

But there are no circumstances connected with the domestic or internal arrangements of the country, so immediately calculated to promote its advancement or general prosperity, as the facilities given to trade and commerce, in the several modes of intercommunication already made and in progress, and to which the Federal Government has given its utmost aid, in the establishment of post offices and direct mail routes throughout every intersection of the Republic—surmounting difficulties of the most arduous kind, and that could only be found to exist in a young and newly settled country, such as the United States. It cannot be expected, that these arrangements are carried out in the improvements of our English post office establishment, or even in those of the generality of European countries. Still are they beyond the utmost that the most ardent expectation could have realised, from the known difficulties to be overcome, not merely in the extent and unimproved nature of the country to be traversed by mail conveyance, but from the inadequate control possessed by this department over its subordinates, who being scattered over a large extent of country, are in part removed from immediate official observance or interference; as also, from the general inexperience of those employed, and their consequent inefficiency, occasioned by the frequent changes made in this branch of the public service, to suit the political complexion and designs of each succeeding administration; besides the