

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the session of Parliament held in the 28th year of the reign of Her Majesty, cap. 45, entitled "An Act to provide for the collection by means of Stamps of Fees payable in the Superior Courts of Law at Westminster, and in the offices belonging thereto," it is provided by the third section thereof that the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, with the concurrence of the Lord Chief Justices and of the Lord Chief Baron, may from time to time make such rules as seem fit for regulating the use of the stamps under this Act, and particularly for prescribing the application thereof to documents from time to time in use or required to be used for the purposes of such stamps, and for insuring the proper cancellation of adhesive stamps, and keeping account of such stamps; now we, being two of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, with the concurrence of the Lord Chief Justices and of the Lord Chief Baron, do hereby order and direct that the following rules be observed in respect to stamps used in the Superior Courts of Common Law, and in the several offices connected therewith; the Crown Office, Queen's Bench; the Office of Registration of Certificates, &c., of acknowledgements of Deeds of Married Women, Court of Common Pleas; the Office of Registrar of Judgments, &c., Common Pleas; the Queen's Bench Remembrancer's Office, Court of Exchequer; and in the Judges Chambers; to take effect on and after the 1st day of January, 1866.

1. The stamps to be used for collecting the fees payable in the several offices in the Courts of Common Law, at Westminster, and in the Judges' Chambers, by virtue of the above Act, shall, subject to the provisions of the seventh and eighth of these rules, be stamped or affixed at the expense of the parties liable to pay such fees on or to the vellum, parchment, or paper on which the proceedings, in respect whereof such fees are payable, are written or printed, or which may be otherwise used in reference to such proceedings.

2. Where any of such fees are payable in respect of any matter or thing to be done by any officer or in any office of the said Courts, or at the Judges' Chambers, and it shall not have been customary to use any written or printed document or paper in reference to such matter or thing whereon the stamp could be stamped or affixed, the party or his attorney requiring such matter or thing to be done, or permitted to be done, shall make application for the same by a præcipe or short note in writing or print, and a stamp denoting the amount of the fee so payable shall be stamped or affixed to such præcipe or note.

3. All adhesive stamps affixed to any paper or document presented to or kept in the possession of any of the officers of the said Courts, or of the clerks to the Judges, shall, before the Act is done or permitted to be done, in respect of which the fee denoted by such stamp is payable, be effectually cancelled by some officer of the said Courts, or by one of the said clerks to the Judges, by obliterating the same by means of a hand-stamp and printing ink, showing the date of the cancellation; and no such document shall be filed or delivered out until the stamp thereon shall have been cancelled or defaced in manner aforesaid.

4. That when any summons, order, or other document has been issued by mistake, and the stamp thereon has been cancelled without having been legitimately used, the master, associate, or other proper officer of the department to which the fee is payable, or the Judge's Clerk, shall certify that such stamps are fit subjects for allowance, and it shall be competent to the Board of Inland Revenue, upon the presentation of such certificate, to allow the amount thereof.

5. That distributors of stamps, and all persons licensed to sell stamps in England and Wales, shall be permitted to sell the stamps above to, and that an office be provided in or attached to the Judges' Chambers for the sale of stamps.

6. The several officers of the said Courts, and the clerks to the several Judges, shall, on or before the 30th day of April in each year, make out an account of all stamps cancelled in their respective offices, specifying the number of each denomination, and shall render such account to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, and the first of such accounts shall be for the three months ended 31st March, 1866, and the second of such accounts for the year ended 31st March, 1867, and so forth.

7. And we do hereby order and direct that the stamps to be used for collecting the fees payable in the offices of the several Masters of the Courts of Common Law, shall be stamped or affixed at the expense of the parties liable to pay such fees on the several documents mentioned in the second column of the subjoined Table.

<i>Fees taken in the Offices of the Masters of the Courts of Queen's Bench, Common Pleas, and Exchequer, in respect of</i>	<i>Stamp to be affixed upon</i>
Every Writ	Præcipe
Every Appearance	Appearance Piece, which shall be of linen paper of the same size and shape as the Parchment Appearance Pieces heretofore used
Filing every Document	Document filed
Amending any Proceeding	Order to amend
Every Rule	Rule
Every Judgment	Entry in Master's Book
Taxing Bill of Costs	Bill taxed
References to, or Examinations by Masters	Certificate, Examination, or Report
Payment of Money into Court	Entry in Master's Book
Every Certificate	Certificate
Office Copies of Documents	Office Copy
Searches	Præcipe or Note filed
Every Affidavit or Affirmation	Affidavit, &c.
Allowance and Justification of Bail, taking special Bail as Commissioners	Bail Piece
Filing Affidavit and enrolling Articles of Clerkship	Entry in Master's Book
Every re-admission of an Attorney	Rule for re-admission