

went eastwardly to lay in m'd'z., is on the river below Rock Island with his m'd'z., stopped by the ice.<sup>1</sup> Capt. Clark of the army passed him and came on here some weeks past, and yet no mail. *With this fund on hand*, the deputy here has omitted to send until 7 or 8 days past, and the Postmaster has failed to hire a carrier to bring it up. When Capt. Clark came up there was a fine opportunity of company for any man hired to bring the mail. I am apprehensive that the whole is made subservient to the convenience of a merchant, and that while I am tortured with suspense, he is calculating cent-per-cent and hiring *cheap, payable in m'd'z.* You know payments in that way are not as *imperative as silver or gold.* I am unacquainted with the P. M., and under excited feelings may judge him hardly. Can you give any aid in establishing a mail route to this place, which shall be an extension of the route from Edwardsville? If you can, I would be gratified if you would write the Postmaster-General. It will be of considerable advantage to your population at F. R., as  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the proposed route lies in your State, and your citizens are quite anxious it shall extend at any rate to Fever R., if no further. This would be a stepping stone that would ultimate in continuing the route to Prairie du Chien.

I have written to the P. M. Gen'l this mail, and think if you will add some other information as to the route, and press the subject, the P. M.-G. would establish the route. I have proposed the following routes, either of w'h will be perfectly agreeable:

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<sup>1</sup> This postmaster was James H. Lockwood, who mentions the fact in *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, ii., p. 152. The books of the department, at Washington, show that he succeeded James Duane Doty as postmaster, Dec. 6, 1824, "and so far as shown by the postoffice records remained as such officer until October 27th, 1828, when he was succeeded by Joseph M. Street." Daniel Drew, an old settler of Prairie du Chien, states that he used to carry the mails, as a boy, during General Street's postmastership, and that Thomas Street, the general's son, had charge of the distribution, the office being in the fort.—ED.