

werp (Belgium) and the Austrian headquarters were at Brussels (Belgium.) In 1776 the first Field Post service of the Netherlands was established at Breda (Holland) The Netherlandish postoffice at Amsterdam forwarded all mail for the armies to Strigen-Sas, situated on the northern shore of the Hollandish Dieps. To this point messengers of the Netherlandish army came, and rowed the mail in boats over the Dieps and then carried it on horseback by messengers to the headquarters at Breda. The mail for the British auxilliary army, arriving from England, was forwarded by a vessel to the Netherlandish frontier and then by riding messengers and also by mail wagons to Brielle on the Maas river, and from there to Strigen-Sas at which city an English post official cared for the delivery to the army. Meantime the year 1793 had arrived and William, Prince of Nassau Orange as Commander in chief of the Netherlandish army, was invading the Austrian part of the Netherlands, and concentrated near the city of Ghent, (Gand) in Belgium. On June 20th 1793 the government of the republic General States of the United Netherlands concluded to reorganize the Field Post service according to the advice of the Netherlandish post director, named L' Honore, a Frenchman. The postal route to The Hague via Ghent, Sockeren and Antwerp to the city of Dortrecht was established. In vain the Austrian Postmaster-General in the Netherlands, protested against this new postal route because it was an aggressive act in the privileged rights of