

Crawford 1870(10)

P O S T A G E.

COPIES of TREASURY WARRANTS regulating the DUTIES on POSTAGE.

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*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed, 27 January 1840.*

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TREASURY WARRANT, dated 22 November 1839, regulating the  
DUTIES on POSTAGE.

**W**HEREAS by an Act, passed in the last Session of Parliament, intituled, "An Act for the further Regulation of the Duties on Postage, until the 5th day of October 1840," power is given to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, or any three of them, by warrant under their hands, to alter, fix, reduce, or remit all or any of the rates of British or Inland or other postage payable by law, on the transmission of post letters, and to subject such letters to rates of postage according to the weight thereof, and a scale of weight to be contained in such warrant (without reference to the distance or number of miles the same may be conveyed), and to fix and limit the weight of letters to be sent by the post; and from time to time, by warrant as aforesaid, to alter or repeal any such altered or reduced rates, and make and establish any new or other rates in lieu thereof; and from time to time, by warrant as aforesaid, to appoint at what time the rates which may be payable are to be paid, that is to say, whether on posting the letter or on the receipt thereof, or at either of those times, at the option of the sender; provided that all such warrants should be inserted in the London Gazette 10 days, at least, before coming into operation, and should, within 14 days after making the same, be laid before both Houses of Parliament (if then sitting), or otherwise, within 14 days after Parliament should meet.

And whereas an Act was passed in the first year of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter 34, intituled, "An Act for the Regulation of the Duties of Postage;" and another Act was passed in the same Session, chapter 76, intituled, "An Act to impose Rates of Packet Postage on East India Letters, and to amend certain Acts relating to the Post-office;" and another Act was passed in the first and second years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter 97, intituled, "An Act for imposing Rates of Postage on the Conveyance of Letters by Packet-boats, between places in the Mediterranean and other parts."

Now, we the undersigned, (being three of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury), do, in exercise of the power or authority in us for such purpose vested in and by the said first mentioned Act, and of all other powers enabling us in this behalf, by this warrant under our hands, order and direct, that this present warrant shall come into operation on the 5th day of December next, and that all letters (not being by law specially exempted from postage), which, on or after that day, shall be posted in any town or place within the United Kingdom, or within any of the Islands of Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, Sark, and Man, or shall be brought from parts beyond the seas to any port or place within the United Kingdom, or the said islands, by any packet-boat or private vessel, shall be subject to the several regulations and rates hereinafter contained.

And we further order and direct, that on and after the said 5th day of December next, the present practice of charging the rates of postage on letters transmitted by the general-post, consisting of more than one sheet of paper, or containing any enclosure, shall be wholly discontinued; and thenceforth all letters, of whatever description, transmitted through the general-post, and legally chargeable with postage, shall be charged by weight, as hereinafter mentioned.

And we hereby fix and limit the following scale of weight of letters to be

transmitted through the general-post, and we subject such letters, on and after the said 5th day of December next, to the following rates of postage (that is to say) :—

On every letter not exceeding half an ounce in weight, there shall be charged and taken one rate of postage.

On every letter exceeding half an ounce, and not exceeding one ounce in weight, there shall be charged and taken two rates of postage.

On every letter exceeding one ounce, and not exceeding two ounces in weight, there shall be charged and taken four rates of postage.

On every letter exceeding two ounces, and not exceeding three ounces in weight, there shall be charged and taken six rates of postage.

And on every letter exceeding three ounces, and not exceeding four ounces in weight, there shall be charged and taken eight rates of postage; and for every ounce in weight above the weight of four ounces, there shall be charged and taken two additional rates of postage; and every fraction of an ounce above the weight of four ounces, shall be charged as one additional ounce.

And we order and direct that no letter exceeding 16 ounces in weight, shall in any case be forwarded by the general-post between places within the United Kingdom and the said islands, or from the said United Kingdom and the said islands to parts beyond the seas, except letters franked, or by law specially exempted from postage, or letters posted as franks, although chargeable with postage, and except letters forwarded by, or addressed to, some public office or department; or letters arriving in the United Kingdom or the said islands from parts beyond the seas, or plantation accounts, patterns and samples of goods, deeds, books, pamphlets and other printed papers, forwarded by post, in conformity with the regulations from time to time in force respecting the same, between the United Kingdom or the said islands, and the British colonies or foreign parts; and except bankers' parcels forwarded pursuant to the regulations of the said Act of the first year of Her present Majesty, cap. 34.

And we hereby fix and limit the following rates of postage to be paid to Her Majesty's Postmaster-general, for the use of Her Majesty, on and after the 5th day of December next, on the letters next hereinafter mentioned; and we order and direct the same to be charged and paid accordingly (that is to say) :—

#### *Inland Letters.*

On all letters not by law specially exempted from postage, and not exceeding half an ounce in weight, transmitted by the general-post between places within the United Kingdom, or between the said islands, or between the United Kingdom and the said islands (not being letters sent to or from parts beyond the seas), there shall be charged and taken one uniform rate of postage of 4*d.*, without reference to the number of sheets or pieces of paper, or enclosures, of which the same may be comprised, or to the distance or number of miles the same shall be conveyed.

On all such letters, if exceeding half an ounce in weight, there shall be charged and taken progressive and additional rates of postage (each additional rate being estimated at 4*d.*), according to the scale of weight and number of rates hereinbefore fixed and declared.

#### *Packet Letters.*

On all letters not exceeding half an ounce in weight, transmitted by packet-boat between any place within the United Kingdom, or the said islands, and any other of the British dominions or colonies (except the Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, the Mauritius and the East Indies), there shall be charged and taken one rate of postage of 1*s.*, and if exceeding such weight, then progressive and additional rates of postage, according to the scale of weight hereinbefore contained, each additional rate being estimated at 1*s.*

#### *Ship Letters.*

That all letters transmitted under the authority of the Postmaster-general, by private vessels or packet-boats, between places in the United Kingdom, or between the United Kingdom and the said islands, or between the said islands, shall



shall be considered as forwarded by the general-post between such places, and be charged accordingly.

That on all letters transmitted by vessels, not being packet-boats, between the United Kingdom or the said islands, and any place beyond the seas (except Ceylon, the Mauritius, the Cape of Good Hope, and the East Indies), there shall be charged and taken the rates of postage following; (that is to say), if posted at the port of departure within the United Kingdom or the said islands, or if addressed to, and delivered at, the port of the ship's arrival within the United Kingdom or the said islands, and not exceeding half an ounce in weight, one rate of 8*d.*; and if posted at any other place within the United Kingdom or the said islands than the port of departure, or if addressed to, and delivered at, any other place within the United Kingdom or the said islands than the port of the ship's arrival, and not exceeding half an ounce in weight, a rate of 1*s.*; and if exceeding such weight, then progressive additional rates of postage according to the scale of weight hereinbefore contained, estimating and charging each additional rate at 8*d.* or 1*s.* respectively, as the case may be.

#### *Foreign Letters.*

That on all foreign letters, not exceeding half an ounce in weight, transmitted by post between the United Kingdom or the said islands and parts beyond the seas, and on all colonial letters, not exceeding that weight, transmitted by post between the United Kingdom or the said islands, and any of Her Majesty's dominions or colonies (through France), there shall be charged and taken the same rates of British postage (both inland and packet rates), as are by law now payable in respect of single letters so transmitted (the inland rates on such letters being charged and calculated according to the distance or number of miles the same shall be conveyed, where the same are now so charged and calculated), and on every letter so transmitted, exceeding half an ounce in weight, there shall be charged and taken progressive and additional rates of inland and packet postage according to the scale of weight hereinbefore contained, estimating and charging each rate at the amount now payable for every such single letter, and charging the inland rates as aforesaid.

#### *East India Letters.*

That on all letters transmitted between the United Kingdom or the said islands, and the Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, the Mauritius, or the East Indies, there shall be charged and taken the like rates of sea-postage as are now by law payable in respect of such letters, and also the like rates for the inland conveyance of such letters within the United Kingdom and the said islands as would be payable if such letters had been transmitted by post within the United Kingdom or the said islands exclusively, according to the scale of weight and rates hereinbefore fixed and declared.

And we order and direct, that all additional rates now payable by law on letters transmitted by post to or from Ireland, by way of Holyhead, in respect of the Menai Bridge, and by way of Conway and Chester, in respect of Conway Bridge, and by way of Milford and Waterford, and also the additional rate of one halfpenny on letters conveyed by the post in any part of Scotland by a mail-carriage with more than two wheels, shall, on and after the said 5th day of December next, be wholly remitted and shall cease to be payable.

That all additional rates for letters originally sent by the general-post, to places within the United Kingdom or the said islands, directed beyond the limits of the delivery of the general-post, and delivered by any twopenny-post or penny-post, or originally sent by any twopenny or penny-post, and afterwards passing through the general-post, shall be remitted and cease to be payable, except on letters franked or exempted by law from the general-post rates, but subject to the twopenny or penny-post rates, which letters shall still continue liable to, and chargeable with the twopenny and penny-post rates, when transmitted by any such post.

That on all letters not exceeding half an ounce in weight, and not being by law specially exempted from the twopenny and penny-post rates, transmitted by any twopenny or penny-post in London or Dublin (and not having passed through, or being intended to pass through, the general-post), there shall, on and after the said 5th day of December next, be charged and taken a

rate of 1 *d.* only, provided such postage be pre-paid at the time of posting the same. But in case any letter, not being by law specially exempted as aforesaid, transmitted by any such twopenny or penny-post, shall not be pre-paid when posted, or shall exceed half an ounce in weight, there shall be taken the same rate of postage as is now payable by law thereon.

That on all letters not specially exempted from penny-post rates, transmitted by any penny-post in the United Kingdom, or the said islands, other than London and Dublin, and not having passed through, or being intended to pass through, the general-post, there shall, on and after the 5th day of December next, be taken a rate of 1 *d.* as at present.

That no letter shall be sent by any such twopenny or penny-post exceeding four ounces in weight, unless the same shall have originally passed, or shall be intended to pass, through the general-post; and in such last-mentioned case not exceeding the weight of 16 ounces, unless specially authorized by this warrant as aforesaid.

That all printed newspapers, Parliamentary proceedings, printed votes and proceedings of the colonial legislatures, printed prices current, commercial lists, periodical publications posted at Falmouth, unstamped publications, bankers' parcels, patterns, samples, plantation accounts, deeds, books, pamphlets, and other printed papers, soldiers' and seamen's letters, and other letters, articles and things which may now by law be sent by post, under certain regulations, free of postage, or at reduced rates of postage, shall continue to have the benefit of all the exemptions and privileges they now enjoy, and shall, if forwarded in conformity with such regulations, be charged with the same respective amounts of postage as are now, by law, payable in respect thereof, subject nevertheless to all the regulations and liabilities now in force respecting the same.

That if any such newspapers, and other printed papers, letters, articles and things (periodical publications, bankers' parcels, plantation accounts, deeds, books and pamphlets excepted), shall become chargeable with, and liable to, the full letter-rates of postage, such rates (and the treble duty on newspapers and other printed papers in such cases as the same shall by law become payable), shall be charged and taken according to the scale of weight and rates hereinbefore specified.

That the rates on the said periodical publications, bankers' parcels, plantation accounts, deeds, books and pamphlets, shall be charged according to the scale and limitation of weight now established and fixed, and with the same amount of postage as would, by law, be chargeable and payable if this warrant had not been made. But in case any such rates shall exceed the rates of postage to which the said publications and articles would become liable if charged according to the scale of weight and rates of postage hereinbefore specified, then the same shall be charged with postage under this warrant, according to the scale and rates aforesaid (bankers' parcels being in such last-mentioned case charged with the same amount of postage to which any other letters or packets of the same weight would be subject and liable, on being transmitted by the general-post).

That on all letters transmitted by packet-boat between any ports in the British possessions in the West Indies and any port in Columbia or Mexico, pursuant to the said Act of the first year of Her present Majesty, c. 34, and on all letters transmitted by packet-boat between any ports or places in the Red Sea or Persian Gulf and the East Indies, in pursuance of the said Act of the first year of Her present Majesty, c. 76, and on all letters transmitted by packet-boat between places in the Mediterranean and other places, pursuant to the said Act of the first and second years of Her present Majesty, c. 97, and not exceeding half an ounce in weight respectively, there shall be taken the like rates of postage as are by law now payable in respect of such letters being single letters; and in case the same shall exceed half an ounce in weight, there shall be taken progressive and additional rates of postage on such letters, according to the scale of weight hereinbefore contained, estimating and charging each additional rate at the amount payable for every such single letter.

And we further order and direct, that in all cases in which the rate of 4 *d.* hereby authorized to be charged on letters transmitted by the post, not exceeding half an ounce in weight, shall exceed the duty of postage which would be payable by law, according to the existing rates on single letters so transmitted



mitted in case this warrant had not been made, there shall be taken on such letters the like rates of postage only, and no more, as would by law be payable according to the existing rates, by distance or otherwise, in respect of such single letters; and on any such letters exceeding half an ounce in weight, there shall be charged and paid the progressive additional rates according to the scale hereinbefore contained, estimating and charging each additional rate at the amount payable according to the existing rates, by distance or otherwise, for every such single letter: provided always, and we hereby declare, that nothing herein 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 the islands hereinbefore mentioned, or to alter the mode of charging such letters, so far as such rates are now payable by law.

That on all general-post letters posted within the United Kingdom or the said islands, but not including letters addressed to France (which with reference to existing treaties between His late Majesty King William the Fourth, or Her present Majesty, and His Majesty the King of the French, are to be excepted), if exceeding one ounce in weight, the postage shall be payable by the sender at the time of posting the same; and if any such letter shall be posted without the postage being so pre-paid, there shall be taken on every such letter double the postage to which such letter would otherwise have been liable according to the several and respective progressive and additional rates and scale of weight hereinbefore mentioned; and in all other cases the rates of postage from time to time payable under this warrant shall be paid and payable in the manner prescribed and directed by the said Act of the first year of Her present Majesty, c. 34, s. 2.

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, c. 36, intituled, "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," so far as those interpretations are not repugnant to the subject, or inconsistent with the context of such terms and expressions; and the Ionian Islands shall be entitled to all the benefits and advantages hereby granted in favour of Her Majesty's colonies, and the rates of postage between such islands and the United Kingdom, and the islands firstly hereinbefore mentioned, shall be chargeable and payable as on letters forwarded to and from Her Majesty's colonies.

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 22d day of November 1839,

(signed) *Melbourne.*  
*F. Baring.*  
*H. Tufnell.*

TREASURY WARRANT, dated 27 December 1839, further regulating the  
DUTIES ON POSTAGE.

WHEREAS by an Act, passed in the last Session of Parliament, intituled, "An Act for the further Regulation of the Duties on Postage, until the 5th day of October 1840," power is given to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, or any three of them, by warrant under their hands, to alter, fix, reduce, or remit all or any of the rates of British, or inland, or other postage, payable by law on the transmission of post-letters, and to subject such letters to rates of postage according to the weight thereof, and a scale of weight to be

contained in such warrant (without reference to the distance or number of miles the same may be conveyed), and to fix and limit the weight of letters to be sent by the post; and from time to time, by warrant as aforesaid, to alter or repeal any such altered or reduced rates, and make and establish any new or other rates in lieu thereof; and from time to time, by warrant as aforesaid, to appoint at what time the rates which may be payable are to be paid, that is to say, whether on posting the letter or on the receipt thereof, or at either of those times, at the option of the sender; and, by the same Act, power is also given to the Lords of the Treasury, by warrant under their hands, to suspend, wholly or in part, any Parliamentary or official privilege of sending and receiving letters by the post free of postage, or any other franking privilege of any description whatsoever; provided that all such warrants should be inserted in the London Gazette, 10 days at least before coming into operation, and should, within 14 days after making the same, be laid before both Houses of Parliament (if then sitting), or otherwise within 14 days after Parliament should meet.

And whereas by a warrant, under the hands of three of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, dated the 22d day of November 1839, the said Lords Commissioners did, in exercise of the power or authority for such purpose vested in them by the said Act, and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, fix and limit the scale of weight therein mentioned of letters to be transmitted through the general-post, and they subjected and charged such letters, on and after the 5th day of December then next and now instant, to the rates of postage therein mentioned, and they thereby made the several other orders and regulations respecting the conveyance of letters by the post therein contained; and they thereby declared that it should 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 thereafter to alter or repeal any of the rates thereby altered, or the regulations thereby 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 might be payable were to be paid.

Now we, the undersigned (being three of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury), do, in exercise of the power or authority in us for such purpose vested in and by the said Act and warrant, and of all other powers enabling us in this behalf, by this warrant, under our hands, order and direct that the said warrant of the 22d day of November now last, and the rates thereby fixed and directed to be charged, shall be and the same are hereby repealed from and after the 9th day of January 1840 (except as to any letters posted in or brought into the United Kingdom on or before that day, and also except as to any duties of postage which shall have become due under or by virtue of such warrant, which may be recovered as if the same had continued in force).

And we hereby further order and direct, that this present warrant shall come into operation on the 10th day of January 1840; and that all letters which, on or after that day, shall be posted in any town or place within the United Kingdom, or shall be brought from parts beyond the seas to any port or place within the United Kingdom, or shall be sent between the United Kingdom and places beyond the seas, or between any of the other places hereinafter mentioned, shall be subject to the several regulations and rates hereinafter contained.

And we further order and direct, that letters transmitted by the post shall not in future be charged with the British rates of postage, according to the number of enclosures, but by weight, as hereinafter mentioned.

And we hereby fix and limit the following scale of weight of letters to be transmitted by the post; and we subject such letters, on and after the said 10th day of January 1840, to the following rates of postage; (that is to say),

On every letter, not exceeding half an ounce in weight, there shall be charged and taken one rate of postage.

On every letter exceeding half an ounce, and not exceeding one ounce in weight, there shall be charged and taken two rates of postage.

On every letter, exceeding one ounce, and not exceeding two ounces in weight, there shall be charged and taken four rates of postage.

On every letter exceeding two ounces, and not exceeding three ounces in weight, there shall be charged and taken six rates of postage.

And



And on every letter exceeding three ounces, and not exceeding four ounces in weight, there shall be charged and taken eight rates of postage.

And for every ounce in weight above the weight of four ounces, there shall be charged and taken two additional rates of postage; and every fraction of an ounce, above the weight of four ounces, shall be charged as one additional ounce.

And we order and direct, that no letter exceeding sixteen ounces in weight shall, in any case, be forwarded by the post between places within the United Kingdom, except Addresses to Her Majesty, Parliamentary Petitions, printed Votes and Proceedings in Parliament, Letters addressed to, or despatched by any of the Government Offices or Departments, or any Public Officer having now the privilege of franking by virtue of his office, Deeds, if transmitted under all such regulations and restrictions as the Postmaster-general shall from time to time appoint, and letters to and from places beyond the seas.

And we hereby fix and limit the following rates of postage to be paid to Her Majesty's Postmaster-general, for the use of Her Majesty, on letters posted and transmitted by the post, on and after the 10th day of January 1840; and we order and direct the same to be charged and paid accordingly; that is to say,

#### *Inland Letters.*

On all letters, not exceeding half an ounce in weight, transmitted by the post, between places within the United Kingdom (not being letters sent to or from parts beyond the seas), there shall be charged and taken one uniform rate of postage of one penny, without reference to the number of sheets or pieces of paper, or enclosures, of which the same may be comprised, or to the distance or number of miles the same shall be conveyed; and that on all such letters, if exceeding half an ounce in weight, there shall be charged and taken progressive and additional rates of postage (each additional rate being estimated at one penny), according to the scale of weight and number of rates hereinbefore fixed and declared; provided that such postage of one penny, and such progressive and additional postage, be pre-paid at the time of posting such letters; but, in case such postage on any such letters shall not be pre-paid when posted, there shall be charged on such letters a postage of double the amount to which such letters would otherwise have been liable under this present warrant.

That all letters forwarded under the authority of the Postmaster-general, by private vessels or packet-boats, and transmitted between places in the United Kingdom, shall be considered as forwarded by the post between such places, and be charged accordingly.

#### *Colonial Letters by Packet.*

That on all letters not exceeding half an ounce in weight, transmitted between any place within the United Kingdom, wherever situate, and any other of the British dominions or colonies, by packet-boat, and not through France (including, however, letters to and from the East Indies by way of Falmouth and Alexandria), there shall be charged and taken one uniform rate of British postage of 1s.; and, if exceeding such weight, then progressive and additional rates of postage, according to the scale of weight and number of rates hereinbefore contained, each additional rate being estimated at 1s.

#### *Ship Letters.*

That on all letters transmitted by vessels, not being packet-boats, between the United Kingdom and any place beyond the seas (including Ceylon, the Mauritius, the Cape of Good Hope, and the East Indies), there shall be charged and taken for British postage the rates following, at whatever place within the United Kingdom the same may be posted or delivered, that is to say, if not exceeding half an ounce in weight, one uniform rate of 8d.; and, if exceeding such weight, then progressive and additional rates of postage, according to the scale of weight and number of rates hereinbefore contained, estimating and charging each additional rate at 8d.

*Foreign Letters.*

That on all letters not exceeding half an ounce in weight, transmitted by post—

Between any part of the United Kingdom and France, or any other foreign country through France (letters to and from any of Her Majesty's colonies or dominions excepted), there shall be charged and taken uniform rates of postage of the like amounts as are now payable by law on single letters transmitted between London and any such foreign country.

Between the United Kingdom and foreign parts (except France and any foreign country through France), or between the United Kingdom and any of Her Majesty's colonies or dominions through a foreign country, or between any ports, islands, or places out of the United Kingdom, there shall be charged and taken the like rates of British postage as are by law now payable in respect to single letters so transmitted (letters on which uniform rates of postage between any such places are now legally payable, being still liable to, and charged therewith, according to the respective amounts thereof); and the said letters, whether at present rated from or to the port of departure and arrival of the packet conveying the same or not, shall, for the purposes of this warrant, be deemed and considered to be so rated, and the rates shall be charged and taken accordingly.

And on every letter so transmitted (letters chargeable with uniform rates of postage as aforesaid excepted), which shall be posted within the United Kingdom at any other place than the port of departure of the packet, by which the same shall be forwarded, or which shall be addressed to, or delivered at, any other place within the United Kingdom than the port at which the packet bringing the same shall arrive, and not exceeding half an ounce in weight, an inland rate of 2*d.* shall be charged and taken, in addition to the rates of British postage now payable thereon as aforesaid.

And on every letter so transmitted as hereinbefore respectively mentioned, exceeding half an ounce in weight (letters on which uniform rates are payable as aforesaid included), there shall be charged and taken progressive and additional rates of British postage, according to the scale of weight and number of rates hereinbefore contained, estimating and charging each additional rate at the amount hereinbefore directed to be charged and taken on every letter so transmitted not exceeding half an ounce in weight, and charging the inland rate (if any) as aforesaid.

And we further order and direct, that in all cases in which the British rates hereinbefore directed to be charged on letters transmitted by post between the United Kingdom and foreign parts, or between the United Kingdom and any of Her Majesty's colonies or dominions through a foreign country, or between any places out of the United Kingdom, not exceeding half an ounce in weight, shall exceed the duty of postage which would be payable by law according to the existing rates on single letters so transmitted in case this warrant had not been made, there shall be charged and taken on such letters the like rates of postage only, and no more, as would by law be payable according to the existing rates, by distance or otherwise, in respect of such single letters; and on any such letters exceeding half an ounce in weight, there shall be charged and paid the progressive additional rates, according to the scale of weight and number of rates hereinbefore contained, estimating and charging each additional rate at the amount payable according to the existing rates for every such single letter.

That with reference to the existing treaties between His late Majesty King William the Fourth, Her present Majesty, and His Majesty the King of the French, letters between the United Kingdom and France may be sent without being pre-paid; but in all other cases of letters sent out of the United Kingdom it shall be lawful for the Postmaster-general to require the postage thereof to be paid by the sender, on the tender or delivery of such letters at the Post-office, or other place appointed by the Postmaster-general for the receipt of such letters for the purpose of transmission by the post (subject nevertheless to the regulations and enactments in this respect contained in the Act of the 1st Victoria, c. 34, s. 14.)

And we order and direct that all additional rates, at any time heretofore payable by law, on letters transmitted by post to or from Ireland, by way of Holyhead,



head, in respect of the Menai Bridge, and by way of Conway and Chester, in respect of Conway Bridge, and by way of Milford and Waterford; and also the additional rate of one halfpenny on letters conveyed by the post in any part of Scotland, by a mail-carriage with more than two wheels, shall be wholly remitted, and shall cease to be payable.

That all additional rates for letters originally sent by the general-post to places within the United Kingdom, directed beyond the limits of the delivery of the general-post, and delivered by any twopenny, or penny, or convention post, or originally sent by any twopenny, or penny, or convention post, and afterwards passing through the general-post, shall also be remitted and cease to be payable.

That on and after the said 10th day of January next, the privilege of sending and receiving letters by the post free of postage, whether Parliamentary, official, or of any other description whatsoever (except as hereinafter provided), as well under an Act passed in the first year of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled, "An Act for regulating the sending and receiving of Letters and Packets by the Post, free from the duty of Postage," (being the 1st Victoria, c. 35), as under any other Act or Acts now in force, or under any other authority whatsoever, shall be wholly suspended during the time this warrant shall be in force; and that all letters to which any such privileges now extend (except as aforesaid), shall thenceforth be charged and chargeable with the like rates as any other letters transmitted by the post will be chargeable with under or by virtue of this present warrant.

That the printed Votes and Proceedings of the Imperial Parliament, and printed Votes and Proceedings of the Colonial Legislatures, may be forwarded by the post between places in the United Kingdom, or between the United Kingdom and Her Majesty's colonies (but not through France, nor to the East Indies *vid* Falmouth and Alexandria), subject, nevertheless, to all the regulations and restrictions in force under the said Act of the 1st Victoria, c. 34, which Votes and Proceedings shall be charged with the rates of postage following; (that is to say),

If not exceeding two ounces in weight, there shall be charged and paid a rate of 1 *d.*;

If exceeding two ounces, and not exceeding four ounces in weight, there shall be charged and paid a rate of 2 *d.*;

And for every additional two ounces in weight above the weight of four ounces, there shall be charged an additional rate of postage of 1 *d.*

And every fraction of an ounce above the weight of two ounces shall be charged an additional rate of postage of 1 *d.*; 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 24 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 hereinbefore specified.

That, except in the cases hereinbefore 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 1st Victoria, c. 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 2s. 6d. only, and no more, shall from thenceforth be payable for each and every number of 100 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, c. 36, intituled, "An Act for the 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 hereinbefore 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.

(signed) *Melbourne.*  
*F. Baring.*  
*Thomas Wyls.*

Whitehall, Treasury Chambers, }  
20 January 1840.

R. GORDON.



that the letters of owners, shareholders, and creditors in the United States Kingdom of vessels having bound and the owners and creditors of such vessels on board vessels engaged in trade shall have the like protection from the laws of the United States as such letters and the owners and creditors of such vessels in the United States, and that similar letters and the owners and creditors of such vessels in the United States shall have the like protection from the laws of the United States as such letters and the owners and creditors of such vessels in the United States.

Provided always and we hereby declare, that nothing in this section shall be construed to extend to or affect in anywise the right of any person to sue for or to recover damages for any tort committed by any person in the United States, or to affect in anywise the right of any person to sue for or to recover damages for any tort committed by any person in the United States, or to affect in anywise the right of any person to sue for or to recover damages for any tort committed by any person in the United States.

That on all foreign letters addressed to the United States Kingdom of vessels having bound and the owners and creditors of such vessels on board vessels engaged in trade shall have the like protection from the laws of the United States as such letters and the owners and creditors of such vessels in the United States, and that similar letters and the owners and creditors of such vessels in the United States shall have the like protection from the laws of the United States as such letters and the owners and creditors of such vessels in the United States.

That the provisions of this section shall be construed to extend to or affect in anywise the right of any person to sue for or to recover damages for any tort committed by any person in the United States, or to affect in anywise the right of any person to sue for or to recover damages for any tort committed by any person in the United States, or to affect in anywise the right of any person to sue for or to recover damages for any tort committed by any person in the United States.

That the terms and expressions used in this section shall be construed according to the respective meanings of the terms and expressions as defined in the Act passed in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight, and in the Act passed in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine, and in the Act passed in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty, and in the Act passed in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-one, and in the Act passed in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-two, and in the Act passed in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-three, and in the Act passed in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-four, and in the Act passed in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-five, and in the Act passed in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-six, and in the Act passed in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, and in the Act passed in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight, and in the Act passed in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-nine, and in the Act passed in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty.

Provided also, and we hereby declare, that it shall be lawful for any person to sue for or to recover damages for any tort committed by any person in the United States, or to affect in anywise the right of any person to sue for or to recover damages for any tort committed by any person in the United States, or to affect in anywise the right of any person to sue for or to recover damages for any tort committed by any person in the United States.

As witness our hands this 27th day of December 1850.

James H. Hunt  
John M. W. Hunt  
John W. Hunt