

Month	Day	Time	Location	Remarks
January	1	8:00 AM
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PENNY POSTS.

A RETURN of the Names of all Places in *Great Britain and Ireland*, in which a PENNY POST is established for the Conveyance of Letters beyond the Post Town to which they are directed; with reference to the Act of Parliament authorizing the Post Office to establish the same.

(Dr. Bowring.)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
3 March 1837.

Lawford 1870(9)

P O S T A G E.

RETURN to an ORDER of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 24 August 1839;—for,

A COPY of the MINUTE of the BOARD of TREASURY, relative to carrying into effect the Act for establishing a REDUCED and UNIFORM RATE of POSTAGE.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed, 26 August 1839.

COPY of TREASURY MINUTE, dated 23 August 1839.

MY Lords read the Act for the further Regulation of the Duties of Postage, which received the Royal Assent on Saturday the 17th instant.

By this Act, my Lords are invested with a power of carrying into effect the reduced and uniform rate of postage contemplated by Parliament, either according to the present mode of collecting the postage, or by pre-payment, collected by means of stamps, compulsory or optional.

My Lords feel the importance of the discretion with which Parliament has invested them, affecting as it must the convenience of the public, the collection of the revenue, as well as the security and facility of the transmission of the correspondence of the country.

In comparing the advantages which may arise from the plan of pre-payment, by means of stamps, if such plan should be adopted, much must depend upon the stamp which may be employed. For the convenience of the public it is of the greatest importance that the mode selected should afford every facility for obtaining and using the stamp. It is also clear that the charge which will fall upon the public, in the shape of extra payment, on account of the stamp itself, in addition to the penny rate, must vary according to the nature of the stamp adopted.

In the course of the inquiries and discussions on the subject, several plans were suggested, viz., stamped covers, stamped paper, and stamps to be used separately, and to be applied to any letter, of whatever description, and written on any paper.

Before my Lords can decide upon the adoption of any course, either by stamp or otherwise, they feel it will be useful that artists, men of science, and the public in general may have an opportunity of offering any suggestions or proposals as to the manner in which the stamp may best be brought into use. With this view, my Lords will be prepared to receive and consider any proposal which may be sent in to them on or before the 15th day of October 1839.

All persons desirous of communicating with my Lords on the subject are requested to direct to the Lords of the Treasury, Whitehall, marked "Post-office Stamp."

My Lords will be prepared to award a premium of 200 l. to such proposal as they may consider the most deserving of attention, and 100 l. to the next best proposal.

My Lords will feel at liberty to adopt, for the public service, any of the suggestions which may be contained in any communications made to them, except, of course, where parties have any right secured by patent.

The points which this Board consider of the greatest importance, are—

1. The convenience, as regards the public use.

2. The

2. The security from forgery.
3. The facility of being checked and distinguished in the examination at the Post-office, which must of necessity be rapid.
4. The expense of the production and circulation of the stamps.

My Lords will be prepared to receive and consider proposals from foreign countries; and they desire that a copy of this Minute be transmitted to Lord Palmerston, and that his Lordship should be requested to take such measures as he may deem most advisable, through Her Majesty's Ministers abroad, for the purpose of making known the intentions of this Board.

They desire also that Lord Palmerston be requested to procure for my Lords, through Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris, information respecting the system of stamps adopted in France, and specimens of the stamp impressions used in that country.

Transmit a copy of this Minute to the Postmaster General for his information and guidance.

Whitehall, Treasury Chambers, }
23 August 1839.

POSTAGE.

COPY of the MINUTE of the BOARD of TREASURY,
relative to carrying into effect the Act for establish-
ing a REDUCED and UNIFORM RATE of POSTAGE.

(Mr. E. J. Stanley.)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
26 August 1839.