

TREASURY WARRANT.

WHEREAS by an Act of Parliament passed in the fourth year of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled "An Act for the regulation of the duties of postage," certain scales of weight and rates of postage were fixed, and were made chargeable and payable upon, for, and in respect of letters, newspapers, Parliamentary proceedings, and printed papers, transmitted and forwarded by the post, and various regulations were made for facilitating the transmission of such letters and papers by the post; and by the same Act power was given to the Postmaster-General to charge such higher rates of postage on certain letters, newspapers, and other printed papers therein mentioned, as the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, by Warrant under their hands, should from time to time deem expedient, and also to remit any of the rates of British postage or inland postage for the time being payable by law on the transmission of post letters, newspapers, or other printed papers, to such extent as the Lords of the Treasury should from time to time direct. And by the same Act power was also given to the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, from time to time, by Warrant under their hands, to alter and fix any of the rates of British postage or inland postage payable by law on the transmission by the post of Foreign or Colonial letters or newspapers, or of any other printed papers, and to subject the same to rates of postage according to the weight thereof, and a scale of weight to be contained in such Warrant; and from time to time, by Warrant as aforesaid, to alter or repeal any of such altered rates, and make and establish any new or other rates in lieu thereof.

And whereas by an Act of Parliament passed in the eighth year of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled "An Act for the better regulation of Colonial posts," power is also given to the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, by Warrant under their hands, to alter and fix any of the rates of Colonial postage payable by law for the transmission of letters by the post, and to subject the same to rates of postage according to the weight thereof, and a scale of weight to be contained in such Warrant, and from time to time, by Warrant as aforesaid, to alter or repeal any of such altered rates, and make and establish any new or other rates in lieu thereof.

And whereas further powers are given to the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, by another Act of Parliament passed in the eleventh year of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled "An Act for giving further facilities for the transmission of letters by post, and for the regulating the duties of postage thereon, and for other purposes relating to the Post-office."

And whereas certain powers are also given to the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, by another Act of Parliament passed in the eighteenth year of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled "An Act to amend the laws relating to the stamp duties on newspapers, and to provide for the transmission by post of printed periodical publications."

And whereas the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, in exercise of the powers reserved to them in and by the said several before recited Acts, some or one of them, and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, have, from time to time, by divers Warrants in writing, under their hands duly made, bearing date respectively, at Whitehall, Treasury-Chambers, the 21st day of July 1857, the 2d day of September 1857, the 16th

day of October 1857, the 13th day of April 1858, the 15th day of June 1858, the 19th day of June 1858, and the 3d day of December 1858, made and issued certain regulations, orders, directions and conditions relating to the rates of postage, and the mode and time of payment thereof, and to the weight, size, and dimensions, and the mode and time of sending, under and subject to, and in conformity with which, the several packets consisting of books, publications, or works of literature or art, and the several other packets therein, or in some or one of the said Warrants respectively mentioned, may respectively be transmitted by the post.

And whereas in and by the said recited Warrants, some or one of them, provision is made that where packets transmitted by the post, under the authority of the said respective Warrants, shall not be transmitted in conformity with, and under and subject to the regulations, orders, directions, and conditions therein, or in some or one of them respectively mentioned and contained, such packets shall, in certain cases, be chargeable with certain letter rates of postage therein, or in some or one of the said Warrants respectively mentioned; and it is expedient in all such cases that power should be given to the Postmaster-General to charge such packets with a less amount of postage than such respective letter-rates of postage, in the manner hereafter mentioned.

Now we, the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, in exercise of the powers reserved to us in and by the said several hereinbefore recited Acts, any or either of them, and of all other powers enabling us in this behalf, do, by this Warrant, under the hands of two of us, the said Commissioners, (by the authority of the Statute in that case made and provided,) order, direct, and declare as follows:—

1. In all cases where any packet consisting of books, publications, or works of literature or art, whether British, Colonial, or Foreign, or any packet consisting of printed votes and proceedings of the Imperial Parliament, or the Colonial or other legislatures, may be transmitted by the post under the authority of the said hereinbefore recited Warrants, or any or either of them, or under the authority of any other Inland or Colonial Book Post Warrant now in force, if any such there be, and any such packet shall be so transmitted as not to be transmitted in conformity with, and under and subject to the regulations, orders, directions, and conditions in the said Warrants or Warrant respectively contained, relating to such packet, and shall, by reason thereof, have become liable under or by virtue of any such Warrants or Warrant as aforesaid, to be charged with the like rate or amount of postage to which it would have been liable as a letter, if the postage had been paid when posted, or with any higher rate or amount of postage, the Postmaster-General shall, and he is hereby authorized and empowered, at his discretion, either to charge any such packet with the rate or amount of postage to which it shall have become liable, under or by virtue of any such Warrants or Warrant as aforesaid, or to charge any such packet with any other rate or amount of postage which he shall think proper, not exceeding the rate or amount of postage to which such packet shall have become liable, under or by virtue of any such Warrants or Warrant as aforesaid, nor less than the rate of postage which such packet would have been chargeable with, if transmitted in conformity with the regulations, orders, directions, and conditions contained in any such Warrants or Warrant respectively, relating to such