elected).

Committee on Legislation—B. J. Curtin, Lynn, Mass. ; Richard F. Quinn, Philadelphia.

Civil Service Commission—John H. Phillips, Scranton, Pa. ; Wm. H. Flaherty, New Orleans, La. ; W. H. Gees, Baltimore, Md.

Board of Trustees M. B. A.—Charles B. Kelly, New York City.

Committee on Constitution and Laws—James C. Keller, Cleveland, O. ; James A. Monahan, Boston ; Melville Johnson, Columbus, O.

Detroit was selected as the place for holding the next convention.

Reports of committees were received and discussed. In executive session constitutional matters and affairs relating to the Mutual Benefit Association were considered. The lady visitors, with the members of the Auxilliary committee, enjoyed a ride over the boulevard.

#### REVISING THE CONSTITUTION.

On Saturday morning the revision of the constitution was taken up and finished in the afternoon. The installation of the newly elected officers took place in the evening, and resolutions were adopted as follows: Thanking the citizens' committee and the local letter carriers for their hospitality, and the press for its full and comprehensive reports of the proceedings.

The convention adjourned at 8:30 on Saturday evening, September 9, 1899.

#### PRAISE FOR SCRANTON.

John M. Parsons, president of the National Letter Carriers' Association, speaking about the above convention, said: "This was the largest, most successful and most enjoyable convention of the association ever held. The manner in

which the whole city turned itself into a committee of entertainment to make our stay enjoyable reflects great credit on the local letter carriers, for if they were not efficient and popular they would not be able to command so much attention for their guests.

“The lady visitors were most cordially and hospitably entertained by the Ladies’ Auxilliary, and they feel grateful for the many gracious acts of Miss Campbell and her associates.

“The newspapers are especially deserving of the association’s thanks for in no city that the convention has thus far visited have there been such able and extensive reports made of our proceedings.

“Say the most complimentary thing you can think about the general hospitality of Scranton and subscribe my name to it.”

JOHN M. PARSONS.

*Anecdotes and Miscellaneous Matter.*

Dr. Hollister says that an old gentleman who discharged the duties of mail boy from 1811 to 1824 relates many anecdotes of his adventures, and his encounters with humanity in its "most amusing aspects," at the stopping places on his route.

"At one point," writes the doctor, "the office was kept in a low log barroom where, after the contents of the mail pouch were emptied on the unswept floor, all the inmates gave slow and repeated motion to each respective paper and letter. Sometimes the mail boy, finding no one at home but the children, who were generally engaged drumming on the dinner pot, or the housewife, unctuous with lard and dough, lolly-bye-babying a boisterous child to sleep, was compelled to act as carrier and postmaster himself. At another point upon the road the commission of postmaster fell upon the thick shoulders of a Dutchman, remarkable for nothing but his full, round stomach. This was his pride and he would pat it incessantly while he dilated upon the virtues of his krout and frau.

"It would have been amazingly stupid for the department to have questioned his order or integrity, for as the lean mail bag came tumbling into his door from the saddle, the old comical Dutchman and his devoted wife carried it to a rear bedroom in his house, poured the contents upon the floor, where at one time it actually took them from three o'clock in the afternoon till noon the next day to change the mail. Believing with Lord Bacon that 'knowledge is power' he detained, about election time, all political documents to his opponents. These he deposited in a safe place in his cart until after the election had taken place, and they could work his cause no harm, when they were handed over with great liberality to those to whom they belonged—provided he was paid the postage.

## HOW THE MAILS DISAPPEARED.

“At another remote place where the office was kept, the mail bag being returned to the postboy almost empty, led him to investigate the cause of this sudden collapse in a neighborhood inhabited by a few. The prolific number of ten children, graduating from one to twenty years, all called the postmaster ‘dad,’ and as no one could read, the letters and papers came to a dead stop on arriving thus far.

“As these were poured out on the floor among pans and kettles, each child would seize a package exclaiming, ‘this is for me,’ and ‘this is for you,’ and that for somebody else, until the greater bulk of mail matter intended for other offices was parcelled out and appropriated by various persons and never heard of again.”

## MUSIC IN THE POSTOFFICE.

Dr. Throop says in his book, “A Half Century in Scranton,” that in the store connected with the postoffice in Hyde Park, one could find a general assortment of dry goods, groceries, hardware, drugs, medicines and liquors. That was about the year 1840. In the evening, too, this was the hailing place for the neighborhood, and the habitues were often delighted with the music of a sweet violin to a late hour.

## YE OLD MAIL COACH.

“The mail facilities at this time,” continues Dr. Throop, “consisted of a line of two-horse stages that ran from Honesdale to Wilkes-Barre, via of Carbondale, going up one day and down the next, thus giving the inhabitants a tri-weekly mail from each direction, though it took about three days to get a letter to or from New York or Philadelphia. The Honesdale and Wilkes-Barre stage was a two-horse, three-seated vehicle, and carried five passengers and the driver, who was for many years John Kennedy. He lived on a farm subsequently purchased by the late Moses Taylor, on the place where Taylor-

ville now stands. Later on, this line was succeeded by one made up of covered four-horse coaches, which about 1844 began to run daily and was well patronized.

CAPTIVATED BY WILES OF VENUS.

“It is seldom that a New York paper was met with, and the papers at Wilkes-Barre gave the news to the world once a week. There were but few men of liberal education in the country, and those were emigrants from the east; and, as a general thing, were estray schoolmasters seeking a market for knowledge that was not merchantable whence they came; but they were well received, and, captivated by the wiles of Venus, became fixtures, and gave tone to the intelligence of the valley.”

HYDE PARK SUB-STATION.

At the request of the Hyde Park Board of Trade and through the efforts of Congressman William Connell, Postmaster Ezra H. Ripple, Hon. T. V. Powderly and other influential citizens, a branch postoffice was established in Hyde Park at the beginning of the fiscal year, 1900-1. The office is situated on Jackson street and Superintendent John Henry Phillips has charge of it. It is known as “West Scranton Station.”

TURTLE IN POSTMASTER'S POCKET.

Attorney Edward Merrifield, in his pamphlet entitled “Law and Lawyers of Old Providence,” after paying a high tribute to the ability, integrity and geniality of Attorney David S. Koon, postmaster of Providence under the administration of James K. Polk, relates the following interesting story about Mr. Koon:

“He [the postmaster] was of a phlegmatic temperament, at least as far as physical exertion was concerned. I recall on one occasion when this was put to the test.

“Some rascally youngster brought up from the river a small turtle. Mr. Koon wore a long sack coat with large

gaping pockets. It was a great temptation to this brewer of mischief, so he carefully slipped up behind the imperturbable postmaster and dropped it in. It is needless to say that the result of discovery was watched for with anxiety. By and by the turtle became uneasy and made manifestations of his objection to close confinement, especially without anything to drink.

“Ordinarily most men would have been aroused to quick investigation. Not so with him. Calmly and philosophically he placed his hand in his pocket, and even yet there was not an accelerated muscular movement. With deliberation and no traces of excitement he slowly walked out into the back yard, where no mortal eye could see, and deposited the innocent cause of the trouble. It is very questionable whether mankind in general would not be better off with this sort of serene temperament.”

#### A PHILANTHROPIC POSTMASTER.

Hon. Henry Roberts, the father of Postmaster Henry Roberts, of Providence, was postmaster at Falls, in Wyoming county, in the early part of the last century (1800). Dr. Roberts says that he (the doctor) used to carry the mail for his father on horseback and deliver it in the surrounding country. He said his father usually paid the postage on the letters, the persons to whom they were addressed being too poor to do so.

#### “BOOT” PAID IN CATTLE.

The “History of Luzerne, Lackawanna and Wyoming Counties” says that during Hon. Henry Roberts’ time old settlers used to exchange possessions, and “boot” was always paid in cattle and other necessaries. Farms at Falls were never sold for cash till about 1805 or 1806. One pound of maple sugar was exchanged for a shad. About 1811, saw logs and produce were considered legal tender for goods, as no money could be obtained for wheat short of Easton.



## POSTAGE STAMPS INTRODUCED.

Postage stamps and envelopes were introduced in England in 1837, by Rowland Hill. Shortly after they were to a limited extent used in America, but did not come into general use until about 1850. Letters were written, folded and addressed all on the same sheet and sealed with a wafer or sealing wax. In 1780 the mail routes included a few cities and towns in Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Kentucky, Virginia and Georgia, making two weekly deliveries in summer and bi-weekly in winter. There was no postmaster general in the cabinet until 1829.

Letters were charged twenty-five cents for anything over 450 miles. Half a century later ten cents, prepaid, carried a letter 3000 miles, and under that distance, five and three cents.

## ONLY GOOSE QUILL PENS THEN.

The popular pen was the gray goose quill. England began the manufacture of steel pens in 1819, but down to 1845 they had not come into general use in America.

It is said of Henry Clay that he learned to write by tracing letters on sand with a sharp stick, and that Daniel Webster's first pen was surreptitiously plucked from his mother's pet goose, his ink being soot mixed with water.

## THE SEARLES OF NEW ENGLAND.

Constant Searle, born June 17 (O. S.), 1728, at Little Compton, R. I., killed by the Indians at Providence, Luzerne county, Pa., had twelve children of whom William was the oldest.

William had a son Miner, who was father of Voltaire. Hence Voltaire was great-grandson of Constant.

The following additional notes in regard to the Searle family have been gleaned from various sources :

Constant Searle, Jr., settled in Providence village in 1790;

was appointed a viewer to lay out roads in 1791 ; and was elected justice of the peace in 1799.

Among the purchasers in Providence township between 1772 and 1775 was Ebenezer Searle.

Roger, William and Miner Searle were among the property owners assessed in what is now Pittston in 1796.

James Searle, son of Henry Luther Searle and grandson of William Searle, was postmaster of Pittston, from 1861 to 1867. He was born in 1820 in Greenfield township, Pa. He kept a jewelry store in Pittston for many years. His wife was Miss Elizabeth Furman, of Scranton. She lives on Park street, West Pittston.

Henry Searle, great grandson of Constant Searle, a victim of the Wyoming massacre, was born in Luzerne county in 1827. His wife was Miss Martha Powell, of Wales. He was in the employ of the Penny Coal Company, over a quarter of a century.

John Searle drove the stage coach between Wilkes-Barre and Montrose for many years. He was a son of Roger Searle and grandson of Constant Searle. He was born in 1795 and died in 1863. He was married to Miss Mary Stark, daughter of Henry Stark, of Plains, in the year 1822. The couple had two sons and six daughters. One of the sons, John Roger Searle, was a lieutenant in the Fifty-eighth Pennsylvania Regiment and died in the service, December 13, 1862.

Judge D. W. Searle, of Montrose, Pa., is one of the ablest lawyers on the bench. He frequently comes to Scranton to try cases in the county courts. He is a learned, polite and unassuming gentleman. His sister is married to Chief Justice McCollam, of the supreme court of Pennsylvania.

Branches of the Searle family are to be found in most of the New England states.

#### THE VAUGHNS.

The Vaughns came from Portchester, N. Y., and neigh-

borhood, to the Lackawanna valley in 1797. Many of their kinsmen are still to be found in New York state.

Colonel Moses Vaughn, son of Captain John Vaughn, inherited his father's farm in Blakely. The farm was afterward occupied by John Tripp.

Captain Peter Hallock, under whom Postmaster John Vaughn served in the war of 1812-14, kept the first hotel opened in Orange, Franklin township, this state. The Hallocks were from Orange county, New York.

#### SEVERAL SLOCUMS WERE POSTMASTERS.

The Slocums furnished two postmasters to Scranton, and Major Isaac Slocum, the first postmaster in Tunkhannock, was a brother of Benjamin Slocum, the first postmaster of what afterward became the city of Scranton. William P. Slocum was postmaster at LaPlume in 1876, and another Slocum was postmaster in the Wyoming valley.

Thomas Truxton Slocum, a son of Postmaster Benjamin Slocum, gave two acres of land, May 25, 1842, on which to build the Wyoming county court house at Tunkhannock.

Ebenezer Slocum, Postmaster Benjamin's brother and partner in Slocum Hollow, was born at Portsmouth, R. I., January 10, 1766. He married Sarah, daughter of Joseph and Obedience (Sperry) Davis. The following children were born of this union: Ruth, married Elisha Hitchcock; Sydney, married Jane LaFrance (Sydney was killed by an accident in the grist mill at Providence January 20, 1825); Ebenezer, Jr., married Sally Mills; Benjamin, married Matilda Griffin; Joseph, married Edilda Bingham; Samuel, married Polly Dings; Thomas, married Sarah S. Jenkins; Sarah, married Alva Heermans, a great uncle of Dr. Heermans, of Hyde Park; Charles M.; William, married Jane Lockwood; Mary; Esther, married Lester Bristol, and Giles, married Sarah Decker.

Ebenezer Slocum died of apoplexy July 25, 1832.

Joseph, his son, and nephew of Postmaster Benjamin, married, in 1830, Edilda Bingham, as above stated. Their children were Joseph Warren, married Hannah M. Collins. The children of this couple are Florence W., Frank H., Kate, Joseph, Ida (deceased), Bessie (deceased) and George W. Rudolphus Bingham Slocum was born in 1845 and married Annie Lloyd, by whom he had three children.

#### IRA TRIPP.

Ira Tripp's great grandfather, Isaac Tripp, and the latter's son-in-law, Jonathan Slocum, father of Postmaster Benjamin Slocum, were killed and scalped by the Indians and Tories at Wilkes-Barre in 1778.

Ira Tripp was born in the old township of Providence January 6, 1814. He was the second son of Isaac and Catherine (LaFrance) Tripp. His brothers and sisters were Benjamin, Isaac, Holden, Diana, Phœbe, Maria, Catherine and Mahala. Ira was married to Rosanna G., daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth Shoemaker, of Wyoming, on February 20, 1838. The children of this union were Isaac C., Leander S. and Gertie.

About the year 1846 Ira purchased the interest of his two brothers in the old homestead and went to reside there. Governor Pollock appointed him one of his aide-de-camps with the rank of lieutenant-colonel. In 1861 he enlisted in the Eighth Pennsylvania Regiment and served as a hospital steward for nine months. He was a Republican in politics. He was of a kind and genial disposition, liked by everybody.

Ira was an inveterate smoker. When, however, he was threatened with throat trouble he smoked by proxy only, and it afforded him extreme pleasure to inhale the fragrant odors from the cigars of his friends.

Isaac Tripp, great grandfather of Ira, came from Providence, R. I., to the Wyoming valley in 1769, and settled at Wilkes-Barre, where, as before stated, he and his son-in-law, Jonathan Slocum, were murdered by the red men.

Ira Tripp died in 1892 and his widow in 1900.

## REICHARD FAMILY.

The Reichard family is of German origin. On their arrival in this country they first settled in New England and came thence to Pennsylvania, in which state Postmaster Henry Reichard was born.

## DR. AUGUSTUS DAVIS.

Dr. Sumner D. Davis, who was postmaster at Jermyn, writes the compiler of this work, in reply to inquiries concerning the appointment of his uncle, Dr. Augustus Davis, to the postmastership of Hyde Park, as follows :

JERMYN, PA., February 9, 1901.

DEAR SIR :

In regard to the postoffice at Hyde Park, would say that Dr. Augustus Davis was appointed postmaster at Hyde Park during Johnson's administration. I think he was appointed in 1866. It happened something like this : Immediately after the close of Congress in spring or summer of 1866, Dr. Davis was appointed (*ad interim*) postmaster, took charge of the office and removed it to the small building—still standing in Hyde Park on the property then owned by him and still owned by Mrs. M. M. Davis, his widow. I think it is used as a barber shop. Dr. Davis held the office until the close of the next session of the senate, being then rejected by that body. I acted as his deputy during the time he held the office—nearly, if not quite a year.

The senate tied Andrew Johnson's hands to prevent the removal of postmasters, etc. Nevertheless, during the *ad interim* Andrew managed to make removals and appointments. Dr. Davis was the appointee. After the meeting of Congress, probably at the usual time in December, the senate refused to confirm. The president then sent in the name of William Oram, who was also rejected ; next, Captain M. L. Blair's name was sent in and, close to the end of the session,

was confirmed, but immediately, on the day following, was reconsidered on account of some Cameron and anti-Cameron trouble and rejected. Charles Dennison, who was Congressman from the Twelfth district, then gave the president the name of Judge William Merrifield and the senate confirmed on the very last day of the session. Dr. Davis held the office from the date of his appointment during all this time until Judge Merrifield qualified. I give the date as 1867 as I know he was holding the office in July and August of that year.

Yours truly, S. D. DAVIS.

#### OLDEST POSTMASTER IN ACTIVE SERVICE.

Roswell Bardsley, who is ninety-one years old, has been postmaster at North Lansing, Tompkins county, N. Y., for nearly seventy-three years.

Mr. Bardsley was appointed postmaster of North Lansing on June 28, 1828. John Quincy Adams was then president and John McLean, of Ohio, postmaster general. He is not only the oldest man in the postal service, but is believed to be the oldest employe of the government in any capacity. He has served under nineteen presidents and thirty-three postmaster generals.

Soon after he entered the cabinet the attention of Postmaster General Smith was attracted to this Methuselah of the postal service, and an examination of his record showed that in all the years he had been in office not a single complain of his management of the office had been filed. Mr. Smith wrote him a letter congratulating him upon his long and faithful service, and received a reply in Mr. Bardsley's own handwriting saying that, although he was ninety years old, he was still able to attend to the duties of his office.

The town of North Lansing has not grown much since 1828, when Mr. Bardsley was appointed, with a salary of \$175 a year, and he still receives the same salary. The

growth of the postal service since he became connected with it is shown by the fact that there were only 8,004 postoffices in the United States when he was appointed, and now there are 76,688.

JOHN P. HARDING.

“John P. Harding, postmaster of Providence between 1845 and 1846, was twice married,” said Mr. William Love, the blacksmith, of North Main avenue, Scranton. “His second wife was the widow Caroline Palmer, my sister. There were no children of this union.”





*STATISTICAL.*



*POSTOFFICE STATISTICS.*

LIST OF THE PRESENT CHIEF OFFICERS OF THE POSTOFFICE  
DEPARTMENT AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

POSTMASTER GENERAL.

Chas. Emory Smith, Pennsylvania.

Chief Clerk.....Blain W. Taylor, West Virginia  
Private Secretary.....Clarence E. Dawson, Maryland

FIRST ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL.

Wm. M. Johnson, New Jersey.

Chief Clerk.....Geo. M. Allen, Indiana  
Supt. Division of Postoffice Supplies.....Michael W. Louis, Ohio  
Supt. Division of Free Delivery.....A. W. Machen, Ohio  
Supt. Div. of Salaries and Allowances.....Geo. W. Beavers, New York  
Supt. Money Order System.....James T. Metcalf, Iowa  
Supt. Dead Letter Office.....David P. Leibhardt, Indiana

SECOND ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL.

W. S. Shallenberger, Pennsylvania.

Chief Clerk.....Geo. F. Stone, New York  
Supt. Railway Adjustments.....James H. Crew, Ohio  
Chief Division of Inspection.....James B. Cook, Maryland  
Chief Division of Mail Equipment.....Thos. P. Graham, New York  
Supt. Foreign Mails.....N. M. Brooks, Virginia  
Chief Contract Division.....E. P. Rhoderick, Illinois  
Gen'l Supt. Railway Mail Service.....James E. White, Illinois  
Ass't Gen'l Supt.....Alexander Grant, Michigan

THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL.

Edwin C. Madden, Michigan.

Chief Clerk.....Arthur W. Travers, Michigan  
Chief Finance Division.....Albert W. Bingham, Michigan  
Chief Postage Stamp Division.....James H. Reeve, New York  
Supt. Registry System.....Wm. H. Landvoigt, District of Columbia

FOURTH ASSISTANT PGSTMASTER GENERAL.

J. L. Bristow, Kansas.

Chief Clerk.....Merritt O. Chance, Illinois  
Chief Division of Appointments.....Carter B. Keene, Maine  
Chief Postoffice Inspector.....W. E. Cochran, Colorado

AUDITOR FOR THE POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT.

Henry A. Castle, Minnesota.

Deputy Auditor.....A. L. Lawshe, Indiana  
Chief Clerk.....John B. Sleman, Illinois

LIST OF THE PRESENT OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES AT THE  
SCRANTON, PA., POSTOFFICE.

Postmaster.....	Ezra H. Ripple
Assistant Postmaster.....	David W. Powell
Secretary and Stenographer.....	Arthur W. Close
Supt. Free Delivery.....	William D. Roche
Chief Mailing Clerk.....	Louis G. Schautz
Money Order Clerk.....	P. J. Messett
Registry Clerk.....	J. Fred. Schwenk
General Delivery Clerk.....	Evan G. Reese
“ “ “.....	David H. Jenkins
Record Clerk.....	Mary L. Kirlin
Stamp Clerk.....	Geo. J. Duhigg
“ “.....	Edward P. Janne
Mailing Clerk.....	Rush Wright
“ “.....	Christian Neher
“ “.....	Thos. F. McDonough
“ “.....	Joseph W. Hall
Distributor.....	Benjamin F. Allen
“.....	Joseph H. Mathias
Utility Clerk.....	Elias Williams
Stamper.....	Geo. P. Fellenser
“.....	John H. McDonough
“.....	R. B. H. Kinback
Substitute Clerk.....	Royal Taft
“ “.....	Michael Maloney
“ “.....	Julia A. White
“ “.....	William J. Elias
Special Delivery Messenger.....	William Campbell
“ “ “.....	Cornelius Barrett
“ “ “.....	Andrew Brogan
“ “ “.....	Thos. J. Reilley
Janitor.....	James H. Reilley
Watchman and Fireman.....	John P. White
Charwoman.....	Kate Kelly

WEST SCRANTON STATION.

Superintendent.....	John H. Phillips
General Utility Clerk.....	William F. Gibbons

SUB-STATION NO. 1.

Clerk-in-charge.....	Albert Schultz
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SUB-STATION NO. 2.

Clerk-in-charge.....	Geo. W. Davis
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SUB-STATION NO. 3.

Clerk-in-charge.....	Chas. P. Jones
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SUB-STATION NO. 4.

Clerk-in-charge.....	John Westfahl
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SUB-STATION NO. 5.

Clerk-in-charge.....William A. Grady

SUB-STATION NO. 6.

Clerk-in-charge.....Emma E. Gelbert

SUB-STATION NO. 7.

Clerk-in-charge.....Chas. T. Miller

LETTER CARRIERS—MAIN OFFICE

Harry E. Whyte	Elmer E. Affleck
Edward D. Jones	George W. Frisbie
John P. Forster	Benjamin L. Jones
Joseph Schiel, Jr.	Richard J. Grimes
Henry Knoepfel	George R. Gehrer
Eugene Evans	Victor H. Lauer
William Moser	David U. Reese
John Kelly	Isaac J. Price
Leopold Jöhler	John J. Higgins
Armit Thomas	John R. Davis
Michael O'Malley	William B. Prosser
Frederick Emery	William H. Bird
Joseph Fidium	James F. Lynott
John T. Maloney	Thomas D. Davies
Argus N. Jenkins	Burton E. Weldy
James McGinnis	Thomas B. Birtley
Lucius R. Squier	Harry H. Moore
John McDonough	William J. Oweus

SUBSTITUTE LETTER CARRIERS.

Benjamin F. Thomas	James F. Saltry
Edward J. Leonard	Henry R. Edwards
William E. Shepherd	George A. Cobb
Henry Kellerman	John R. Jones
Richard Evans	

WEST SCRANTON STATION—LETTER CARRIERS.

William D. Morgan	Elcazer S. Evans
Walter McNichols	George A. Jones
Thomas O. Williams	Thomas R. Jones
William J. Cannon	

CONTRACTORS CARRYING MAILS TO AND FROM SCRANTON  
POSTOFFICE.

Route No. 410016—Postoffice and Railway Stations.....Joseph Kelly  
 “ No. 310017—Scranton and Dunmore.....Scranton Railway Co.  
 “ No. 310049—Postoffice & W. Scranton Sta., “ “ “  
 “ No. 10453—Scranton and Throop.....A. F. Parfrey

MEMBERS OF LOCAL BOARD OF U. S. CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION.

Wm. D. Roche, President. L. G. Schautz, Secretary.  
 D. H. Jenkins.

Examinations for Clerks and Carriers held in November each year.

*LIST OF PRESENT POSTOFFICES AND POSTMASTERS OF  
LACKAWANNA COUNTY.*

POSTOFFICES.	POSTMASTERS.
Scranton.....	Ezra H. Ripple, Postmaster
West Scranton Station, 1110 Jackson St.....	John H. Phillips, Supt.
Sub-Station No. 1, 1202 Mulberry St.....	Albert Schultz, Clerk-in-charge
Sub-Station No. 2, 103 W. Market St.....	Geo. W. Davis, Clerk-in-charge
Sub-Station No. 3, 1557 Dickson Ave.....	Chas. P. Jones, Clerk-in-charge
Sub-Station No. 4, 629 Pittston Ave.....	John Westpfahl, Clerk-in-charge
Sub-Station No. 5, 403 Broadway.....	William A. Grady, Clerk-in-charge
Sub-Station No. 6, 23 Lackawanna Ave.....	Emma E. Gelbert, Clerk-in-charge
Sub-Station No. 7, Park Place.....	Chas. T. Miller, Clerk-in-charge

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Aberdeen.....	John A. Yeager
*Amasa.....	George Taylor
Archbald.....	C. C. Battenberg
Bald Mount.....	Elizabeth Aten
Carbondale.....	John H. Thomas
Childs.....	John F. Walker
Chinchilla.....	James Holgate
Clarks Green.....	W. S. Frace
Clarks Summit.....	W. B. Parker
Clifton.....	Emma Gershbacher
Coyne.....	Casper Weisenfluh
Craig.....	John P. Stevens
Daleville.....	D. W. Dale
Dalton.....	Mrs. Susan A. Rice
Dickson City.....	Matthew McPherson
Drinker.....	Jesse M. Hiney
Dunmore.....	M. K. Bishop
East Benton.....	Alva J. Capwell
Edella.....	Truman E. Clark
Elmdale.....	F. P. McPeck
Elmhurst.....	Lorenzo W. Partridge
Eynon.....	Abraham Howells
Fleetville.....	Geo. E. Freeman
Freytown.....	W. R. Sayre
Glenburn.....	Wm. H. H. Wolfe
*Green Grove.....	A. H. Benedict
Jermyn.....	John B. Griffiths
Jessup.....	John R. Edwards

Jubilee.....	Chas. W. Frazier
*Justus.....	Milton Johnson
Kisers.....	H. J. Cook
LaPlume.....	Geo. T. Bailey
Madisonville.....	John Evans
Maple Lake.....	G. P. Rollison
Marshbrook.....	Cornelius S. Gumaer
Marshwood.....	Chas. P. Ford
Mayfield.....	Alex. Schlanta
Milwaukee.....	Martin Sickler
Minooka.....	W. J. Burke
*Montdale.....	Willard Hunt
Moosic.....	John McCrindle
Moscow.....	O. E. Vaughn
Mount Cobb.....	Z. A. Swingle
Nay Aug.....	Tilly Turner
Old Forge.....	Patrick J. Judge
Olyphant.....	Samuel J. Matthews
Peckville.....	U. V. Mace
Priceburg.....	J. N. Snyder
Ransom.....	G. C. Ace
Rendham.....	Peter F. Lally
Schultzville.....	George Sherman
*Scott.....	Mrs. C. G. Hierlihy
Simpson.....	Winfield S. Bonham
Spring Brook.....	T. J. Matthews
Taylor.....	John W. Reese
Thornhurst.....	R. C. Drum
Throop.....	W. J. Appleman
*Tompkinsville.....	Wm. C. Merritt
Vandling.....	W. B. Brown
Wallsville.....	R. E. Farnham
Waverly.....	E. H. Bailey
Wimmers.....	Emma Emery
Winton.....	J. H. Schneur
Yostville.....	E. E. Arms

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\*Discontinued May 1, 1901, by reason of the establishment of Rural Free Delivery routes between Olyphant and Tompkinsville, and Jermyn and Tompkinsville.

*STATEMENT SHOWING AMOUNT OF BUSINESS TRANSACTED*

AT THE SCRANTON POSTOFFICE, IN ALL DEPARTMENTS, FOR THE YEAR  
ENDING MARCH 31, 1901, OR THE CLOSING YEAR OF THE FOUR-  
YEAR TERM OF EZRA H. RIPPLE AS POSTMASTER.

## POSTAL BUSINESS.

Proceeds from the sale of postage stamps, postal cards, envelopes, and newspaper wrappers .....	\$ 192,371 49
Box rents .....	1,233 87
	<u>\$ 193,605 36</u>

## MONEY ORDER BUSINESS.

Number of orders issued .....	26,553
Number of orders paid .....	<u>74,062</u>
Total number of orders handled .....	100,615
Money received from orders issued, including fees .....	\$ 216,406 53
Money paid on orders received .....	485,070 97
Remittances from other offices .....	<u>269,000 00</u>
Total amount of money handled in Money Order Depart- ment .....	\$ 970,477 50

## REGISTRY BUSINESS.

Number of letters and parcels registered .....	23,315
“ “ “ “ received and delivered .....	33,423
“ “ “ “ in transit .....	<u>24,604</u>
Total number of pieces handled .....	81,342

## SPECIAL DELIVERY BUSINESS.

Number of letters received and delivered .....	11,682
“ “ dispatched .....	<u>11,336</u>
Total number of Special Delivery letters handled .....	23,018

## MONEY HANDLED FROM ALL SOURCES.

Amount received on Money Orders issued .....	\$ 216,306 53
“ paid on Money Orders received .....	485,070 97
Remittances from other offices (surplus M. O. funds) .....	269,000 00
“ “ “ “ (surplus Postal funds) .....	39,107 48
Proceeds from sales of postage stamps and stamped paper	192,371 49
“ “ box rents .....	<u>1,233 87</u>
Total amount of money handled .....	\$1,203,190 34

Number of clerks employed at Main Office .....	21
“ “ “ “ Station and Sub-Stations .....	9
“ Substitute clerks (Main Office) .....	4
“ Letter carriers (Main Office) .....	36
“ “ “ “ (West Scranton Station) .....	7
“ Substitute Carriers (Main Office) .....	9



Number of Special Delivery messengers .....	4
“ Street letter-boxes distributed throughout the city.....	216
“ Package-boxes “ “ “ “ .....	24
“ Letter chutes “ “ “ “ .....	3
“ Postage stamps sold .....	6,860,010
“ Postal cards sold .....	589,475
“ Stamped envelopes sold .....	1,236,800
“ Newspaper wrappers sold .....	65,000

### COMPARATIVE STATEMENT

OF YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1901 (CLOSING YEAR OF POSTMASTER EZRA H. RIPPLE'S TERM), WITH THAT OF YEAR 1897 (THE CLOSING YEAR OF HIS PREDECESSOR'S TERM); AND, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SHOWING THE IMMENSE GROWTH OF BUSINESS OF THE OFFICE DURING THE SEVEN YEARS, COMPARISON IS MADE, YEAR 1901 WITH THAT OF 1894.

#### POSTAL BUSINESS.

Receipts from sales of stamps and stamped paper and box rents—year ending March 31, 1901.....	\$ 193,605	36
Receipts from sales of stamps and stamped paper and box rents—year 1897 .....	123,688	37
Receipts from sales of stamps and stamped paper and box rents—year 1894 .....	101,702	77
Increase year 1901 over 1897, \$69,916.99 or 56½ per cent.		
Increase year 1901 over 1894, \$91,902.59 or 90⅓ per cent.		

#### MONEY ORDER BUSINESS.

Total number of orders handled, year 1901.....	100,615
Total number of orders handled, year 1897.....	52,490
Total number of orders handled, year 1894.....	33,119
Increase year 1901 over 1897, 48,125 or 91⅓ per cent.	
Increase year 1901 over 1894, 67,496 or 200⅓ per cent.	
Amount of money received on orders issued, year 1901...\$	216,406 53
Amount of money received on orders issued, year 1897...\$	181,492 82
Amount of money received on orders issued, year 1894...\$	137,615 61
Increase year 1901 over 1897, \$34,913.71 or 19⅓ per cent.	
Increase year 1901 over 1894, \$78,790.92 or 57⅓ per cent.	
Amount of money paid on orders received, year 1901.....\$	485,070 97
Amount of money paid on orders received, year 1897.....\$	219,240 32
Amount of money paid on orders received, year 1894.....\$	140,015 79
Increase year 1901 over 1897, \$265,830.65 or 121⅓ per cent.	
Increase year 1901 over 1894, \$345,055.18 or 246⅓ per cent.	
Remittances from other offices (surplus M. O. funds)	
year 1901 .....	\$ 269,000 00
Not a Money Order Depository in 1897.	
Not a Money Order Depository in 1894.	

Total amount Money Order funds handled in year 1901...	\$ 970,477 50
Total amount Money Order funds handled in year 1897...	563,203 40
Total amount Money Order funds handled in year 1894...	405,622 81
Increase year 1901 over 1897, \$407,274.10 or $72\frac{3}{10}$ per cent.	
Increase year 1901 over 1894, \$564,854.69 or $139\frac{7}{10}$ per cent.	

## REGISTRY BUSINESS.

Number of pieces registered, year 1901 .....	23,315
Number of pieces registered, year 1897.....	14,785
Number of pieces registered, year 1894.....	12,474
Increase year 1901 over 1897, 8,530 or $57\frac{7}{10}$ per cent.	
Increase year 1901 over 1894, 10,841 or 87 per cent.	
Number of pieces received and delivered, year 1901.....	33,423
Number of pieces received and delivered, year 1897.....	19,282
Number of pieces received and delivered, year 1894.....	15,510
Increase year 1901 over 1897, 14,141 or $73\frac{3}{10}$ per cent.	
Increase year 1901 over 1894, 17,913 or $115\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	
Number of pieces in transit, year 1901.....	24,604
Number of pieces in transit, year 1897.....	21,582
Number of pieces in transit, year 1894.....	23,595
Increase year 1901 over 1897, 3,022 or 14 per cent.	
Increase year 1901 over 1894, 1,009 or $4\frac{3}{10}$ per cent.	
Total number of pieces handled, year 1901.....	81,342
Total number of pieces handled, year 1897.....	55,649
Total number of pieces handled, year 1894.....	51,579
Increase year 1901 over 1897, 25,693 or $46\frac{1}{10}$ per cent.	
Increase year 1901 over 1894, 29,763 or $57\frac{6}{10}$ per cent.	

## SPECIAL DELIVERY BUSINESS.

Number of letters received and delivered, year 1901.....	11,682
Number of letters received and delivered, year 1897.....	7,260
Number of letters received and delivered, year 1894.....	4,894
Increase year 1901 over 1897, 4,423 or 61 per cent.	
Increase year 1901 over 1894, 6,789 or 139 per cent.	
Number of letters forwarded, year 1901.....	11,336
Number of letters forwarded, year 1897.....	7,308
Number of letters forwarded, year 1894.....	4,553
Increase year 1901 over 1897, 4,028 or $55\frac{1}{10}$ per cent.	
Increase year 1901 over 1894, 6,783 or 149 per cent.	
Total number of Special Delivery letters handled, year 1901.....	23,018
Total number of Special Delivery letters handled, year 1897.....	14,568
Total number of Special Delivery letters handled, year 1894.....	9,447
Increase year 1901 over 1897, 8,450 or 58 per cent.	
Increase year 1901 over 1894, 13,571 or $143\frac{6}{10}$ per cent.	

## MONEY HANDLED (ALL SOURCES).

Total amount handled, year 1901.....	\$1,203,190 34
Total amount handled, year 1897.....	563,203 40
Total amount handled, year 1894.....	405,622 81
Increase year 1901 over 1897, \$639,986.94 or $113\frac{6}{10}$ per cent.	
Increase year 1901 over 1894, \$797,567.53 or $196\frac{6}{10}$ per cent.	

SCRANTON POSTOFFICE.

SCHEDULE OF ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF MAILS.

ARRIVALS.										DEPARTURES.										
a m	a m	a m	a m	a m	a m	a m	a m	a m	a m	a m	a m	a m	a m	a m	a m	a m	a m	a m	a m	
1 00	7 00	8 00	11 00	1 30	6 30	10 00	.....	.....	.....	Cor. to Mar. 8, 1901	1 00	4 30	7 30	9 30	12 30	3 00	11 00	.....	.....	.....
1 00	7 00	8 00	11 00	1 30	6 30	10 00	.....	.....	.....	.....New York.....	1 00	4 30	7 30	9 30	12 30	3 00	11 00	.....	.....	.....
1 00	7 00	8 00	11 00	1 30	6 30	10 00	.....	.....	.....	.....Brooklyn.....	1 00	4 30	7 30	9 30	12 30	3 00	11 00	.....	.....	.....
1 00	8 00	11 00	.....	1 30	6 30	10 00	.....	.....	.....	.....Philadelphia.....	4 30	7 30	9 30	11 30	12 30	1 00	11 00	.....	.....	.....
7 00	11 00	.....	.....	1 30	6 30	10 00	.....	.....	.....	.....Washington.....	4 30	7 30	9 30	11 30	12 30	3 00	5 00	11 00	.....	.....
7 00	11 00	.....	.....	1 30	5 30	10 00	.....	.....	.....	.....Pittsburg.....	5 00	9 30	.....	.....	1 20	5 00	11 00	.....	.....	.....
7 00	11 00	.....	.....	1 30	5 30	10 00	.....	.....	.....	.....Harrisburg.....	5 00	9 30	.....	.....	1 20	5 00	11 00	.....	.....	.....
7 00	11 00	.....	.....	1 30	5 30	10 00	.....	.....	.....	.....Williamsport.....	5 00	9 30	.....	.....	1 20	5 00	11 00	.....	.....	.....
7 00	11 00	.....	.....	1 30	5 30	10 00	.....	.....	.....	.....Wilkes-Barre.....	5 00	9 30	11 30	.....	1 20	3 00	5 00	9 30	.....	.....
10 00	.....	.....	.....	1 30	4 30	10 00	.....	.....	.....	.....Pitston.....	5 00	9 30	.....	.....	2 00	5 00	.....	.....	.....	.....
10 00	.....	.....	.....	2 30	5 30	9 30	.....	.....	.....	.....Carbondale.....	5 00	7 30	.....	.....	2 00	5 00	.....	.....	.....	.....
7 00	8 00	11 00	.....	1 30	4 30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....Honesdale.....	5 00	9 30	.....	.....	2 00	5 00	.....	.....	.....	.....
7 00	11 00	.....	.....	1 30	4 30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....Binghamton.....	1 00	5 30	.....	.....	12 30	1 20	.....	.....	.....	.....
7 00	11 00	.....	.....	1 30	4 30	10 00	.....	.....	.....	.....Utica.....	1 00	5 30	.....	.....	12 30	1 20	.....	.....	.....	.....
7 00	11 00	.....	.....	1 30	4 30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....Elmira.....	1 00	5 30	10 00	.....	1 20	5 00	11 00	.....	.....	.....
7 00	8 00	11 00	.....	1 30	4 30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....Syracuse.....	1 00	5 30	.....	.....	1 20	5 00	.....	.....	.....	.....
7 00	8 00	11 00	.....	1 30	4 30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....Rochester.....	5 30	10 00	.....	.....	12 30	1 20	11 00	.....	.....	.....
7 00	8 00	11 00	.....	1 30	4 30	10 00	.....	.....	.....	.....Buffalo.....	5 30	10 00	.....	.....	1 20	5 00	11 00	.....	.....	.....
7 00	8 00	11 00	.....	1 30	6 30	11 00	.....	.....	.....	.....N. Eng. States.....	1 00	4 30	7 30	9 30	12 30	3 00	11 00	.....	.....	.....
7 00	8 00	11 00	.....	1 30	4 30	6 30	10 00	.....	.....	.....Southern States.....	4 30	7 30	9 30	.....	12 30	1 20	5 00	11 00	.....	.....
7 00	8 00	11 00	.....	1 30	4 30	5 30	10 00	.....	.....	.....Western States.....	5 30	10 00	.....	.....	1 20	5 00	11 00	.....	.....	.....
7 00	8 00	11 00	.....	1 30	6 30	11 00	.....	.....	.....	.....New Jersey.....	4 30	7 30	9 30	.....	12 30	1 00	3 00	11 00	.....	.....
7 00	8 00	11 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....D. L. & W. North.....	8 30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
7 00	8 00	.....	.....	1 30	10 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....D. L. & W. South.....	4 30	7 30	9 30	.....	5 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
11 00	.....	.....	.....	1 30	10 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....D. L. & W., Bloom Div.....	5 30	.....	.....	.....	1 20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
7 00	8 00	11 00	.....	1 30	5 30	10 00	.....	.....	.....	.....L. V. North.....	5 30	9 30	11 30	.....	7 30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
7 00	8 00	11 00	.....	1 30	5 30	10 00	.....	.....	.....	.....L. V. South.....	5 30	9 30	11 30	.....	1 00	11 00	.....	.....	.....	.....
10 00	.....	.....	.....	1 00	5 30	6 30	.....	.....	.....	.....D. & H. North.....	5 00	7 30	.....	.....	2 00	5 00	.....	.....	.....	.....
7 00	11 00	.....	.....	3 30	6 00	10 00	.....	.....	.....	.....D. & H. South.....	5 30	9 00	11 30	.....	5 00	11 00	.....	.....	.....	.....
11 00	.....	.....	.....	10 30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....E. & W.....	6 30	.....	.....	.....	1 45	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
7 00	8 00	11 00	.....	1 30	4 30	6 30	11 00	.....	.....	.....Canada.....	4 30	9 30	.....	.....	1 20	3 00	11 00	.....	.....	.....

## POSTOFFICE HOURS.

Postmaster's and Assistant Postmaster's Offices—Open from 8 a. m. to 12 m. and 1:30 to 6 p. m.

General Delivery Window—Open from 7 a. m. to 9 p. m. Sundays 9 to 10 a. m.

Stamp Window—Open from 7 a. m. to 9 p. m. Sundays 9 to 10 a. m.

Carriers' Window—Open from 6:45 to 7:30 p. m. Sundays 9 to 10 a. m.

Money Order Window—Open from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m., week days only.

Registry Window—Open from 8 a. m. to 6 p. m., week days only.

Letters and parcels can be registered at the Stamp Window from 6 p. m. to 9 p. m. Week days only.

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*PARCELS-POST.*

Unsealed packages of mailable merchandise may be sent by Parcels-Post to Jamaica, including the Turks and Caicos Islands, Barbados, The Bahamas, British Honduras, Republic of Honduras, Mexico, The Republic of Hawaii (Sandwich Islands), The Leeward Islands, The Republic of Colombia, Salvador, Costa Rica, the Danish West India Islands—St. Thomas, St. Croix, and St. John—British Guiana, The Windward Islands, Trinidad, Chili, Newfoundland, Germany, Guatemala, Nicaragua, New Zealand and Venezuela, at the postage rate, and subject to the conditions herein prescribed:

Limit of weight.....	11 pounds
Greatest length.....	3 feet 6 inches
Greatest length and girth combined.....	6 feet
Postage.....	12c a pound (to Chili 20c a pound)

Except that Parcels for Colombia, Costa Rica and Mexico must not measure more than two (2) feet in length or more than four (4) feet in girth.

A parcel must not be posted in a letter-box, but must be taken to the postoffice, and presented to the person in charge, between the hours of 9 a. m. and 5 p. m., where a record will be made and a receipt given therefor.

## PREPARATION FOR MAILING.

See that the parcel is securely and substantially packed, so that it can be safely transmitted in the ordinary mail sacks, and that it is so wrapped or enclosed that its contents can be easily examined by postmasters and customs officers. If boxes are used, they should be provided with a sliding or hinged lid, as lids screwed or nailed to it will exclude it from the mails.

See that it is plainly directed, giving the name and full address of the person for whom the parcel is intended; that it bears the words "Parcels-Post" conspicuously in the upper left-hand corner.

Packages sealed require letter rates. Packages unsealed, with writing on inside in the nature of correspondence, require letter rates.

Certain articles of merchandise, sealed or unsealed, to foreign countries, are stopped in the Dead Letter Office unless fully prepaid at foreign letter rate.

Many articles of merchandise are absolutely prohibited transmission in the mails. Therefore inquire before mailing.

Parcels to Canada or Mexico should not be closed against inspection.

The name and address of the sender should be on each parcel before mailing. This is to facilitate a return to the sender in the event of non-delivery.

#### PROHIBITED ARTICLES.

The following articles cannot be sent by Parcels-Post:

Publications which violate the copyright laws of the country of destination; poisons and explosive or inflammable substances; liquids and substances which easily liquefy; confections and pastes; live or dead animals, except dead insects and reptiles, when thoroughly dried; fruits and vegetables, and substances which exhale a bad odor; lottery tickets, lottery advertisements, or lottery circulars; all obscene or immoral articles; articles which might in any way damage or destroy the mails or injure the persons handling them; and opium in parcels for or from the Republic of Hawaii.

#### CUSTOMS DUTY AND POSTAGE CHARGES ON DELIVERY.

Dutiable articles received in the United States in Parcels-Post mails will be rated and charged with the proper amount of customs duty.

On the delivery of a parcel to the addressee a postage charge of 5 cents must be collected on each single parcel of whatever weight; and if the weight exceeds 1 pound, a charge of 1 cent for each 4 ounces of weight or fraction thereof will be collected; except that parcels mailed in the Danish West Indies are subject to a maximum charge of 10 cents; and that upon parcels mailed in British Guiana, The Windward Islands and Newfoundland, not more than 5 cents is collectible on the delivery of any one parcel.

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### *CLASSIFICATION OF DOMESTIC MAIL MATTER.*

#### FIRST-CLASS.

Letters, sealed or unsealed, postal cards, and all matter wholly or partly in writing, except that which is permissible in and on third and fourth-class matter, and all articles sealed or otherwise closed against the inspection of postmasters, except sealed packages of proprietary articles of merchandise put up in fixed quantities by the manufacturer so that each package may be examined in its simplest mercantile form.

## SECOND-CLASS.

Periodical publications, namely, all newspapers and other periodical publications which are issued at stated intervals, and as frequently as four times a year, which bear a date of issue, and are numbered consecutively, are issued from a known office of publication, are formed of printed paper sheets, without board, cloth, leather, or other substantial binding. To be entitled to entry in this class, such publications must be originated and published for the dissemination of information of a public character, or devoted to literature, the sciences, art, or some special industry; must have a legitimate list of subscribers, and must not be designed primarily for advertising purposes, or for free circulation or circulation at nominal rates.

## THIRD-CLASS.

Books, circulars, pamphlets and other matter wholly in print (not included in second-class matter), proof-sheets, corrected proof-sheets, and manuscript copy accompanying the same.

## PERMISSIBLE WRITING.

In or on any article of the third class, besides the address, may be written the date, name and address and occupation of the sender. Words or portions of printed matter may be marked, except by written or printed words, to call attention to them. Typographical errors may be corrected with pen or pencil. Books or other printed matter may bear a written dedication or inscription such as "with the compliments of" and similar inscriptions. On the outside of the package, in addition to the address, may be written the name and address of the sender preceded by the word "from" with or without a request to return if undelivered.

## FOURTH-CLASS.

Merchandise, namely, all matter not embraced in the first, second or third-class which is not in its form or nature liable to destroy, deface or otherwise damage the contents of the mail bag, or harm the person of any one engaged in the postal service, and not above the weight provided by law.

## PERMISSIBLE WRITING.

In or on matter of the fourth-class may be written any marks, numbers, names or letters for the purpose of description, as in the case of samples to indicate prices, etc. On the outside of the package, besides the address, may be written a statement of the contents, and the sender's name, occupation and address, preceded by the word "from" with or without a request to return if undelivered.

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*PREPARATION OF DOMESTIC MATTER FOR MAILING.*

## SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

No newspapers shall be received to be conveyed by mail unless they are sufficiently dried and enclosed in proper wrappers. The

wrappers should be such that they can be easily removed without destroying them or injuring their inclosures. If the wrappers cannot be easily removed, the matter is liable to postage at the first-class rate.

#### THIRD-CLASS MATTER

must be placed under band, upon a roller, between boards, or in an unsealed envelope, or closed so as not to conceal the nature of the packet or its contents, or it may be so tied with a string as to easily unfasten. Address-cards and all printed matter in the form of an unfolded card may be mailed without band or envelope.

#### FOURTH-CLASS MATTER

not absolutely excluded from the mails, but which from its form or nature might, unless properly secured, destroy, deface, or otherwise damage the contents of the mail bag or harm the person of any one engaged in the postal service, may be transmitted in the mails when it conforms to the following conditions :

1st. When not liquid or liquifiable, it must be placed in a bag, box, or removable envelope or wrapping, made of paper, cloth, or parchment.

2d. Such bag, box, envelope, or wrapping must again be placed in a box or tube made of metal or some hard wood, with sliding clasp or screw-lid.

3d. In cases of articles liable to break, the inside box, bag, envelope, or wrapping must be surrounded by sawdust, cotton, or other elastic substance.

4th. Admissible liquids and oils (not exceeding 4 ounce liquid measure), pastes, salves, or articles easily liquifiable, must conform to the following conditions : When in glass bottles or vials, such bottles or vials must be strong enough to stand the shock of handling in the mails, and must be enclosed in a metal, wooden, or papier-mache block or tube not less than three-sixteenths of an inch thick in the thinnest part, strong enough to support the weight of mails piled in bags and resist rough handling ; and there must be provided between the bottle and said block or tube a cushion of cotton, felt, or other like substance, sufficient to protect the glass from shock in handling ; the block or tube to be impervious to liquid, including oils, and to be closed by a tightly fitting lid or cover of wood or metal, with a rubber or other pad so adjusted as to prevent the leakage of the contents in case of breaking the glass. When inclosed in a tin cylinder, metal case or tube, such cylinder, case or tube should have a lid or cover so secured as to make the case or tube water-tight, and should be securely fastened in a wooden or papier-mache block (open only at one end) and not less in thickness and strength than above described. Manufacturers or dealers intending to transmit articles or samples in considerable quantities, should submit a sample package showing their mode of packing to the postmaster at the mailing office, who will see that the conditions of this section are carefully observed.

5th. In case of sharp-pointed instruments the points must be capped or encased so that they may not by any means be liable to cut through their enclosure; and where they have blades, such blades must be bound with wire so that they shall remain firmly attached to each other, and within their handles or sockets.

#### PREPARATION FOR MAILING—FOREIGN.

In order to insure prompt and safe transmission to destination of articles addressed to foreign countries, they should (1) make the address legible and complete, giving the name of the country as well as that of the town or the postoffice. Articles addressed to "London" may be sent either to England or Canada. (2) Avoid using flimsy paper for envelopes, as they are liable to be torn or destroyed in the long transits. (3) Avoid using sealing wax on the covers, as letters so sealed often adhere to each other and the addresses of the articles are destroyed by the tearing of the covers in the attempt to separate the articles. (4) See that postage stamps affixed to the covers of articles of printed matter do not adhere also to the articles themselves, thus virtually sealing the package, and thereby subjecting them to additional postage, at the letter rate, on delivery.

Printed matter must be either placed under band, upon roller, between boards, in a case open at one or both ends, or in an unclosed envelope; or simply folded in such a manner as not to conceal the nature of the package; or tied by a string easy to unfasten.

Commercial papers must be forwarded under band or in an open envelope.

Samples of merchandise must be placed in bags, boxes or removable envelopes, in such a manner as to admit of easy inspection; they must not have any saleable value, nor bear any manuscript other than the card of the sender, trademark, numbers, prices and indications relative to weight, size and quantity to be disposed of, and description or nature and origin of the merchandise.

#### PROHIBITED ARTICLES.

Liquids, poisons, explosive and inflammable articles, fatty substances, live or dead animals, insects (especially Colorado beetles), reptiles, fruits or vegetable matter liable to decomposition, confectionery, pastes or confections, and substances exhaling a bad odor, are prohibited from transmission in the mails exchanged with foreign countries; as are also obscene, lewd, or lascivious books, pamphlets, etc., and letters and circulars concerning lotteries, so-called gift concerts, etc.

Any packet whatever, containing articles (except samples of merchandise) liable to customs duty in the countries addressed, is prohibited from transmission in the mails to foreign countries. This does not apply to Canada or Mexico, or to articles forwarded by "Parcels-Post."



## DOMESTIC POSTAGE RATES

AND CLASSIFICATION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND ITS ISLAND POSSESSIONS AND CUBA, AND THE MILITARY AND NAVAL SERVICE IN CHINA ; FORWARDING OF ALL MAIL MATTER TO PERSONS IN THE UNITED STATES SERVICE ; GIFTS OR SOUVENIRS FOR OR FROM PERSONS IN UNITED STATES SERVICE ; PENALTY AND FRANKED MATTER.

POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., March 30, 1901.

*Order No. 395.*

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED :

1. That all mail matter originating in the United States for transmission to Cuba, Guam, the Philippine Archipelago, or Tutuila (including all adjacent islands of the Samoan group which are possessions of the United States) shall be subject to the United States domestic classification, conditions and rates of postage.

2. That all mail matter originating in Cuba, Guam, the Philippine Archipelago, or Tutuila, for transmission to the United States, or from one to another of those islands, shall be subject to the United States domestic classification, conditions and rates of postage.

NOTE 1.—In this Order, Hawaii and Porto Rico are included in the term "United States;" and Guam, Tutuila, and the Philippine Archipelago are included in the term "island possessions."

NOTE 2.—To insure prompt delivery, mail matter sent to persons in the United States service should include in the address the complete designation of the organization, company or regiment, vessel or other branch of the service to which the addressee belongs ; and the postage thereon should be fully prepaid.

3. That all mail matter, whatever its class, addressed to persons in the *United States service*, serving in the United States or any of its island possessions, or Cuba, or *en route* to or from the United States or any of its island possessions, or Cuba, whose change of address is caused by official orders, shall be transmitted as rapidly as possible until it reaches the addressee ; that the actual location of the addressee, for the time being, shall be considered as the original destination of the piece of mail matter ; that such transmission shall not be considered as "forwarding" in the sense in which that word is used in the postal service, and that no additional postage shall be required therefor.

4. That *letters* sent by soldiers, sailors and marines in the United States service in Cuba, Guam, the Philippine Archipelago, or Tutuila, addressed to places in the United States, when endorsed "Soldier's letter," "Sailor's letter," or "Marine's letter," may be dispatched to destination without prepayment of postage, and only the single rate of postage shall be collected on delivery.

5. That the postage rates, conditions and treatment prescribed throughout this order shall apply, as far as practicable, to all mail

matter sent to or from persons in the United States military or naval service while in China: *Provided*, That such mail matter sent by persons in the United States service in China be endorsed to show the branch of the service to which the sender belongs, as, for instance, "U. S. soldier's letter," "U. S. sailor's letter," or "U. S. marine's letter," and that such mail matter addressed to persons in the United States service in China bears the complete designation of the organization, company or regiment, or vessel, to which the addressee belongs.

6. In pursuance of the President's Order of November 4, 1899, unsealed packages and parcels of mailable matter containing only articles designed as gifts or souvenirs, and with no commercial purpose and not for sale, sent by persons in the United States service (military, naval, or civil), in Porto Rico, Guam, the Philippine Islands, or Cuba, to members of their families in the United States; and unsealed packages of mailable matter of the same personal character, sent from the United States to officers, soldiers, sailors and others in the public service in said islands, shall be transmitted through the mails and delivered subject only to domestic postal rates and regulations: *Provided*, That no such package shall exceed four pounds in weight, and each shall be endorsed on the outside, in a conspicuous place, with the word "Gift," or "Souvenir," or the equivalent thereof; and that when sent from said islands to the United States each such package shall be so marked as to show the branch of the service to which the sender belongs, and be countersigned by a commissioned officer or a postmaster; and that when sent from the United States to said islands each such package shall show the branch of the service to which the addressee belongs.

Postmasters are directed to advise senders of such packages of the provisions of this section, and otherwise see that full instructions are given for its proper execution.

7. That any article entitled to transmission free of postage in the domestic mails of the United States, either in a "penalty" envelope or under a duly authorized "frank," shall be entitled likewise to transmission in the mails free of postage, between places in Cuba, Guam, the Philippine Archipelago and Tutuila, from one to another of those islands, from the United States to those islands, and from those islands to the United States.

8. That the registration fee shall be eight cents, in addition to the lawful postage.

9. That United States postage stamps shall be valid for the payment of postage in the island possessions; and the overprinted postage stamps of the island possessions shall be accepted in payment of postage wherever United States postage stamps are valid.

10. This Order shall be in effect April 1, 1901, and supercedes Order No. 874, of July 26, 1900, which is hereby revoked; and all existing schedules conflicting herewith shall be modified accordingly.

CHAS. EMORY SMITH, *Postmaster General*.

*MONEY ORDER DIVISION.*

## DOMESTIC MONEY ORDERS—FEES.

When applying for money orders payable in the United States, the printed application forms should be used: The following are the fees payable thereon:

For orders for sums not exceeding \$ 2 50.....	3 cents
Over \$ 2 50 and not exceeding 5 00.....	5 cents
Over 5 00 and not exceeding 10 00.....	8 cents
Over 10 00 and not exceeding 20 00.....	10 cents
Over 20 00 and not exceeding 30 00.....	12 cents
Over 30 00 and not exceeding 40 00.....	15 cents
Over 40 00 and not exceeding 50 00.....	18 cents
Over 50 00 and not exceeding 60 00.....	20 cents
Over 60 00 and not exceeding 75 00.....	25 cents
Over 75 00 and not exceeding 100 00.....	30 cents

## INTERNATIONAL MONEY ORDERS—FEES.

For sums not exceeding \$10.....	10 cents
Over \$10 and not exceeding \$ 20.....	20 cents
Over 20 and not exceeding 30.....	30 cents
Over 30 and not exceeding 40.....	40 cents
Over 40 and not exceeding 50.....	50 cents
Over 50 and not exceeding 60.....	60 cents
Over 60 and not exceeding 70.....	70 cents
Over 70 and not exceeding 80.....	80 cents
Over 80 and not exceeding 90.....	90 cents
Over 90 and not exceeding 100.....	1.00

## LIMIT OF AMOUNT OF SINGLE ORDERS.

A single money order may include any amount from one cent to one hundred dollars, inclusive, except when payable in Great Britain and Ireland, Cape Colony or Jamaica, in which case the limit is \$50; but must not contain a fractional part of a cent.

## PAYMENT OF ORDERS.

Every person who applies for payment of a money order is required to prove his identity, unless the applicant is known to be the rightful owner of the order.

The payee of a money order may, by his written indorsement thereon, direct it to be paid to any person whom he may designate.

## PAYMENT UPON POWER OF ATTORNEY.

Persons signing money orders by power of attorney are required to file a certified copy of such power of attorney, or a written order, with the paying postmaster, before payment can be effected.

## REPAYMENT OF MONEY ORDERS.

Repayment of a money order can be made to the person who originally obtained it at the issuing office and by the return of the order; but the fee paid cannot be returned.

## ORDERS SENT TO PAYEE.

Purchasers of money orders are advised that they should mail the order which they receive from the issuing postmaster to the payee, whether the same be a domestic or international order, and retain the receipt which they obtain with the order.

## DUPLICATE ORDERS, HOW OBTAINED.

In case a money order is lost or destroyed, or becomes invalid, as all money orders do after the expiration of one year, a duplicate will be issued by the department at Washington, on application therefor from either the remitter, payee or endorsee of the original, at the office of issue or payment, and proper blanks will be furnished for that purpose at any money order postoffice.

## ORDERS DRAWN ON OFFICE OF ISSUE.

By an order of the Postmaster General, dated September 17, 1898, money orders may now be drawn upon the postoffice where issued. This will enable persons in cities to pay their gas bills, tradesmen's bills, organization dues, etc., without loss of time and at an expense which is less than street car fare. To persons having no bank account, and who cannot therefore use checks, it is particularly beneficial. Money transmitted in this way is absolutely safe.

## MODIFICATION OF MONEY ORDER REGULATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

Arrangements have been completed between the Postal Administrations of Canada and the United States for the discontinuance of the practice of charging commissions on the money order transactions between the two countries and the adoption of uniform charges for the purchase of money orders. On July 1 it is expected that the United States will charge domestic rates on all orders purchased on Canada, and that the exchange office system will be abolished. As it is now, advices of money orders issued at points in the States adjoining Michigan are forwarded to Detroit, the exchange office for those States, where they are entered in the records and then dispatched to the Canadian offices, which involves a delay of perhaps twenty-four hours in the payment. The reduction in the fees to be charged is a matter of great importance to the public. At present it costs ten cents for all sums under ten dollars drawn on Canada, while the domestic rate in the United States is as low as three cents on sums not exceeding \$2.50. It now costs \$1.00 to send \$100 to Canada, while the same sum can be sent to any point in the United States for thirty cents. Domestic rates are now in force between the United States and her island possessions (the Philippines and Porto Rico).

*REGISTRY DIVISION.*

The object of the registry system is the safe transmission and accurate delivery of all matter entrusted to its care.

Mail matter may be registered at any postoffice, station or sub-station thereof, as well as by any rural free delivery carrier, and by letter-carriers in the residential districts of free delivery cities.

Every letter presented for registration must first be fully and legibly addressed and securely sealed by the sender, and all letters and other articles must also have the name and address of the sender indorsed thereon in writing or print before they can be registered.

Postmasters and their employes are forbidden to address a registered letter or package for the sender, to place contents therein, or to seal it, or to affix the stamps thereto; this must in all cases be done by the sender. Registered mail matter can only be delivered to the addressees in person or on their written order. All persons calling for registered matter should be prepared to furnish reasonable proof of their identity, as it is impossible otherwise, at large post-offices, to guard against fraud.

A return receipt, signed by the addressee and showing delivery, is returned to the sender of each domestic registered letter or parcel, for which there is no extra charge.

Letters and all valuable matter may be registered at the night stamp window from 6 to 9 p. m.

*DOMESTIC REGISTRATION.*

The fee on registered matter, domestic, is eight cents for each letter or parcel, to be affixed in stamps, in addition to the postage. Full prepayment of postage and fee is required. Two or more letters or parcels addressed to, or intended for, the same person cannot be tied or otherwise fastened together and registered as one.

*FOREIGN REGISTRATION.*

Foreign matter is subject to the same regulations as for domestic matter, except that the sender of any registered article may obtain assurance of its receipt by the person addressed, only by indorsing it with the words "Return receipt requested."

The placing of eight cents in stamps, in addition to the regular postage, on a package or letter, does not register it. All matter must be presented at the registry office so that it may be entered and a receipt given therefor.

*REGISTERED LETTER INDEMNITY.*

Owners of first-class registered matter shall be indemnified for losses thereof in the mails, the indemnity to be paid out of the postal revenues, but in no case to exceed ten dollars for any one registered piece, or the actual value thereof when that is less than ten dollars.

It is recommended that senders of registered letters write their names across the sealed flaps of envelopes, or seal with wax.

*CITY DELIVERY.*

## CARRIERS' SERVICE.

Five deliveries to Hotel Jermyn, St. Charles and Lackawanna Valley Hotels, as follows:—6.50, 9 and 10.50 a. m., 1.45 and 6 p. m.

Four deliveries in the business section of the city, as follows:—6.50, 9 and 10.50 a. m., 1.45 p. m. There are nine collections by cart in this section.

In the three trip semi-business and resident section deliveries are made as follows:—7 30 and 10.50 a. m., 1.45 p. m. The carriers collect as they deliver and in addition an evening collection by cart.

The two trip delivery service embraces all territory not covered by that mentioned above, except the extreme outskirts of the city, where only one delivery is made and the carriers collect as they deliver.

Carriers are required to deliver mail matter at the offices or other premises occupied by the persons addressed in all cases where such deliveries are demanded; but persons occupying offices or stores on upper floors (especially in business buildings where elevators are not used) will greatly facilitate the work of the carriers by providing lock boxes or other suitable means for the delivery of their mail matter on the first floor. This is, of course, not compulsory, but it is obvious that the general adoption of such a system will expedite the receipt of mail by all persons located on any carrier's route.

Carriers are required to deliver no mail matter except to the persons addressed or to their authorized agents (which include servants, clerks, housekeepers, janitors and others to whom such deliveries are recognized as valid by the addressees), to receive all prepaid letters, postal cards and small packages handed them for mailing while on their routes, and to collect the postage due on any mail matter delivered by them.

Carriers are not permitted to deliver any mailable matter which has not passed through the postoffice, to exhibit or to give information concerning any mail matter to persons other than those addressed, or to deliver mail matter at unoccupied premises or on the street (except to persons known by them to be authorized to receive it and the delivery can be made without unreasonable delay). Carriers are not required to deliver packages the weight or bulk of which would tend to delay the delivery of letters or other mail matter. When such packages are received for delivery, notice is sent to the addressee to send or call for them at the postoffice.

The Schedule of Carriers' Deliveries is necessarily a fixed one, and the trips are so arranged as to secure the closest possible connection with mail arrivals (both inland and local) and with the collections from the street letter boxes. The routes are so served as to suit, as far as possible, the convenience of the majority of those residing or doing business thereon; but simultaneous delivery to all is not practicable, and those located on the more distant points of a route can-

not reasonably expect deliveries as early as those made nearer to the starting point. On routes in business districts it sometimes happens that a few persons report that the first delivery reaches their premises before they are opened for business but that they are unwilling to wait for the second delivery. In these cases the only remedy is to provide a box attached to the outer door and connected with an opening therein through which mail may be delivered by carriers on the first trip.

To facilitate the collection and delivery of mail, the Postmaster-General has authorized the use of house-to-house collection and delivery boxes to be supplied by residents without expense to the Postoffice Department. The collection of mail from private residences only from the boxes approved by the Postoffice Department.

#### GENERAL DELIVERY.

All mail matter bearing no street or box address and all mail matter found undeliverable at its street address (of which the correct address is not known and cannot be found in the directory), is placed in the general delivery to await call. If bearing the name and address of the sender, with a request to return within a specified time, it is, if uncalled for, returned at the expiration of that time; if no particular time is named in the request, or if it bears the name and address of the sender only, without request to return, it is returned at the expiration of thirty days, if not previously called for. Matter intended to be called for at the general delivery should be addressed "General Delivery."

#### DELIVERY THROUGH LOCK BOXES.

All letters and other mail matter may be delivered through a lock box when addressed to the lessee, or in his care to his employes, to any member of his family or firm, or to his temporary visitors or guest; but such use of a box is confined to one person, family, firm, or company.

#### BOX RENT—WHEN AND HOW PAYABLE.

The annual rent of lock boxes is payable quarterly in advance. No box may be rented for a longer period than one quarter (three months), and when rented at any period other than the beginning of one of the official quarters of the fiscal year (which begin on the first days of January, April, July and October, respectively), the proportionate rent for the remainder of the current quarter must be paid in advance. Prompt attention should be given to notices placed in boxes requesting payment of rent, as otherwise the boxes must be closed, as provided by postal regulations.

#### DEPOSIT FOR KEYS.

When a box is rented, two keys for the same will be furnished, and a deposit of forty (40) cents will be required to secure the return of such keys when the box is surrendered, which sum will be refund-

ed when the keys are returned. Extra keys will be furnished, when required, on the same terms; but no part of the deposit will be refunded until all the keys furnished have been returned.

It is not practicable to comply with requests from boxholders for the delivery of one portion of their mail matter through box and another portion by carrier, etc.

#### CARE OF KEYS.

Boxholders should exercise great care with regard to their box keys, to prevent them from getting into the hands of unauthorized or dishonest persons. Messengers should be cautioned against losing or mislaying them, or leaving them (as they do occasionally) in the keyholes of the boxes.

#### SPECIAL DELIVERY SYSTEM.

The special delivery system provides for the issue of a special stamp, of the face valuation of ten cents, which, when attached to a letter or package (in addition to the lawful postage thereon) will entitle such letter or package to immediate delivery within the carrier limit of a free delivery office between the hours of 7 a. m. and 10:30 p. m. daily; Sundays, 7:30 a. m. to 10:30 a. m.; by messengers, who, upon delivery, will procure receipts from the parties addressed, or some one authorized to receive them.

Common letters bearing only a special delivery stamp will be forwarded, but the ordinary postage due will be collected of the addressee on delivery.

When a special delivery letter is offered at its address, and delivery cannot be effected for any reason (such as the premises being closed, an error in direction, the absence of any person authorized to sign the receipt, or any other similar cause), it cannot be again offered for delivery, either at the original address or elsewhere, as a special delivery letter, but will be delivered as soon after its return as possible by letter carrier. If the person addressed has removed, it will be forwarded free to its proper address, if it be known, either in this city or at another postoffice, but will, in either case be delivered only as an ordinary and not as a special delivery letter.

Special delivery letters should be posted at the general postoffice, as when mailed in street boxes or at stations there is some delay incident to collection and dispatch to main office. They may also be handed to any letter carrier (who cannot, however, deliver them, but will bring them to the general postoffice, on his return from his trip). Special delivery stamps may be purchased at the general postoffice and stamp agencies.

An ordinary ten-cent postage stamp, or its equivalent in postage stamps of other denominations, affixed to a letter will NOT entitle it to special delivery.



*POSTAL DICTIONARY.*

## "PRINTED MATTER"

is the reproduction upon paper, by any process except that of hand or typewriting, of any words, letters, characters, figures, or images, or of any combination thereof, not having the character of an actual and personal correspondence, provided it is easy of recognition, as such.

## A "CIRCULAR"

is "a printed letter, which, according to internal evidence is being sent in identical terms to several persons," and does not lose its character as such by writing therein the date, name of the addressee or of the sender, or the correction of mere typographical errors.

## "COMMERCIAL PAPERS."

All instruments or documents written or drawn wholly or partly by hand, which have not the character of an actual and personal correspondence.

## "UNMAILABLE MATTER."

All matter which is, by law, regulation or treaty stipulation, prohibited from being transmitted in the mails (such as obscene matter, lottery matter, dangerous or destructive matter, coin and jewelry for foreign countries, mutilated matter, matter in excess of weight, and scurrilous matter on the outside of the envelope, wrapper or postal card), or matter which, by reason of illegible, incorrect or insufficient address of the person or office, cannot be forwarded to destination or delivered to the person for whom intended.

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*INFORMATION FOR THE PUBLIC.*

Do not hold your mail until the closing of business, but mail it at frequent intervals during the day.

Postage stamps are neither redeemable nor exchangeable for those of other denominations.

Stamped envelopes, which have been spoiled by misdirection or other cause, and which have not been cancelled, if in a whole condition, will be redeemed for the value of the postage on them, payable in stamps.

Mail matter deposited on the top of the letter boxes is not in the custody of the postoffice. It is almost of daily occurrence to receive packages which have been deposited in this manner with the stamps torn off the wrapper by dishonest persons.

From ten to twenty minutes are required to transfer the mails from the central office to the depots; therefore, mail should be in the central office not less than one-half hour before the departure of the trains, and as much earlier as possible.

It is of daily occurrence that letters intended for registration are received with the ordinary mail. Demand of your messengers the receipt of this office, which is always given for matter that is pre-

sented at the registry window for registration. Otherwise your letter or parcel may not be registered.

When mail matter is returned to the sender for more postage or for better direction, care should be taken to erase the rubber stamp impression put on by the postoffice before again placing the article in the mail, or better still, a new envelope or wrapper should be used.

Letters for delivery in the United States, Canada or Mexico will be forwarded if one full rate of postage (2 cents) is paid, even if they be overweight. Letters to all other foreign countries will be forwarded without postage, but upon their arrival at destination will be charged with double the unpaid postage, which must be paid by addressee before delivery.

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### *PRECAUTIONS BEFORE MAILING.*

See that the proper postage is prepaid.

Have your letters and packages properly addressed.

Have your card with a request to return upon the face of the envelope, so that in case of non-delivery it will be returned directly to you.

All letters and packages with valuable contents should be registered, as it is almost impossible to trace losses of ordinary mail matter.

More mail matter is improperly handled, delayed, and missent because of imperfectly or carelessly written abbreviations of states than from all the other causes combined.

When addressing matter for delivery in the city, the words "Scranton, Pa.," should be used and not "City." This will prevent the matter going astray which has been inadvertently sent out of the city.

Persons mailing packages or parcels should not depend upon the scales in the corner grocery or nearest drug store to determine the proper amount of postage required, as only the scales in the postoffice are relied upon to ascertain the correct weight.

PRICES OF STAMPED ENVELOPES.

NO. AND SIZE.	Denom- ination	Quantity	Color.	QUANTITY.																
				1000	500	250	100	50	25	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
1. 2½x5¼ in. ....	2c.	First	White only.....	\$21.12	\$10.56	\$ 5.28	\$2.12	\$1.06	\$ .53	C.	20	17	15	13	11	9	7	5	3	
	1c.	First	White.....	11.20	5.60	2.80	1.12	.56	.28	C.	11	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
2. 3¼x5½ in. ....	2c.	First	White.....	21.20	10.60	5.30	2.12	1.06	.53	C.	22	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3
	1c.	First	Buff or Blue.....	11.20	5.60	2.80	1.12	.56	.28	C.	11	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
3. 3¾x5¾ in. ....	2c.	First	White.....	21.20	10.60	5.30	2.12	1.06	.53	C.	22	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3
	1c.	First	Buff or Blue.....	11.20	5.60	2.80	1.12	.56	.28	C.	11	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
4. 3¾x5¾ in. ....	5c.	First	White.....	51.20	25.60	12.80	5.12	2.56	1.28	C.	21	19	17	15	13	11	9	7	5	3
	2c.	First	White.....	11.20	5.60	2.80	1.12	.56	.28	C.	12	11	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2
5. 3½x6 5-16 in. ....	2c.	First	White.....	21.08	10.54	5.27	2.11	1.06	.53	C.	22	19	17	15	13	11	9	7	5	3
	1c.	First	Buff or Blue.....	11.00	5.50	2.75	1.10	.55	.28	C.	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2
6. 3½x6 5-16 in. ....	5c.	First	Manila.....	51.20	25.60	12.80	5.12	2.56	1.28	C.	21	19	17	15	13	11	9	7	5	3
	2c.	First	Manila.....	11.00	5.50	2.75	1.10	.55	.28	C.	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2
7. 3¾x5¾ in. ....	2c.	First	White.....	21.50	10.90	5.45	2.18	1.09	.55	C.	22	20	18	16	14	11	9	7	5	3
	1c.	Second	White.....	11.50	5.75	2.88	1.18	.59	.29	C.	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3
8. 4¼x9½ in. ....	4c.	First	White.....	41.50	20.90	10.45	2.14	1.07	.54	C.	22	20	18	16	14	11	9	7	5	3
	2c.	First	White.....	21.50	10.90	5.45	2.18	1.09	.55	C.	22	20	18	16	14	11	9	7	5	3
9. 4¾x10½ in. ....	4c.	First	White.....	41.50	20.90	10.45	2.14	1.07	.54	C.	22	20	18	16	14	11	9	7	5	3
	2c.	First	White.....	21.50	10.90	5.45	2.18	1.09	.55	C.	22	20	18	16	14	11	9	7	5	3
10. 3 9-16x4¾ in. ....	2c.	First	White.....	22.00	11.00	5.50	2.20	1.10	.55	C.	22	20	18	16	14	11	9	7	5	3
	1c.	First	White.....	11.20	5.60	2.80	1.12	.56	.28	C.	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2
11. 4¼x5¼ in. ....	2c.	First	White only.....	21.40	10.70	5.35	2.14	1.07	.54	C.	22	20	18	16	14	11	9	7	5	3
	1c.	First	White only.....	11.40	5.70	2.85	1.14	.57	.29	C.	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3
13. 3¼x6¼ in. ....	2c.	First	White.....	21.20	10.60	5.30	2.12	1.06	.53	C.	22	20	18	16	14	11	9	7	5	3
	1c.	Second	White.....	11.20	5.60	2.80	1.12	.56	.28	C.	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2
14. 3¼x6 5-16 in. ....	2c.	First	White.....	21.40	10.70	5.35	2.14	1.07	.54	C.	22	20	18	16	14	11	9	7	5	3
	1c.	Second	White.....	11.40	5.70	2.85	1.14	.57	.29	C.	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3
Newspaper Wrappers.....	1c.	First	Manila.....	21.20	10.60	5.30	2.12	1.06	.53	C.	22	20	17	15	13	11	9	7	5	3
	2c.	Second	Manila.....	11.00	5.50	2.75	1.10	.55	.28	C.	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2

### SPECIAL REQUEST ENVELOPES.

Special request envelopes must be purchased of and ordered by the postmaster, and will only be delivered by the Department to the purchaser through the postmaster.

When stamped envelopes bearing a return request are purchased in lots of 500 and upwards, the Government will print on them the card of the sender, containing the name and address, free of charge.

It ordinarily takes about two weeks after an order is sent to the Department before envelopes are received at this office. When ordering envelopes, it is necessary to give the number, denomination, quality and color, or to furnish a sample envelope.

### RATES OF POSTAGE.

#### DOMESTIC.

CLASSES.	POSTAGE	WEIGHT LIMIT
<i>First Class.</i> —Letters, sealed packages and all matter closed against inspection .....	2 cents for each ounce or fraction thereof.....	No limit.
Postal Cards and Private Mailing Cards.....	1 cent each.....	
<i>Second Class.</i> —Newspapers and periodical publications that have been entered as second-class matter.....	1 cent per pound or fraction thereof .....	No limit.
When mailed by persons other than publishers .....	1 cent for 4 ounces or fraction thereof.....	No limit.
<i>Third Class.</i> —Circulars, books and matter wholly in print, engravings, lithographs, wood-cuts, photographs (checks, deeds, insurance policies), in blank, etc., proof with manuscript accompanying same, matter reproduced by cyclostyle, hectograph, mimeograph, electric pen, or other similar process easy of recognition, when not in the nature of personal correspondence; seeds, bulbs, roots, scions and plants; visiting cards and business cards .....	1 cent for each 2 ounces or fraction thereof .....	4 pounds (except for single volumes of books—no limit).
<i>Fourth Class.</i> —Merchandise and matter not included in any of above classes, which is not in its form or nature liable to destroy or damage the contents of the mailbag, or harm persons engaged in the mail service .....	1 cent for each ounce or fraction thereof.....	4 pounds

#### FOREIGN POSTAGE.

##### ALL FOREIGN COUNTRIES, EXCEPT CANADA AND MEXICO.

Letters per 15 grams ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce).....	5 cents
Single postal cards, each.....	2 cents
Double postal cards, each.....	4 cents
Newspaper and other printed matter, per 2 ounces.....	1 cent

#### COMMERCIAL PAPERS.

Packets not in excess of 10 ounces.....	5 cents
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Packets in excess of 10 ounces, for each 2 ounces or fraction thereof ..... 1 cent

SAMPLES OF MERCHANDISE.

Packets not in excess of 4 ounces ..... 2 cents  
 Packets in excess of 4 ounces, for each 2 ounces or fraction thereof ..... 1 cent  
 Registration fee on letters or other articles ..... 8 cents

Packages of samples must not exceed 12 oz. in weight, 12 inches in length, 8 inches in breadth, and 4 inches in depth (if a roll—12 inches in length and 6 inches in diameter).

Ordinary letters for any foreign country (except Canada and Mexico) must be forwarded, whether any postage is prepaid on them or not. All other mailable matter must be prepaid at least partially.

TO CANADA.

Same rates as for United States, except that "Commercial Papers" are transmissible at the postage rates given above, under head "Commercial Papers;" that packages of seeds, plants, etc., are subject to the postage rate of one cent per ounce, and that the following articles are absolutely excluded from the mails, without regard to the amount of postage prepaid, or the manner in which they are wrapped, viz.:

All sealed packages other than letters in their usual and ordinary form; all packages (except single volumes of printed books and packages of second-class matter), which weigh more than 4 pounds 6 ounces; Police Gazette, Police News, and publications which violate any copyright law of Canada.

TO MEXICO.

Same rates as for United States, except that articles of miscellaneous merchandise (fourth-class matter), not sent as bona fide trade samples, are required to be sent by "Parcels-Post;" and that the following articles are absolutely excluded from the mails without regard to the amount of postage prepaid or the manner in which they are wrapped, viz.:

All sealed packages other than letters, in their usual and ordinary form; all packages (including packages of second-class matter, which weigh more than 4 pounds 6 ounces) except such as are sent by "Parcels-Post;" liquids, pastes, confections, and fatty substances; publications which violate any copyright law of Mexico.

Single volumes of printed books in unsealed packages are transmissible to Mexico in the regular mails without limit as to weight.

"Commercial Papers," and bona-fide trade samples are transmissible to Mexico in the regular mails at the postage rate given above, under head "Commercial Papers" and "Samples of Merchandise," respectively.

*UNITED STATES POSTAL AGENCY AT SHANGHAI.*

Articles addressed for delivery at the following places in China, viz.:

Cheefoo or Yenti,	Newchwang,	Shanghai,
Chin Kiang,	Ning Po,	Taku,
Chun King,	Ourga,	Tientsin,
Kaiping,	Peking,	Wenchow,
Kaigan,	Hang Chow,	Wuchang,
Kiukiang,	Hankow,	Wunu,
Nanking,	Ichang,	

are transmissible in the mails made up in San Francisco and Tacoma for the U. S. Postal Agency at Shanghai.

Articles of every kind and nature which are admitted to the United States domestic mails are admitted to the mails exchanged between the United States and the United States Postal Agency at Shanghai, China; subject, however, to the following rates of postage, which must be prepaid in all cases, by means of United States postage stamps, on all articles except official correspondence in "penalty" envelopes:

First-class matter, 5 cents for each half ounce or fraction of half ounce.

Postal Cards, single, 2 cents each; double, 4 cents each.

Second and third-class matter, and samples of merchandise not exceeding 8 ounces in weight, 1 cent for each 2 ounces or fraction of 2 ounces.

Fourth-class matter, 1 cent for each ounce or fraction of an ounce.

Registration fee, 8 cents; no additional charge for return receipt.

Articles other than letters in their usual and ordinary form must not be closed against inspection, but must be so wrapped or inclosed that they may be readily and thoroughly examined by postmasters and customs officers.



*Arthur W. Close,  
Secretary and Stenographer.*



*William D. Roche,  
Superintendent Free Delivery.*



*Louis G. Schautz,  
Chief Mailing Clerk.*



*Patrick J. Messet,  
Money Order Clerk.*



*J. Frederick Schwenk,  
Registry Clerk.*



*Evan G. Reese,  
General Delivery Clerk.*







*David H. Jenkins,  
General Delivery Clerk.*



*George F. Duhiigg,  
Stamp Clerk.*



*Edward P. Fanne,  
Stamp Clerk.*



*Rush Wright,  
Mailing Clerk.*



*Christian S(gher),  
Mailing Clerk.*



*Thomas F. McDonough,  
Mailing Clerk.*

1927  
COUNTY PA.



*Joseph W. Hall,  
Mailing Clerk.*



*Benjamin F. Allen,  
Distributor.*



*Joseph H. Mathias,  
Distributor.*



*Elias Williams,  
Utility Clerk.*



*George P. Fellenser,  
Stamper.*



*John H. McDonough,  
Stamper.*





*Rutherford B. H. Kinback,  
Stamper.*



*Royal Taft,  
Substitute Clerk.*



*Michael Maloney,  
Substitute Clerk.*



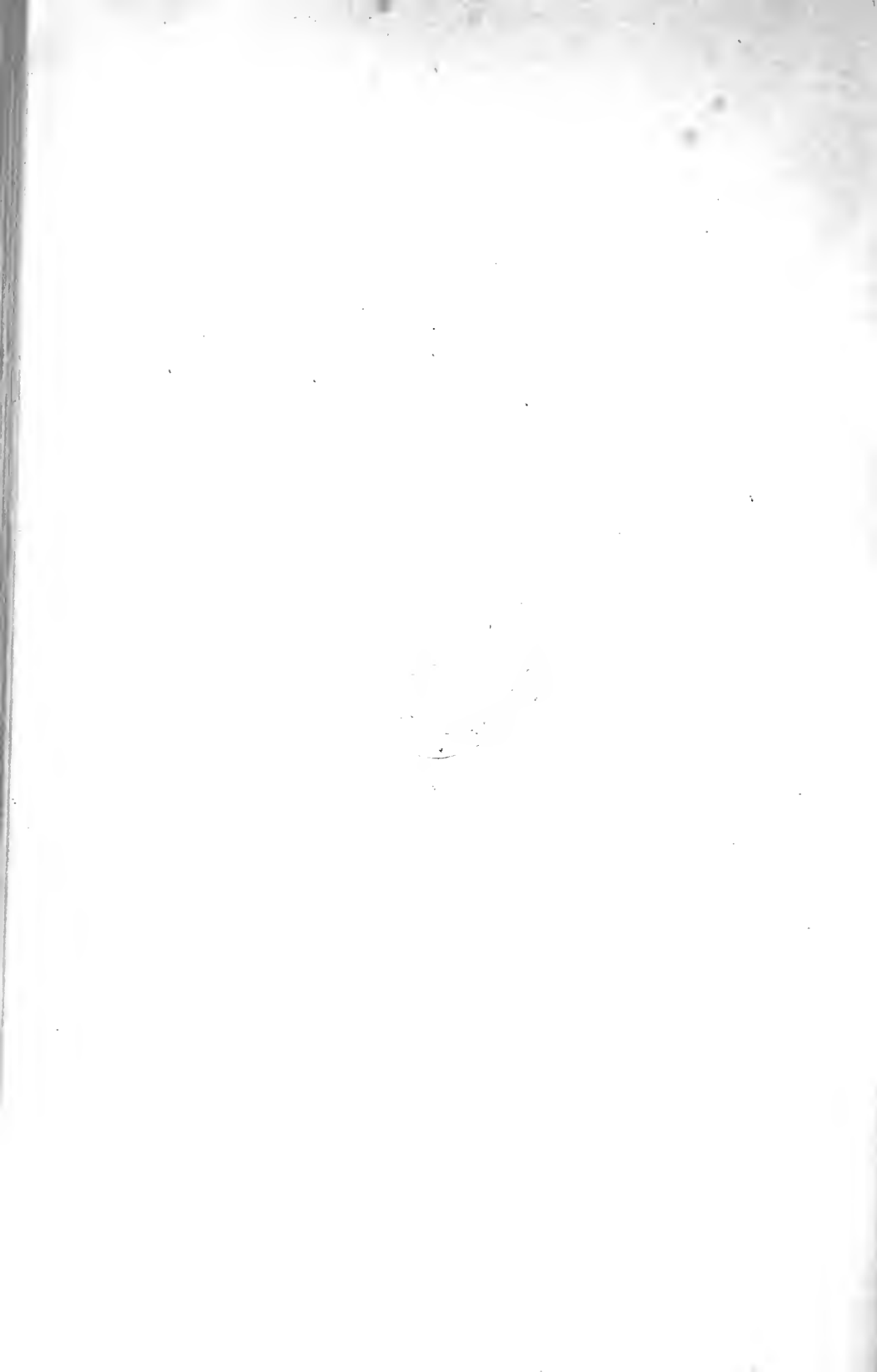
*Julia A. White,  
Substitute Clerk.*



*William F. Elias,  
Substitute Clerk.*



*William Campbell,  
Special Delivery Messenger.*





*Cornelius Barrett,  
Special Delivery Messenger.*



*Thomas F. Reilly,  
Special Delivery Messenger.*



*James H. Reilly,  
Janitor.*



*John P. White,  
Watchman and Fireman.*



*John H. Phillips,  
Superintendent West Scranton Station.*



*William F. Gibbons,  
General Utility Clerk, West Scranton Station.*

PUBLIC LIBRARY  
SCRANTON, PA.





*James F. Lynott, Carrier No. 1.*



*John P. Forster, Carrier No. 2.*



*George R. Gehrer, Carrier No. 3.*



*Walter McNichols, Carrier No. 4.*



*E. S. Evans, Carrier No. 5.*



*John J. Higgins, Carrier No. 6.*





*Joseph Schiel, Jr., Carrier No. 7.*



*Henry Knoepfel, Carrier No. 8.*



*William B. Prosser, Carrier No. 9.*



*William D. Morgan, Carrier No. 10.*



*William A. Moser, Carrier No. 11.*



*John Kelly, Carrier No. 12.*





*Leopold Johler, Carrier No. 13.*



*George A. Jones, Carrier No. 14.*



*Armit Thomas, Carrier No. 15.*



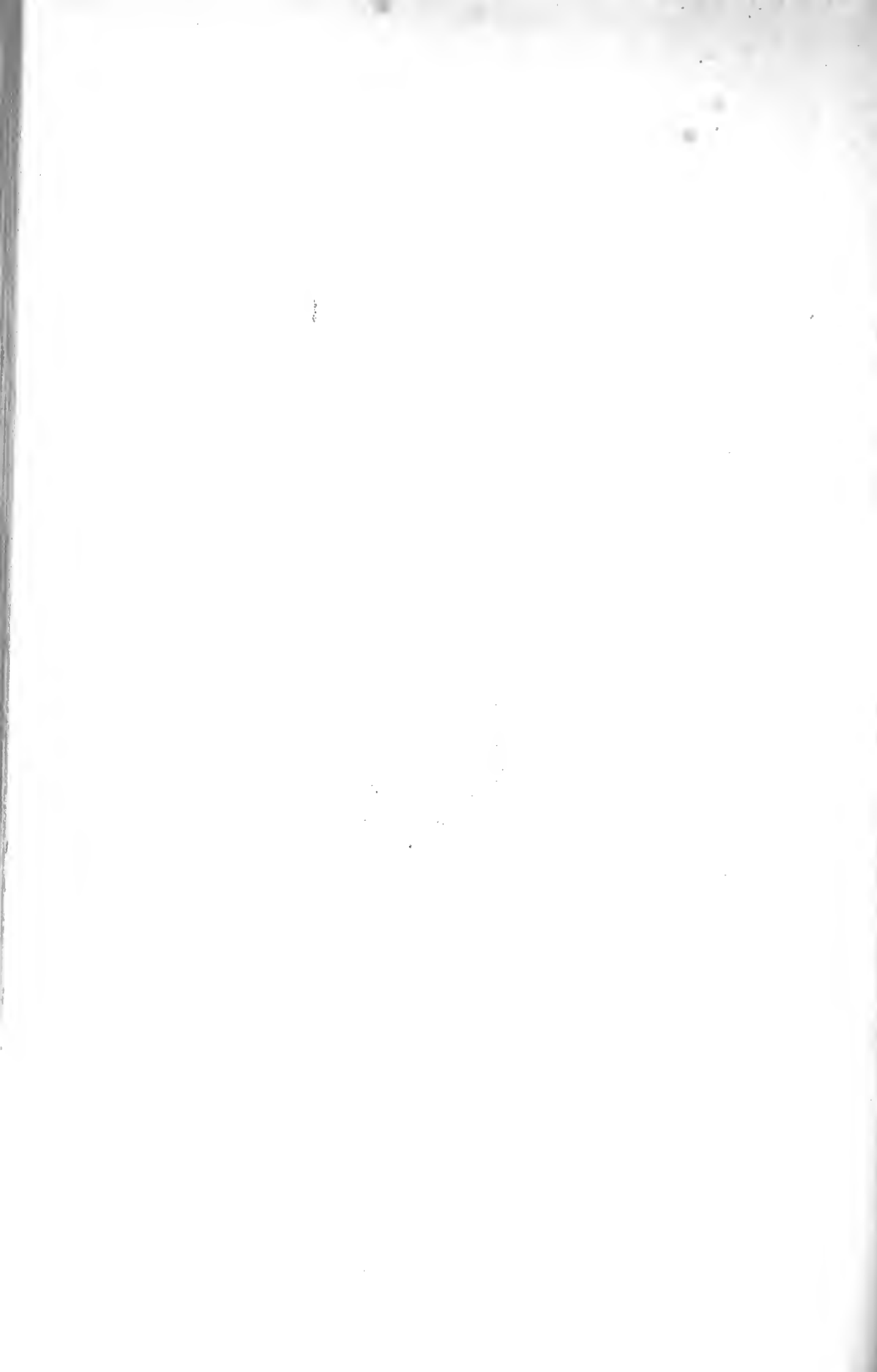
*Michael J. O'Malley, Carrier No. 16.*



*Fred. H. Emery, Carrier No. 17.*



*Joseph Fidiam, Carrier No. 18.*





*John T. Maloney, Carrier No. 19.*



*Argus N. Jenkins, Carrier No. 20.*



*Harry E. Whyte, Carrier No. 21.*



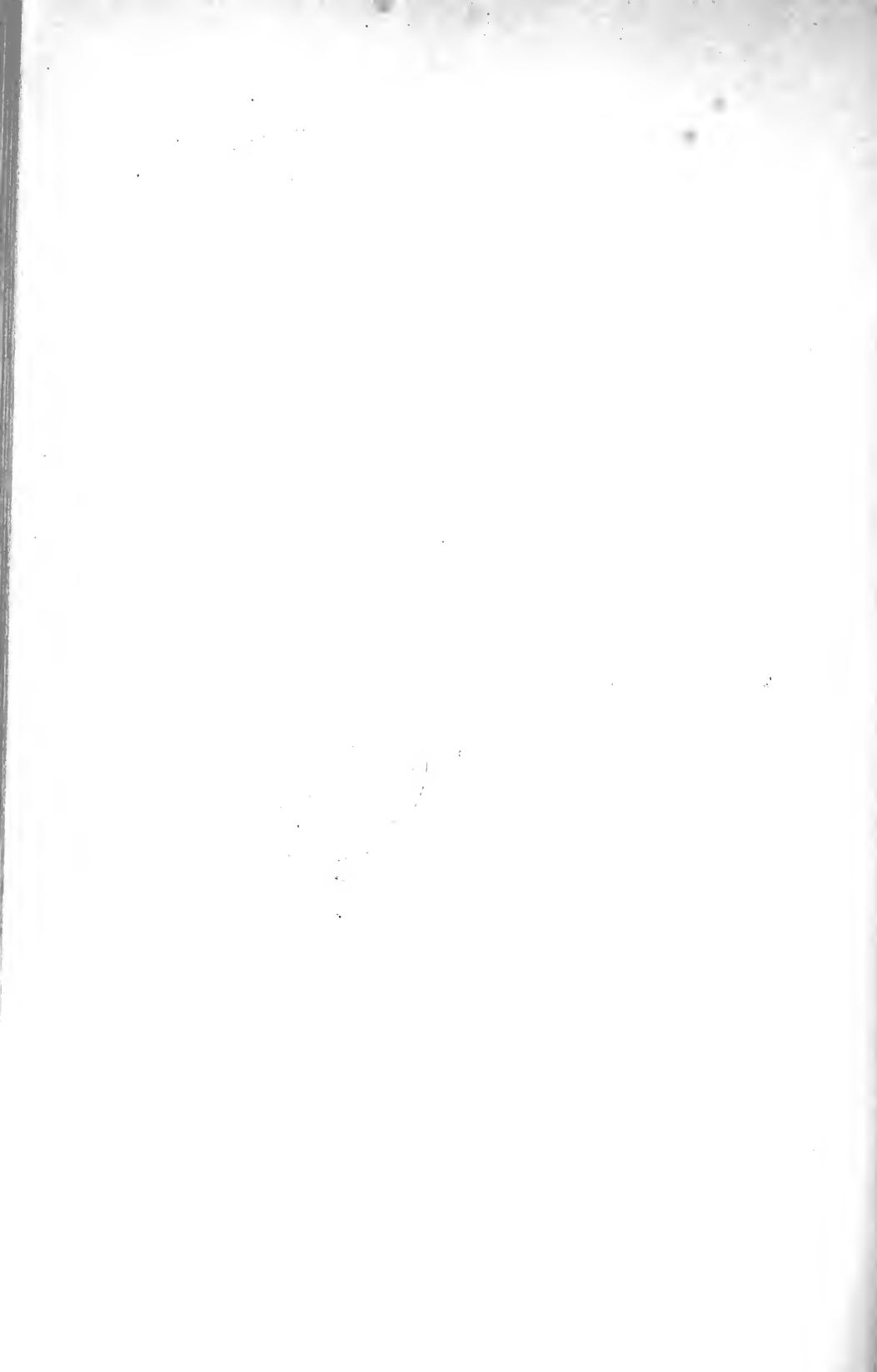
*James McGinnis, Carrier No. 22.*



*Thomas O. Williams, Carrier No. 23.*



*Thomas R. Jones, Carrier No. 24.*







*Lucius R. Squier, Carrier No. 25.*



*David U. Reese, Carrier No. 26.*



*John McDonough, Carrier No. 27.*



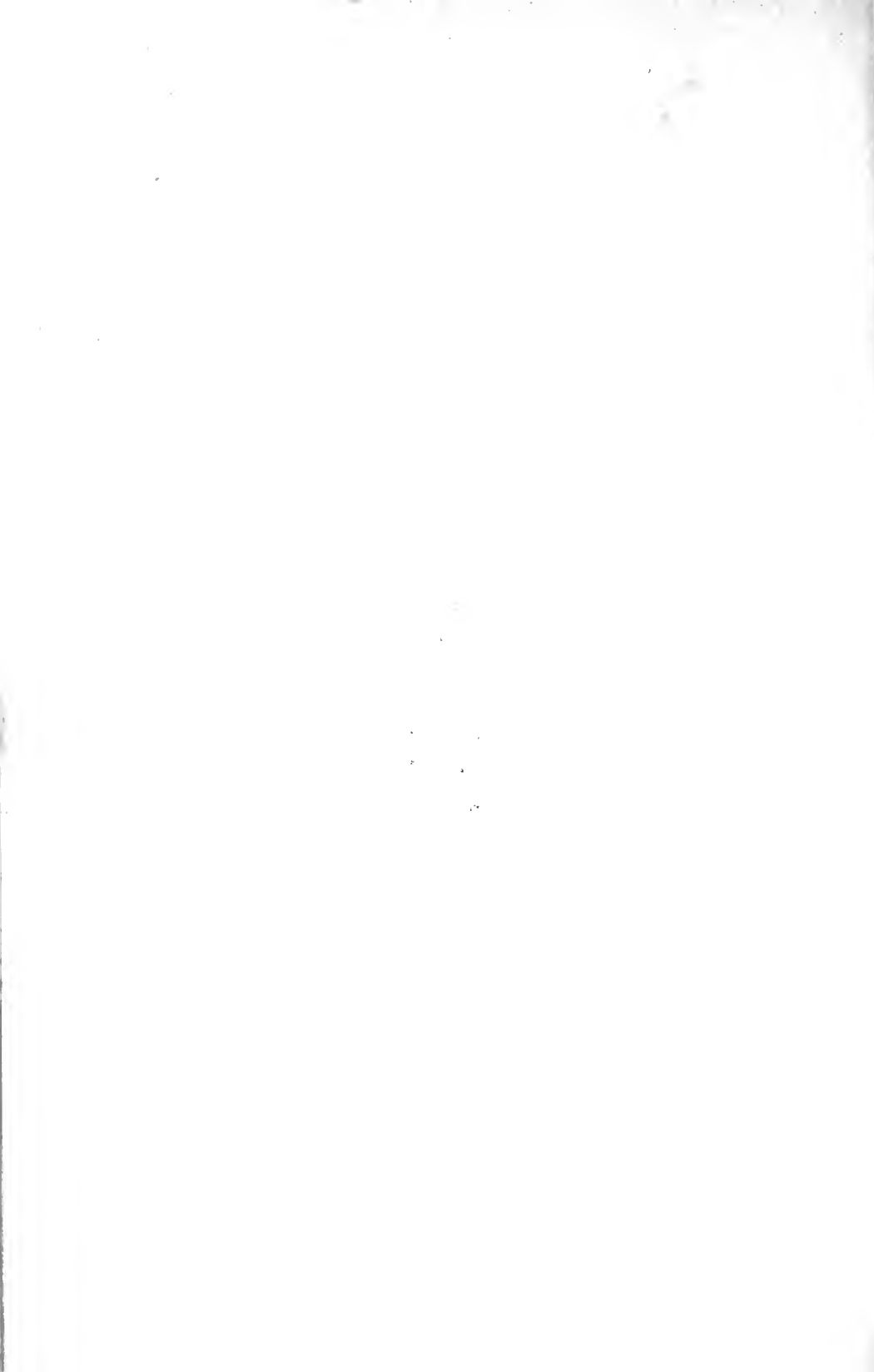
*Elmer E. Affleck, Carrier No. 28.*



*William J. Owens, Carrier No. 29.*



*Benjamin L. Jones, Carrier No. 30.*





*Richard J. Grimes, Carrier No. 31.*



*William J. Cannon, Carrier No. 32.*



*Eugene Evans, Carrier No. 33.*



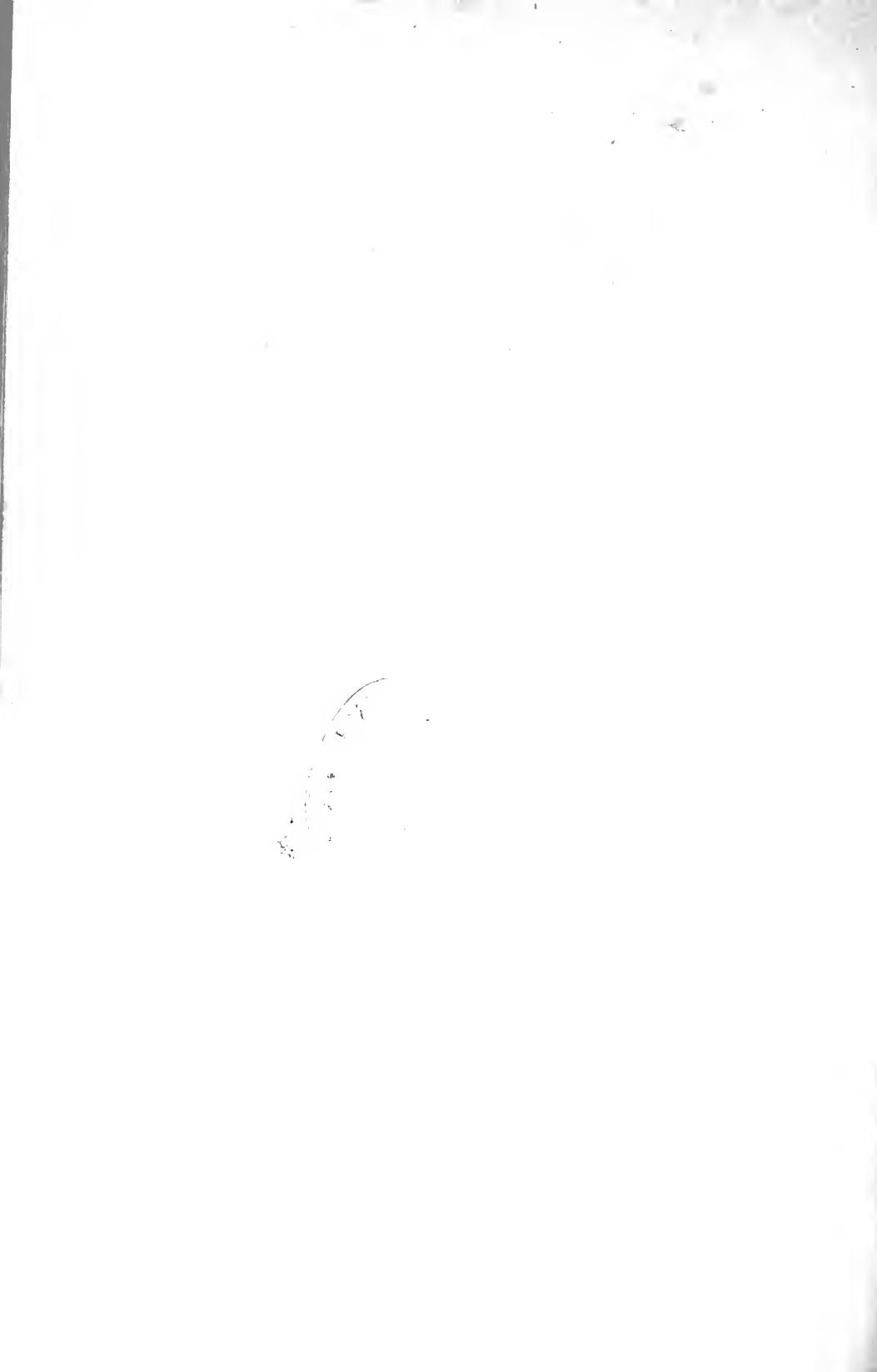
*William H. Bird, Carrier No. 34.*



*Victor H. Lauter, Carrier No. 35.*



*George W. Frisbie, Carrier No. 36.*





*Thomas D. Davis, Carrier No. 27.*



*John R. Davis, Carrier No. 38.*



*Isaac J. Price, Carrier No. 39.*



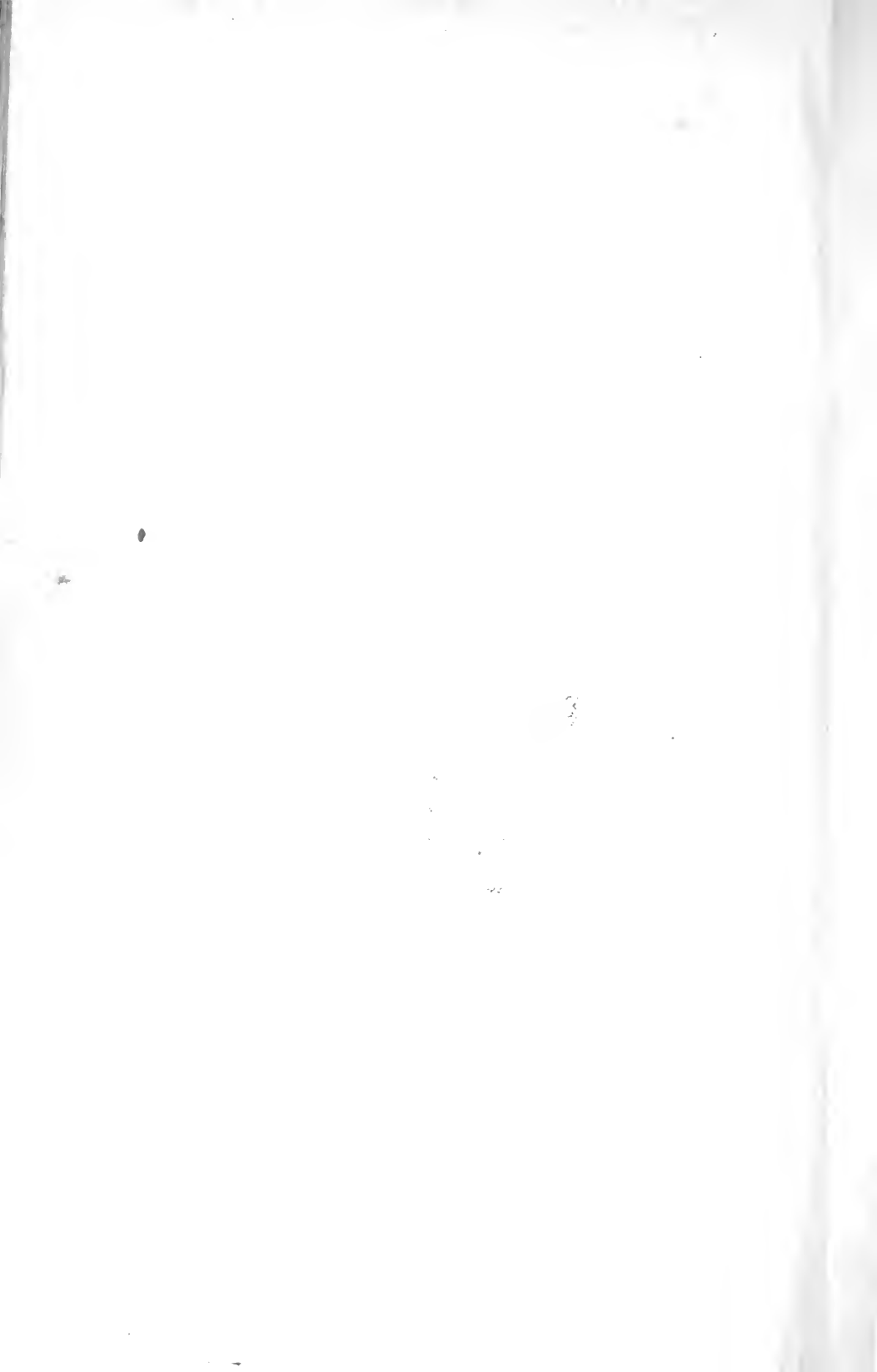
*Barton E. Weldy, Carrier No. 40.*



*Thomas B. Birtley, Carrier No. 41.*



*Edward D. Jones, Carrier No. 42.*





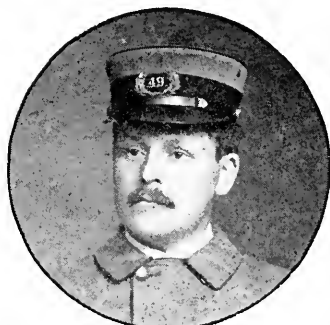
*Harry H. Moore, Carrier No. 43.*



*Edward J. Leonard, Substitute Carrier.*



*Henry Kellerman, Substitute Carrier.*



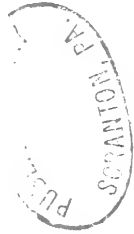
*Henry R. Edwards, Substitute Carrier.*



*George A. Cobb, Substitute Carrier.*



*Richard Evans, Substitute Carrier.*







*INTERNATIONAL*  
*CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOLS*

*OF SCRANTON, PA.*

*THE LARGEST PATRON OF THE*  
*SCRANTON POST OFFICE*





EXECUTIVE BUILDINGS OF THE SCHOOLS.



SCRANTON, PA., July 30, 1901.

MR. R. J. FOSTER, VICE-PRES.,  
THE COLLIERY ENGINEER CO., SCRANTON, PA.

*Dear Sir:*

Through some neglect, or inadvertence, for which I may probably have been as much to blame as any one else, the article furnished by you for insertion in the Post Office History, was omitted. I do not want this to go out without having some mention of the patron of the office which furnishes so much business, and I would therefore ask you to furnish me with an article that I can attach as a supplement, showing the growth, scope of, and present condition of the Schools. If you will kindly furnish me this, I will be much obliged.

Very truly yours,

EZRA H. RIPPLE, P. M.



SCRANTON, PA., August 23, 1901.

COL. EZRA H. RIPPLE, POSTMASTER,  
SCRANTON, PA.

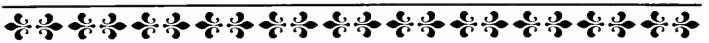
*My dear Sir:*

In response to your letter of July 30, I take pleasure in enclosing you a brief history of the International Correspondence Schools, brought up to date of July 1, which I trust you will find satisfactory.

With kind regards, I remain,

Yours very truly,

RUFUS J. FOSTER,  
Vice-President.





STANLEY P. ALLEN,  
*Secretary.*



ELMER H. LAWALL,  
*Treasurer.*



T. J. FOSTER,  
*President.*



RUFUS J. FOSTER,  
*Vice-President.*



MADISON E. LARKIN,  
*1st. Treasurer.*

## *HISTORY OF THE INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOLS OF SCRANTON, PA.*

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A history of the Scranton post office would be incomplete without a brief sketch of the International Correspondence Schools, an institution that has had the greatest influence on the postal receipts at Scranton and is now using postage on its outgoing mail amounting to about \$100,000 a year.

The International Correspondence Schools, of Scranton, Pa., had their origin in the fall of 1891 as The Correspondence School of Mines, and their growth has been one of rapid evolution aided by intelligent direction and a large expenditure of capital. Over \$2,000,000 have been invested in the business, about 1,000 people are employed in the home offices, and nearly 1,500 in the field department.

The School of Mines was originally established as an adjunct to MINES AND MINERALS, a technical mining journal published by The Colliery Engineer Company. In 1891, this periodical was called "The Colliery Engineer and Metal Miner." Among its various editorial subdivisions was one called "The Correspondence Department," in which the readers of the journal asked and answered questions pertaining to practical mining operations. The services of the editors were made available to the readers for assistance in some of the more difficult questions.

The various States adopted in turn mining laws requiring the employment of only such mine officials as could pass examinations in the sciences connected with mining. As a result of these laws, the more ambitious mine workers purchased some or all of the few books that could be obtained on mining subjects, and attempted to educate themselves. As is usual in such cases, the majority of these men did not have sufficient preliminary education to understand the

formulas and calculations involved in the principles taught; or if they did, their studies were not properly directed, and but few were successful. Those who were attempting to educate themselves in this way asked assistance from "The Correspondence Department" of MINES AND MINERALS, whenever they came across a formula or a principle they could not understand. The publication was a monthly, however, and this was a slow method of gaining the desired assistance. From time to time the editors were importuned



GROUP OF WRITERS AND PRINCIPALS.

to reply to inquiries by mail, and these requests becoming at length very numerous, it was resolved to organize a "Correspondence School of Mines" as an adjunct to MINES AND MINERALS.

Experience had shown that ordinary textbooks are entirely unsuited for this work; educated men of practical experience were therefore employed to prepare Instruction and Question Papers on such lines as would meet the require-

ments of the class of men for whom the Schools were established. There was adopted an original system of correcting the work of each student, of giving him special instruction and explanations whenever necessary, and of handling his work so that he was actually "a class by himself," and could study and recite where and when he pleased.

The success of The Correspondence School of Mines made it evident to the management of The Colliery Engineer Company that there was a broader field for instruction by mail; and in response to inquiries from all parts of the continent, The Correspondence School of Mechanics, The Correspondence School of Architecture, The Correspondence School of Electricity, The Correspondence School of Civil Engineering, etc., and numerous subdivisions were formed from time to time, and competent specialists were engaged as writers of Instruction Papers and as Instructors. The authors of the Instruction Papers all worked in such a way that while the Papers were on different subjects and pertained to different occupations, they were all on the same general plan. Each course began with the most elementary branches, and by easy steps approached and treated the advanced subjects connected with each course. A special feature was that in each course nothing essential to the course was omitted and nothing superfluous was incorporated in the Instruction Papers.

The writer of the ordinary textbook assumes that the student of that book will be under the guidance of a teacher who will omit certain portions of the subject and embellish others, according to the student's needs. He assumes, also, that the student has a certain amount of preliminary education. Such a writer does not often consider it necessary to go into details in discussing the subject, since the teacher is expected to draw upon his own knowledge in explaining important points. In the preparation of textbooks or Instruction Papers for Correspondence Instruction, it must be assumed

that the student knows nothing of the subject in hand, unless it has been treated in a previous Paper. The textbooks for each course must, therefore, be complete and at the same time concise. Each Instruction Paper is one of a series on some special subject, and it must not include anything that does not pertain directly to that specialty ; it must, however, contain everything necessary to a complete understanding of



TEXTBOOK DEPARTMENT. PREPARATION OF INSTRUCTION PAPERS.

the matter treated on and of the principles carried forward in the more advanced Papers that follow. In accordance with this idea the International Correspondence Schools are using nine different original arithmetics, five different original Papers on steam engineering, etc.

Much of the success of the Schools is due to the excellence of these Instruction Papers—and to the easy, yet accurate,



language employed, and to the clearness with which principles are explained and illustrated.

These papers are frequently revised. This revision is easier and less expensive than would be the case with ordinary textbooks. This is because they consist of connected serial parts of from 30 to 100 pages each; besides, experience in teaching from these Instruction Papers enables the writers to determine which particular points in each are most difficult of comprehension, and the aim is to make each revision of an Instruction Paper clearer, if possible, than the former edition. Changes and improvements in apparatus and methods are noted, and the student receives the latest and best information on the subject studied. Up to the present time, hundreds of these Instruction Papers, with their accompanying Question Papers, have been prepared and copyrighted at a cost for authorship and printing of over half a million dollars.

Many persons who have always believed the presence of a teacher necessary to a successful mastery of any subject, cannot understand how the International Correspondence Schools are meeting with success so wonderful and lasting. The following explanation will make this point clear: In a resident school or college, the student studies his lessons and then proceeds to the recitation room where he works out exercises on the blackboard and answers the questions of the teacher. The latter, in explaining the subject, goes into details not found in the textbook, illustrates his remarks with experiments, examples, etc., and explains any points that the student does not fully understand.

By the International System the student first studies an Instruction Paper fully illustrated with drawings of experimental and practical apparatus, and containing numerous examples for practice. He then goes to the "recitation room," which is wherever his paper and ink happen to be,

and writes his answers to the School's printed questions. These he forwards to Scranton for examination and correction, and then proceeds with the study of the next Instruction Paper.

As will be noted by comparing the statements above, the two processes are almost parallel, with the exception that the teacher furnishes additional information in the recitation room. To meet this point the Schools provide such informa-



PART OF EXAMINATION DEPARTMENT. EXAMINERS CORRECTING STUDENTS' LESSON PAPERS.

tion in the Instruction Papers, and in addition furnish each student with information blanks on which to inform his instructor of any difficulties with which he has met and on which he asks additional instruction. In reply he receives a minute, careful explanation of the subject he has failed to understand. If, through great lack of elementary education, he very frequently meets with difficulty in the study of any subject, a "Special Instructor" is assigned to him, on request, who gives special attention to his case.

The results attained by the Schools have been such that the management guarantees to any student the successful completion of any subject provided only that he can read and write English and is willing to try. When the student's answers are received at the Schools, they are first examined by Instructors specially trained for the work. They carefully go over the work, checking in red ink errors in arithmetic, spelling, punctuation, etc. The answers are then submitted to the Principals for the final examination and correction of such subjects as the examiners are not competent to correct. When an error is discovered, it is not only indicated in red ink but a careful explanation of that particular error is written on the back of the sheet. Whenever necessary, special instructions are given to the student on points in which he is weak.

The method of teaching drawing is original, and its results are practical. In all courses that include this subject, the first Instruction Paper on Drawing is sent with the first work, together with a mailing tube in which to return the finished plate. The Instruction Paper contains detailed directions for the use and care of drawing instruments, for making the first plate, and for sending in the work. Beginning with the drawing of simple lines, the student is gradually made familiar with geometrical constructions in daily use in the drafting room, and thus advances to actual working plans of mechanical and architectural constructions, etc. The Model Plates sent to the student are from zinc etchings, made smaller than the original plates, and the student makes an original drawing to the required scale.

Papers or Drawing Plates are entered upon the record books as passed when 90% or more of the work is correct. If the student fails to attain 90% at the first trial, he is given special exercises until he masters the subject. With each corrected set of answers, or Drawing Plates, the student receives

a "Student's Record Card," which states the per cent. allowed on the work. Finely engraved "Certificates of Progress" bearing the signature of the Principal and the Seal of the Schools, are sent the student upon the completion of the Preparatory, Drawing, Intermediate, Advanced, and Technical divisions of a Course, and a "Certificate of Proficiency," or Diploma, is awarded when the student attains 90%, or over, on his final examination.



PART OF MAILING DEPARTMENT.

The Instruction and Question Papers are sent to the student in such a manner that he always has work on hand, so that when one set of Answers is in transit through the mail to the Schools, he has the succeeding set of Instruction Papers, or Drawing Plates to work on. The Instruction Papers become the property of the student, who, however, pledges himself to reserve them strictly for his own use. In addition to the Question and Instruction Papers furnished to

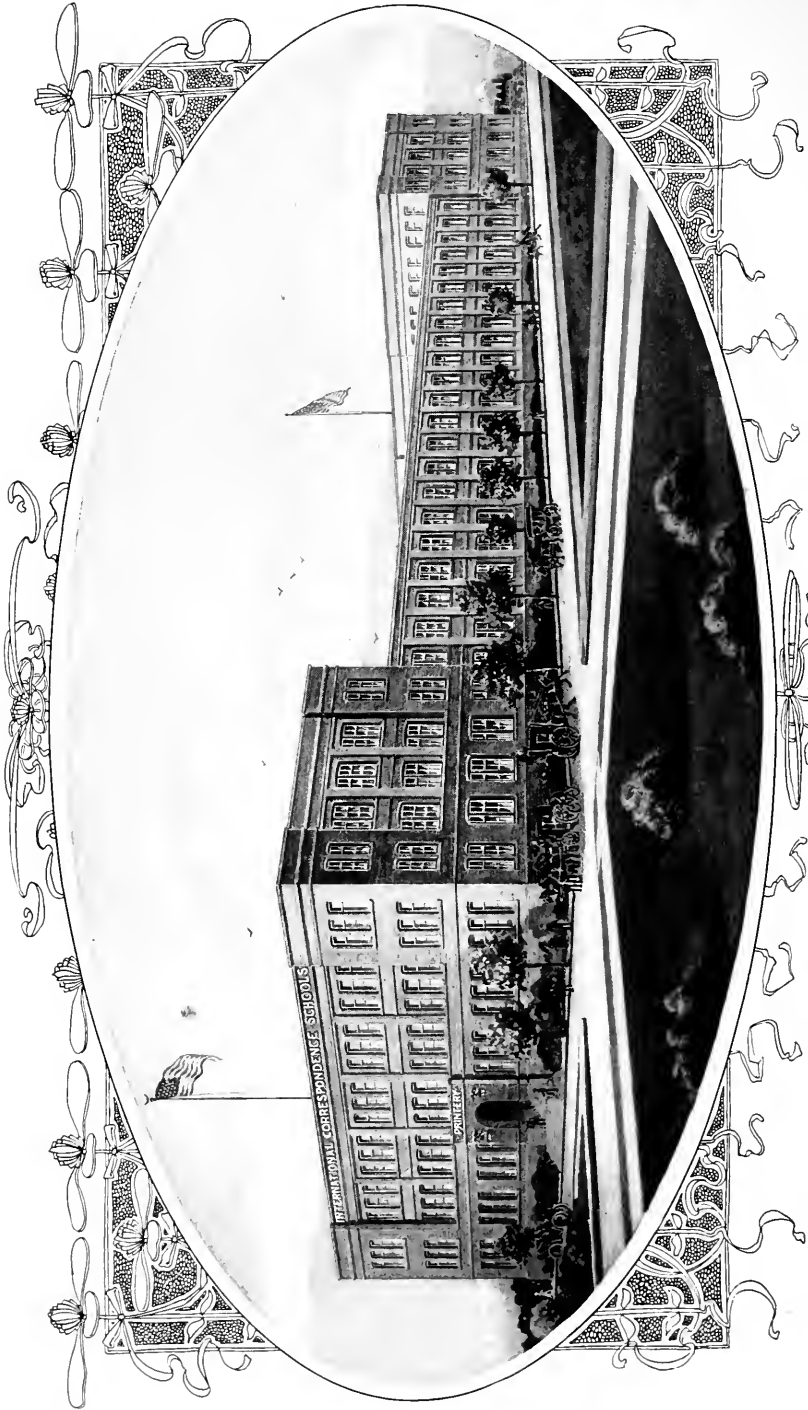
the student, as he progresses with his work, he is provided with a complete duplicate set of all the Instruction and Question Papers, Drawing Plates, and Keys, fully indexed and uniformly bound in half leather. They are a library of practical information on the subject treated; and to the student, they are really worth more than the entire cost of his Course.

The growth of the International Correspondence School as is shown by the following table of enrollments of students beginning with October 16, 1891, when the first student in The Correspondence School of Mines was enrolled.

October 16, 1891 . . . . .	1
January 1, 1892 . . . . .	115
January 1, 1893 . . . . .	1,231
January 1, 1894 . . . . .	3,092
January 1, 1895 . . . . .	5,657
January 1, 1896 . . . . .	10,115
January 1, 1897 . . . . .	16,635
January 1, 1898 . . . . .	30,252
January 1, 1899 . . . . .	68,824
January 1, 1900 . . . . .	139,280
July 1, 1900 . . . . .	188,554
July 1, 1901 . . . . .	311,589

This enormous growth was due partly to the judicious and successful plans of the management, and partly to the uniform success of the students, and their strong endorsement of the institution among their friends. The growth of the Schools is aptly illustrated by the following table of annual expenditures for postage on the outgoing mail of the Schools:

Year ending May 31, 1891 . . . . .	\$ 633.89
Year ending May 31, 1892 . . . . .	1,043.34
Year ending May 31, 1893 . . . . .	2,502.12
Year ending May 31, 1894 . . . . .	7,259.32
Year ending May 31, 1895 . . . . .	9,429.88
Year ending May 31, 1896 . . . . .	17,454.19
Year ending May 31, 1897 . . . . .	26,199.35
Year ending May 31, 1898 . . . . .	34,063.68
Year ending May 31, 1899 . . . . .	37,751.00
Year ending May 31, 1900 . . . . .	53,204.40
Year ending May 31, 1901 . . . . .	72,177.87



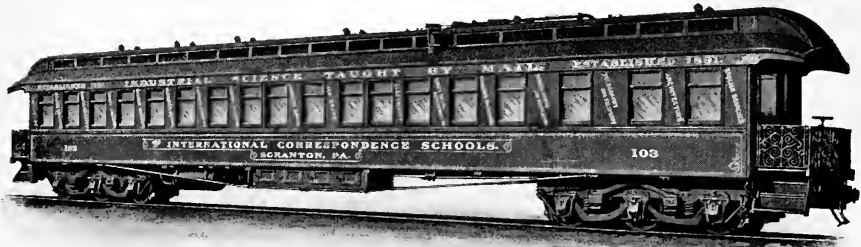
NEW OFFICES AND PRINTERY OF THE INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOLS.

The establishment and successful work of these Schools not only marked a new era in the educational development of the world, but they have exemplified the benefits conferred on the citizens of the United States by our unexcelled postal facilities.

Naturally, the success of an institution such as the International Correspondence Schools has had a tendency to cause unscrupulous attempts to take advantage of their reputation and business standing, and to either adopt a name similar, or one that would be likely to cause people to think that by patronizing them they are enrolling in the International Correspondence Schools. These counterfeits, like other fraudulent schemes, are short-lived.

The headquarters of the International Correspondence Schools are in their own handsome buildings on Wyoming Avenue, Scranton. In these buildings most of the instruction work and the general management are centered. An immense new building to accommodate the large Printing Plant is under construction on Wyoming Avenue, a few blocks north of the present main building. The overflow from the present office buildings, which overflow is now quartered in over a dozen other buildings of the city, will be domiciled in this structure. The new building will cover an area of  $167 \times 460$  ft., and will be three and four stories in height. There are branch enrollment and collection offices in most of the important cities and towns of the United States and Canada, and the employes connected with these offices represent the International Correspondence Schools solely as solicitors for business. In addition to the various branch enrollment and collection offices, the Schools have six handsome special Railway Cars, built especially for the purposes of the Schools. These cars are equipped in a very superior manner as Air-Brake Instruction Cars and are supplied with models of standard locomotives. Competent instructors in

Locomotive Running and Air-Brake practice accompany each car and give personal instructions, illustrated by stereopticon views, to employes of the principal trunk lines all over the country. The cars are constantly traveling over the railway systems of the country enrolling students, who receive their instruction from the home office in Scranton, Pa., and in addition, are given special instructions by the lecturers in the cars. This department of the work of the Schools has met with very great favor among the leading railway officials of the United States and Canada, who have found by experience that the value of the services of their employes is in direct

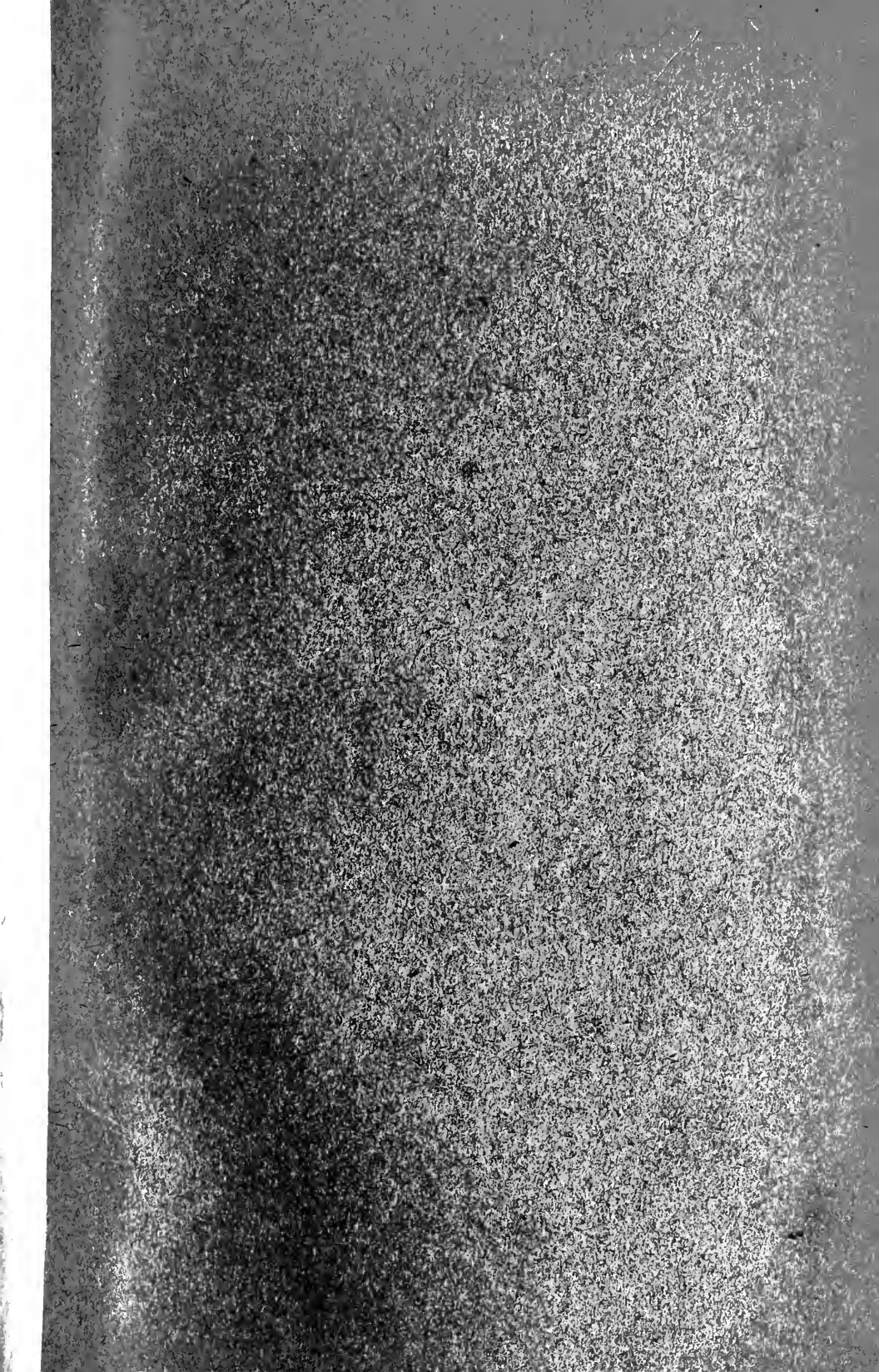


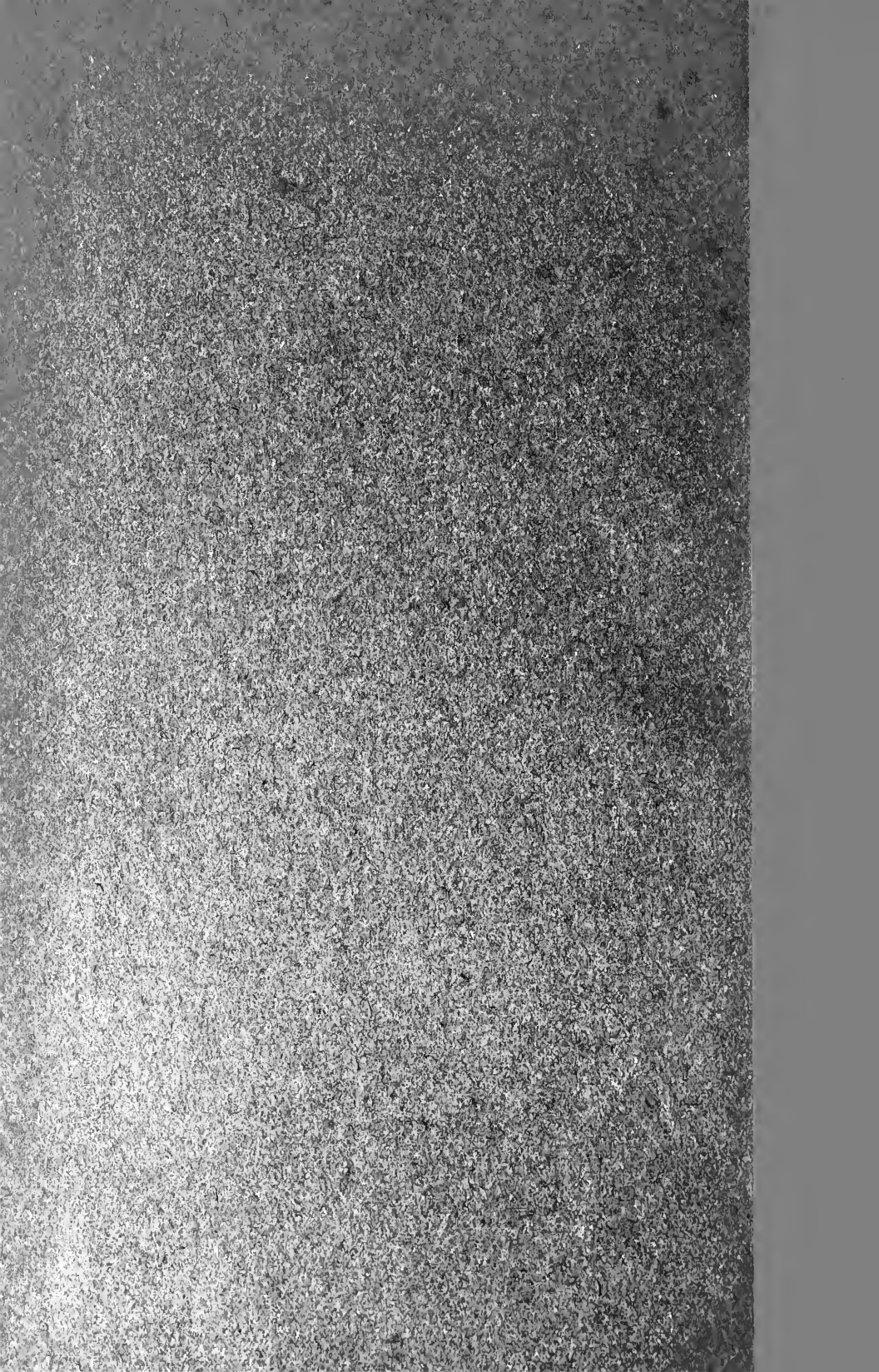
ONE OF THE SIX INSTRUCTION CARS.

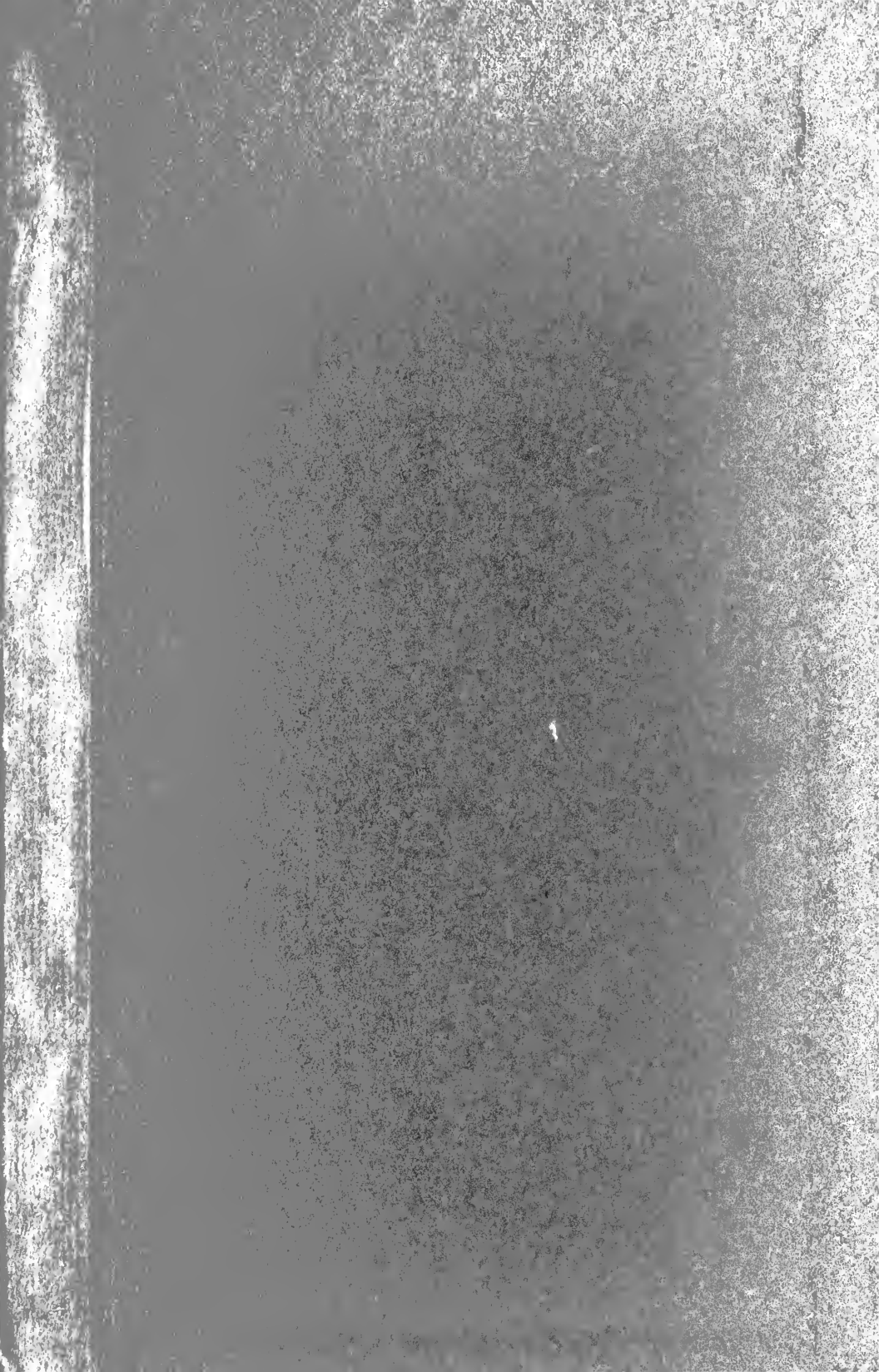
proportion to their advancement in the Course they have studied in the Schools. At this time the International Correspondence Schools have contracts with over fifty of the most prominent railway lines in the United States, over which these cars are transported ; and the railway officials are urgent in advising their employes to enroll in the Schools.

Aside from the branch enrollment offices and the cars, the Schools have no branches, nor are they in any way connected with any of the weak counterfeits that are attempting to achieve success by fraudulent methods.









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