

1.5 EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL

Subject to certain exceptions, the Postmaster General possesses, by virtue of the Post Office Ordinance, the exclusive privilege of carrying letters from place to place, and of performing all incidental services such as those of collecting and delivering letters.

The principal exceptions are :

- Letters sent by a private friend, on his journey, to be delivered to the person to whom they are directed;
- Letters sent by the servant of the sender or the addressee or by a special messenger employed by them;
- Letters concerning goods sent by carrier, such letters being carried gratuitously and delivered with the goods to which they relate; and
- Packets containing news intelligence, that is, matter or pictures for publication in a newspaper.

No collection of letters of any kind (whether exempt from the Postmaster General's privilege or not) can be made for the purpose of conveyance or delivery, and carriers are specially prohibited from carrying letters.

Penalties are imposed for any infringement of the Postmaster General's right.