

Equipment of
vessels.

2. The vessels to be employed under this Agreement shall be always furnished with all appropriate and necessary machinery engines apparel furniture stores tackle boats fuel lamps oil for lamps and engines tallow provisions anchors cables fire pumps and other proper means for extinguishing fire lightning conductors charts chronometers proper nautical instruments and whatever else may be requisite for equipping the said vessels and rendering them constantly efficient for the service hereby agreed to be performed and also manned and provided with competent officers with appropriate certificates according to the German law and with a sufficient number of competent engineers and a sufficient crew of able seamen and other men.

Day and port of
departure.

3. One of such vessels so equipped and manned as aforesaid shall on every Tuesday during the continuance of this Agreement put to sea from Southampton with Her Majesty's mails on board and proceed thence direct to New York in the United States of America.

Hour thereof.

4. The time of departure of each of the said vessels from Southampton aforesaid shall be such as the said Postmaster General shall from time to time by notice in writing direct provided always that the said Postmaster General shall give to the Contractors three calendar months' notice in writing of any change in the time appointed for such departure.

Limits of voyage.

5. Each voyage shall be considered to commence on the embarkation of the mails at Southampton and to terminate on the arrival of the said mails at the quarantine ground in New York.

Duration thereof.

6. The duration of such voyage shall not exceed 276 hours.

Penalty for failure
to have vessel ready.

7. If the Contractors fail on any Tuesday during the continuance of this Contract to provide an efficient vessel at Southampton aforesaid ready to put to sea at the appointed hour then and so often as the same shall so happen the Contractors shall forfeit and pay unto Her Majesty Her heirs and successors the sum of 300 l.

The mail officer.

8. The Contractors shall if required by the Postmaster General receive and allow to remain on board each of the said vessels while employed in the performance of this Agreement and while returning from New York to Southampton an officer to be appointed by the Postmaster General to take charge of the said mails.

Sorters.

9. The Contractors shall also receive and allow to remain on board each of the said vessels while employed in the performance of this Agreement and also while returning from New York to Southampton such a number of officers of the Postmaster General as shall be required for the purpose of sorting and making up the mails conveyed or to be conveyed by such vessel.

Accommodation for
mail officer and
sorters.

10. The Contractors shall provide suitable accommodation and victualling for the officers employed in the service of the Postmaster General as aforesaid either as chief cabin passengers or as fore cabin passengers at the option of the said Postmaster General and the Postmaster General shall pay to the Contractors by way of passage money for the accommodation and victualling of each such officer in respect of every voyage between Southampton and New York and back the sum of 33 l. for every such officer who shall be treated as a chief cabin passenger and the sum of 22 l. for every such officer who shall be treated as a fore cabin passenger.

Place of deposit for
mails and sorting
room.

11. The Contractors shall at their own cost provide to the satisfaction of the Postmaster General on each of the vessels to be employed under this Agreement a separate and convenient room for the convenient and secure deposit of the mails under lock and key and shall also at the like cost (if and when they shall be required so to do by the Postmaster General) erect and provide to the satisfaction of the Postmaster General on each of such vessels a separate and convenient room for sorting and making up the said mails and shall provide in such room all such furniture lamps fittings and other conveniences as shall be necessary and all such furniture lamps fittings and other conveniences shall be from time to time cleansed and kept in repair and the oil for the lamps supplied by the servants and at the cost of the Contractors and the services of the crew of every such vessel shall from time to time be given in the conveyance of
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