

# The London Gazette.

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By the QUEEN,

## A PROCLAMATION,

For Enforcing the due Execution of the Act, Intituled, An Act for Establishing a General Post-Office for all Her Majesty's Dominions, and for Settling a Weekly Sum out of the Revenues thereof, for the Service of the War, and other Her Majesty's Occasions.

ANNE R.

Whereas by an Act of Parliament made in the last Session of Parliament, Intituled, An Act for Establishing a General Post-Office for all Her Majesty's Dominions, and for Settling a Weekly Sum out of the Revenues thereof, for the Service of the War, and other Her Majesty's Occasions, it is Enacted, That from and after the first Day of this Instant June, there be one General Letter-Office and Post-Office established in the City of London, from whence all Letters and Packets may be with speed and expedition sent to any part of the Kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland, or to North-America, the West Indies, or to any other of our Dominions, Colonies, or to any other Kingdom or Country beyond the Seas; at which said Office all Returns and Answers may be received. And that one Person or more be appointed by our Great Seal of Great Britain, by the Name and Style of Postmaster General: And that no Person or Persons whatsoever, in any part of our Kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland, or other our Colonies or Colonies in the West-Indies and America, other than our Postmaster General for the time being, and his Deputies, Servants and Assigns, shall presume to Receive, Take up, Order, Dispatch, Convey, Carry, Recarry, or Deliver any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets of Letters; other than to and from any Town or Place to or from the said Post-Office; and other than and except such Letters as shall respectively concern Goods sent by Common known Carriers of Goods, by Cart, Waggons, or Pack-Horses, and which shall be respectively delivered to the Goods such Letters do concern, without Hire or Reward, under Profit or Advantage for Receiving or Delivering such Letters; and except Letters of Merchants and Masters, Owners of any Ships, Barks or Vessels of Merchandize, or any the Cargo or Lading therein, sent on Board such Ships, Barks or Vessels of Merchandize, whereof such Merchants or Masters are Owners, and delivered by any Masters of any such Ships, Barks or Vessels of Merchandize, or by any other Person employed by them for the Carriage of such Letters according to their respective Directions, so as such Letters be delivered to the respective Persons to whom they shall be directed, without Paying or Receiving any Hire or Reward, Advantage or Profit for the same in any wise; and except Commissions or Returns thereof, Affidavits, Writs, Procees or Proceedings, or Returns thereof, issuing out of any Court; and also any Letter or Letters to be sent by any private Friend or Friends in their way of Journey or Travel, or by any Messenger or Messengers sent on purpose for or concerning the private Affairs of any Person or Persons; or made any Collection of Letters, or set up or employ any Foot-Post, Horse-Post, or Packet-Boat, or other Vessel or Boat, or other Person or Persons, Conveyance or Conveyances whatsoever, for the Receiving, Taking up, Ordering, Dispatching, Conveying, Carrying, Recarrying, or Delivering any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets of Letters, by Sea or by Land, or on any River within our Dominions, or by means whereof any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets of Letters, shall be Collected, Received, Taken up, Ordered, Dispatched, Conveyed, Carried, Recarried, or Delivered by Sea or Land, or on any River within our Dominions (other than as before excepted) or shall presume to keep, provide or maintain Horses or Furniture, for the Horsing of any Person or Persons Riding Posts, (that is to say) Riding several Stages upon a Post-Boat, and changing Horses, or shall Let to Hire, or furnish any Person or Persons whatsoever, with Horses or Furniture for Riding Post as aforesaid, on any of the Post Roads or Stages now or hereafter to be appointed, with or without a Guide or Hired, for Hire or Reward, or on any Agreement or Promise of Reward, or whereby he or they may have any Profit or Advantage, on pain of Forfeiting the Sum of Five Pounds of English Money for every several Offence against the Tenor of the said Act, and also of the Sum of One hundred Pounds of like amount Money for every Week that any Offender against the said Act shall Collect, Receive, Take up, Order, Dispatch, Convey, Carry, Recarry or Deliver any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets of Letters, by Sea or Land, or on any River within our Dominions (other than as before excepted) or that shall presume to set up, continue, or employ any Foot-Post, Horse-Post, or Packet-Boat or other Vessel or Boat, or any other Person or Persons, Conveyance or Conveyances whatsoever, for the Receiving, Taking up, Ordering, Dispatching, Conveying, Carrying, Recarrying, or Delivering of any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets of Letters, by Sea or Land, or on any River within our Dominions as aforesaid; which said Penalties and Forfeitures are to be Sued for, and Recovered in such Courts, and to be received and divided in such manner, and for such

Uses, as in the said Act is for that purpose mentioned, together with full Costs of Suit. But it is by the said Act provided, That if the Postmaster hath not, or cannot furnish any Person riding in Posts, with sufficient Horses within one half Hour after Demand, then such Person is at Liberty to provide himself as he can to the next Stage, and so at every Stage where he shall not be furnished as aforesaid; and the Person who shall furnish such Horses shall not therefore be liable to any Penalty by reason thereof. And by a Proviso contained in the said Act, it is declared, That nothing in the Exception above-mentioned contained, shall be construed to extend to give any License or Authority to any Common known Carriers of Goods by Carts, Waggons or Pack-Horses, their Servants or Agents, to Receive, Collect or Deliver, with or without Hire, any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets of Letters whatsoever, that do not concern Goods in their Carts, Waggons; or on their Pack-Horses; nor to any Owners or Drivers of Stage-Coaches, nor to any Masters, Owners or Commanders of Boats called Passage-Boats, sailing between any part of Great Britain or Ireland, and any Parts or Places beyond the Seas, or their Servants or Agents; nor to any Passenger or Passengers on Board such Boats or Vessels; nor to the Owners, or Watermen on Board of any Boat, Barge or Vessel, passing or repassing on any River or Rivers, to and from any parts of Great Britain and Ireland, North America, or the West Indies, or other our Dominions or Territories, although such Drivers of Stage-Coaches, Owners, Masters or Commanders of Boats called Passage-Boats, or Passengers therein, Owners or Watermen on Board of any such Boat, Barge or Vessel, passing or repassing on any such River or Rivers, as aforesaid, do not receive any Hire or Reward, or other Advantage for the same; but that all such Carriers, Owners and Drivers of Stage-Coaches, Owners, Masters or Commanders of Passage-Boats, and the Passengers therein, and all Owners and Watermen on Board of any Boat, Barge or Vessel, passing or repassing on any River or Rivers, to or from any the Parts and Places aforesaid, Collecting and Delivering Letters as aforesaid, though without Hire or Reward, shall be deemed and taken, and are thereby declared to be Persons offending against the said Act, and to forfeit and pay such Sum and Sums of Money, as Persons Collecting, Receiving, Taking up, Conveying and Delivering of Letters for Hire, or Setting up, Employing and Maintaining any Posts contrary to the said Act, or that are or shall be concerned therein, are therein, as is herein before-mentioned, enacted to Forfeit and Pay. And by another Proviso in the said Act it is declared, That nothing in the said Act contained, should extend to give License to any Person or Persons whatsoever, to make Collection of Letters in or near the City of London, or in the Suburbs thereof, under pretence of Conveying the same to any part or place in the said City or Suburbs, or to the General Post-Office of the said City, without the License and Leave of the Postmaster-General for the time being; and that any Person or Persons acting contrary thereto, should forfeit and pay as Persons Collecting, Receiving, Carrying, Recarrying and Delivering Letters contrary to the said Act, are thereby Enacted to Forfeit and Pay, and to be recovered as aforesaid, with full Costs of Suit. And by the said Act it is further Enacted, That all Letters and Packets, that by any Master of any Ship or Vessel, or any of his Company, or any Passengers therein, shall or may be brought to any Port Town, or which shall arrive or touch at any Port belonging to any Port-Town within any of our Dominions, or any the Numbers thereof, or which shall be on Board any Ship or Vessel that shall or do touch or stay at any such Port-Town, (other than such Letters as are before excepted) shall by such Master, Passenger or other Person or Persons, be forthwith delivered to the Deputy or Deputies only of such Postmaster General for the time being, by him appointed for such Place or Port-Town, and to be by such Deputy or Deputies sent Post into the said General Post-Office, to be delivered according to the several and respective Directions of the same, upon pain of forfeiting the Sum of Five Pounds of English Money for every several Offence against the Tenor of the said Act, to be recovered in manner aforesaid, with full Costs of Suit. And for the Encouragement of all such Masters of Ships or Vessels, or such other Persons, in their Arrival at such Ports as aforesaid, from any parts beyond the Seas, to deliver into the Deputy or Deputies of such Postmaster General for such Place or Port-Town at which they shall so touch or arrive, all such Letters and Packets as they shall respectively have on Board such Vessel or Vessels, every such Master or other Person, for every Letter or Packet of Letters he or they shall so deliver into such Deputy or Deputies, shall receive the Sum of One Penny of such Deputy or Deputies, he or they signing such Certificate as in the said Act is mentioned. And we being willing and desirous that our good Subjects should have early and sufficient Notice of the Penalties and Forfeitures before mentioned, to the end they may avoid incurring the same, and that the Revenue granted by the said Act may be duly answered to us, and all Frauds in prejudice of the same prevented, have thought fit, and do by this our Royal Proclamation (by and with the Advice of our Privy Council) notify and declare to all our Loving Subjects the Purpose and Tenor of the said several parts of the said Act, hereby requiring and commanding all Persons concerned to conform themselves to the said Act.

Given at our Court at Kensington, the Twenty third Day of June, 1711. In the Tenth Year of our Reign.

God save the Q U E E N.

Copenhagen.