

And every fraction of an ounce above the weight of two ounces shall be charged an additional rate of postage of one penny; provided always, that it shall be lawful for the Postmaster-General (if he shall see fit), to delay the transmission of any such printed votes or proceedings, for any space of time, not exceeding twenty-four hours from the time at which such votes and proceedings would otherwise have been forwarded.

That the privilege of forwarding addresses to Her Majesty free of postage, and the privilege, by the said Act of the 1st Victoria, c. 35, granted to Members of each House of Parliament, of receiving petitions addressed to either House of Parliament, not exceeding six ounces each in weight, free of postage, and all the privileges and exemptions by law granted in respect of printed British newspapers duly stamped, and of foreign newspapers, and of colonial newspapers (including those of the islands of Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney, Sark, Man, and the Ionian Islands), whether stamped or not, and letters to and from soldiers and seamen employed in Her Majesty's service abroad, and transmitted to and from the United Kingdom (provided that such Letters do not exceed half an ounce in weight), shall continue in force, subject to the existing regulations and liabilities respecting the same.

That if any such printed votes or proceedings, Parliamentary petitions, printed newspapers and letters of soldiers and seamen, shall become chargeable with and liable to the full Letter rates of Postage, such rates (and the treble duty on newspapers in such cases as the same shall by law become payable), shall be charged and taken according to the scale of weight and rates herein-before specified.

That, except in the cases herein-before specified, all privileges whatsoever of sending Letters free of Postage, or at a reduced rate of Postage, shall be wholly suspended, during the time this present warrant shall be in operation: provided that the letters of owners, charterers, and consignees (resident in the United Kingdom) of vessels inward bound, and the owners, consignees, and shippers of goods on board vessels outward bound, shall have the like exemption from Postage as such Letters are now entitled to, under the provisions of the first Victoria, cap. 34, and that printed colonial newspapers, not stamped, may be brought into the United Kingdom by packet boats free of Postage.

Provided always, and we hereby declare, that nothing in this warrant contained shall extend to or be in anywise construed to affect the rates of postage payable under an Act passed in the year 1764 (being the 5th Geo. 3, c. 25), on letters transmitted by the post within or between any of the British dominions in America or the West Indies, and not passing to or from the United Kingdom, or to alter the mode of charging such letters, so far as such rates are now payable by law.

That on all foreign letters addressed to places within Her Majesty's dominions, the Postmaster-General may charge the foreign postage, in addition to the British postage; and he may account for and pay

over to the foreign countries entitled to receive the same the amount of all such foreign postage.

That the gratuities now payable by law to masters of vessels on letters and newspapers conveyed by them, for or on behalf of the Post-office, between places within the United Kingdom, shall, on and from the said 10th day of January 1840, be reduced; and the sum of two shillings and sixpence only, and no more, shall from thenceforth be payable for each and every number of one hundred of such letters and newspapers, and for any less number in the like proportion; and a gratuity of one penny for each letter, and of one halfpenny for each newspaper, shall also be payable to the masters of vessels bound to Ceylon, the Mauritius the Cape of Good Hope, and the East Indies, on letters and newspapers conveyed by them for or on behalf of the Post-office, subject, nevertheless, to all the regulations and conditions now by law applicable to letters and newspapers conveyed by private ships, and the delivery thereof to the Post-office.

That the terms and expressions used in this Warrant, shall be construed according to the respective interpretations of the terms and expressions contained in an Act, passed in the first year of Her present Majesty, cap. 36, intitled "An Act for consolidating the laws relative to offences against the Post Office of the United Kingdom, and for regulating the judicial administration of the Post Office laws, and for explaining certain terms and expressions employed in those laws;" and the said firstly herein-before mentioned Act of the second and third years of Her present Majesty, so far as those interpretations are not repugnant to the subject, or inconsistent with the context of such terms and expressions; but so that for all the purposes of this present Warrant, the Islands of Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney, Sark, and Man, shall be deemed and considered to be comprehended within the term or expression of "the United Kingdom," and Honduras and the Ionian Islands within the term or expression of "British Dominions or Colonies," wherever such terms or expressions shall be found or used in this present Warrant; and that the word "Post," wherever used in this Warrant, shall extend to and include as well any General, as any Twopenny or Penny or Convention Post.

Provided lastly, and we hereby declare, that it shall be lawful for the Lords Commissioners, for the time being, of Her Majesty's Treasury, or any three of them, by Warrant under their hands, at any time hereafter, to alter or repeal any of the rates hereby altered, or the regulations hereby made, and to make and establish any new or other rates or regulations in lieu thereof, and, from time to time, to appoint at what time the rates that may be payable, are to be paid.

As witness our hands this 27th day of December 1839.

MELBOURNE.
F. BARING.
THOS. WYSE.

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