

Browford 1870(14)

P O S T A G E.

COPY of TREASURY WARRANT, directing that LETTERS or Printed VOTES or PROCEEDINGS of the Imperial Parliament, written on Stamped Paper, enclosed in Stamped Covers, or having a Stamp or Stamps affixed thereto, shall pass by Post, free of Postage;—(pursuant to Act 2 & 3 Vict., c. 34.)

Treasury Chambers, Whitehall, }
4 May 1840. }

R. GORDON.

TREASURY WARRANT.

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 was given to the Lords of the Treasury, by warrant under their hands, to be inserted in the London Gazette (which warrant might be rescinded, varied or altered, as they should from time to time think fit), to direct that Letters written on stamped paper, or enclosed in stamped covers, or having a stamp affixed thereto (the stamp in every such case being of the value or amount in such warrant to be expressed, and specially provided for the purpose under the authority of the said Act), should (if within the limitation of weight to be fixed under the provisions of the said Act, and if the stamp should not have been used before) pass by the post, free of postage; and also to require, in case the stamp on which any Letter should be written, or the stamp on the cover in which it should be enclosed, or to which it should be affixed, should be of less value or amount than in such warrant should be expressed, or should have been used before, such Letter should be charged and chargeable with such rate of postage as such warrant should direct; and power was thereby also given to the Lords of the Treasury to order and direct the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes, from time to time, to provide proper and sufficient dies or other implements for expressing and denoting the rates or duties which should be directed by any such warrant as aforesaid, and to give any other orders, and make any other regulations relative thereto they might deem expedient:

And whereas by a warrant, under the hands of three of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, dated the 27th day of December 1839, the said Lords Commissioners, in pursuance of the power or authority in them vested in and by the said Act, fixed and limited a scale of weight of Letters to be transmitted by the post, and they thereby subjected such Letters, on and after the 10th day of January 1840, to the rates of postage therein contained, and directed that no Letter, exceeding sixteen ounces in weight, should be forwarded by the post between places within the United Kingdom, except in the instances therein specified:

And they ordered and directed, that 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 should be charged and taken one uniform rate of postage of One Penny; and on all such Letters, if exceeding half an ounce in weight, progressive and additional rates of postage (each additional rate being estimated at One Penny), according to the scale of weight and number of rates thereinbefore fixed, provided that such postage should be pre-paid at the time of posting such Letters, or otherwise there should be charged on such Letters a double rate of postage:

And they further directed, that on all Letters not exceeding half an ounce in weight, transmitted between any place within the United Kingdom 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), and 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), and 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 or from any of Her Majesty's Colonies or Dominions excepted), and 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 should be charged and taken the several rates of British postage therein mentioned or referred to:

And that on every Letter so transmitted (except Letters chargeable with uniform rates of postage), which should be posted within the United Kingdom, at any other place than the port of departure of the packet by which the same should be forwarded, or which should be addressed or delivered at any other place within the United Kingdom than the port at which the packet bringing the same should arrive, and not exceeding half an ounce in weight, an inland rate of Two-pence should be charged and taken, in addition to the rate of British postage then payable thereon:

And that on every Letter so transmitted as thereinbefore respectively mentioned, exceeding half an ounce in weight (Letters on which uniform rates were payable as aforesaid included), there should be charged and taken progressive and additional rates of British postage, according to the scale of weight and number of rates thereinbefore contained, estimating and charging each additional rate at the amount thereinbefore 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 whereas by another warrant, under the hands of three of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, bearing date the 31st day of January now last, the said Lords Commissioners, in exercise of the power in them for such purpose vested by the said Act of Parliament, ordered and directed that on all printed Votes and Proceedings of the Imperial Parliament, forwarded by post between places in the United Kingdom, or between the United Kingdom and Her Majesty's Colonies, on or after the 11th day of February then next, subject, nevertheless, to all the regulations and restrictions in force respecting such Votes and Proceedings, under the Act of the 1st Vict., c. 34, there should be charged and paid the rates of postage therein specified :

And whereas the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury have determined that all Letters and printed Votes and Proceedings of the Imperial Parliament, posted in the United Kingdom, may be transmitted by the post, free of postage, if duly stamped or having a stamp affixed thereto, in manner hereinafter provided.

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 of all other powers enabling us in this behalf, order and direct, that this present warrant shall come into operation on the 6th day of May next: And we hereby direct, that all Letters, printed Votes and Proceedings of the Imperial Parliament, which on or after that day shall be posted in any town or place within the United Kingdom, shall, if written on stamped paper, or enclosed in stamped covers, or having a stamp or stamps affixed thereto (the stamp or stamps in every such case being the value or amount hereinafter expressed, and specially provided under the authority of the said Act as hereinafter directed, and if the stamp shall not have been used before), pass by post, free of postage, as hereinafter mentioned ; (that is to say)

In case any such Letter shall be directed to any place within the United Kingdom, the stamp or stamps thereon shall be equal in value or amount to the rates of postage to which such Letters would be liable under the said warrant of the 27th day of December last, if pre-paid.

In case any such Letters shall be addressed to any other of the British Dominions or Colonies, or to any foreign country, the stamp or stamps thereon shall be equal in value or amount to the rates of British postage to which such Letters would have been liable under the said warrant of the 27th day of December last.

And on all such printed Votes and Proceedings of Parliament, the stamp or stamps shall be equal in value or amount to the rates of postage to which such Votes and Proceedings would have been liable under the said warrant of the 31st day of January last.

And we further order and direct, that in all cases in which the same shall be necessary, in order to place on any such Letters, printed Votes or Proceedings of Parliament, the full amount of stamps hereby required as aforesaid, there shall be affixed thereto such a number of adhesive stamps, as alone, or in combination with the stamp on such letter or packet, or on the envelope or cover thereof, will be equal in amount to the rates of postage to which such Letters, printed Votes or Proceedings of Parliament, would be liable under the said warrants of the 27th day of December and 31st day of January now last respectively as aforesaid.

That in all cases in which Letters addressed to places within the United Kingdom shall be posted without any stamp thereon, and without the postage being pre-paid, there shall be charged on such Letters the postage to which such Letters would be liable under the said warrant of the 27th day of December last ; and in all cases in which printed Votes or Proceedings of Parliament, addressed to places within the United Kingdom, shall be posted without any stamp thereon, there shall be charged on such Votes and Proceedings the postage to which the same would be liable under the said warrant of the 31st day of January last.

That in all cases in which any Letters addressed to places within the United Kingdom shall be posted, having thereon or affixed thereto any stamp or stamps, the value or amount of which shall be less than the rate of postage to which such Letters would be liable under the said warrant of the 27th day of December last, if pre-paid, there shall be charged on such Letters a postage of double the amount of the difference between the value of such stamp or stamps and the postage to which such Letter would be liable as aforesaid, if pre-paid.

And in all cases in which any Votes or Proceedings of Parliament addressed to places within the United Kingdom shall be posted, having thereon or affixed thereto any stamp or stamps, the value or amount of which shall be less than the rate of postage to which such Votes and Proceedings would be liable under the said warrant of the 31st of January last, there shall be charged on such Votes or Proceedings a postage equal to the amount of the difference between the value of such stamp or stamps and the postage to which such Votes or Proceedings would be liable as aforesaid.

Provided

Provided always, that it shall in all cases be optional with the parties sending any Letters, printed Votes or Proceedings of Parliament, by the post, to forward the same, free of postage, by means of a proper stamp or stamps thereon, or affixed thereto, in manner hereinbefore provided, or to forward the same in like manner as the same might have been forwarded before the signing of this present warrant.

But in case any Letters or printed Votes or Proceedings of Parliament, addressed to places out of the United Kingdom, shall have thereon or affixed thereto any stamp or stamps being less in value or amount than the rates of postage to which such Letters or such Votes or Proceedings would be liable under the said warrants of the 27th day of December and 31st day of January last respectively, such Letters or printed Votes or Proceedings of Parliament shall not in any case be forwarded by the post, but shall, so far as may be practicable, be returned to the senders thereof through the Dead Letter Office.

Provided also, 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 stamped or 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 either that such Letters shall be duly and properly stamped as herein directed, or that the postage thereof shall be paid by the sender on the tender or delivery of such Letters at the Post Office, or other places 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 Vict., c. 34, s. 14.)

Provided also, that the transmission of printed Votes and Proceedings of Parliament by the post shall be subject to all the regulations and restrictions in force under the said Act of the 1st Vict., c. 34, and the said warrant of the 31st of January last.

And we further order and direct, that in any case in which a stamp shall be placed on any Letter or printed Votes or Proceedings of Parliament, or affixed thereto, which shall have been used before, the same shall have no force or effect whatsoever.

And we further order and direct the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes from time to time, to provide proper and sufficient dies or other implements for expressing and denoting rates or duties of One Penny and Two-pence for the purposes hereinbefore directed.

And we further order and direct, that the terms and expressions used in this present warrant shall be construed to have the like meaning, in all respects, as they would have had if inserted in the said warrant of the 27th day of December last.

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 rescind, vary or alter all or any of the regulations and directions herein contained, and to make, establish and declare any new or other regulations and directions respecting the sending by the post of Letters written on stamped paper, or enclosed in stamped covers, or having a stamp affixed thereto, in manner provided by the said Act made and passed in the last Session of Parliament, as they shall deem expedient.

As witness our hands this 24th day of April 1840.

F. T. BARING.
THOS. WYSE.
H. TUFNELL.
