

REPORT

*Of the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, in the case of
Henry Lightner, accompanied with a bill.*

FEBRUARY 26, 1824.

[Read, and, with the bill, committed to a committee of the whole House to-morrow.

The Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, to whom was referred the petition of Henry Lightner, have had the same under consideration, and have come to the following

REPORT :

The petitioner states that he was appointed Postmaster, at Landisburg, in Pennsylvania, about the year 1812, and that he resigned the office in 1815; that he believed he had fully paid all arrearages due and owing the government, and under that impression suffered his receipts and other papers to be lost and destroyed : that, in August last, two judgments were rendered against him in the United States District Court, at Philadelphia, one for \$ 20 75, and the other for \$ 150. The first being for arrearages claimed, which, on account of the loss of his papers, he could not disprove; and the latter for penalty for not making his return according to law. He states, the village was small and the business of the office but trifling; he prays to be relieved from the penalty, having paid the arrearages.

The Postmaster General states, that the petitioner was appointed in 1812, and made his quarterly returns at irregular periods, to the 1st April, 1814, after which he never made any: that the accounts, thus failed to be rendered, were estimated, and he was called on for payment, and refused; the estimate was doubled and suit brought.—

He states the amount of debt and penalty to be	-	\$ 180 33
And the amount of the penalty to be	-	85 00
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\$95 33

The Committee, under all the circumstances of the case, have come to the conclusion to remit the penalty, on the payment of the principal, and herewith report a bill to that effect.