



Spreading the News: The American Postal System from Franklin to Morse

Richard R. John

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In the seven decades from its establishment in 1775 to the commercialization of the electric telegraph in 1844, the American postal system spurred a communications revolution no less far-reaching than the subsequent revolutions associated with the telegraph, telephone, and computer. This book tells the story of that revolution and the challenge it posed for American business, politics, and cultural life.

During the early republic, the postal system was widely hailed as one of the most important institutions of the day. No other institution had the capacity to transmit such a large volume of information on a regular basis over such an enormous geographical expanse. The stagecoaches and postriders who conveyed the mail were virtually synonymous with speed.

In the United States, the unimpeded transmission of information has long been hailed as a positive good. In few other countries has informational mobility been such a cherished ideal. Richard John shows how postal policy can help explain this state of affairs. He discusses its influence on the development of such information-intensive institutions as the national market, the voluntary association, and the mass party. He traces its consequences for ordinary Americans, including women, blacks, and the poor. In a broader sense, he shows how the postal system worked to create a national society out of a loose union of confederated states. This exploration of the role of the postal system in American public life provides a fresh perspective not only on an important but neglected chapter in American history, but also on the origins of some of the most distinctive features of American life today.

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Mary McHugh:

This Spreading the News: The American Postal System from Franklin to Morse is great guide for you because the content that is certainly full of information for you who always deal with world and get to make decision every minute. This particular book reveal it information accurately using great coordinate word or we can claim no rambling sentences inside it. So if you are read this hurriedly you can have whole facts in it. Doesn't mean it only gives you straight forward sentences but challenging core information with beautiful delivering sentences. Having Spreading the News: The American Postal System from Franklin to Morse in your hand like finding the world in your arm, data in it is not ridiculous a single. We can say that no e-book that offer you world in ten or fifteen small right but this guide already do that. So , this really is good reading book. Hi Mr. and Mrs. active do you still doubt that?

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