

*General Post-Office, April 20, 1764.*

**PUBLIC** Notice is hereby given, That by an Act passed this last Session of Parliament, entitled, An Act for preventing Frauds and Abuses, in relation to the sending and receiving of Letters and Packets free from the Duty of Postage;

It is Enacted, That from and after the First Day of May next, so long as the Revenue of the Post-Office shall continue to make a Part of the Aggregate Fund, no Letters or Packets shall be exempted from Payment of Postage, except as follows:

All such as shall be sent from or to The King's most Excellent Majesty.

All Letters and Packets, not exceeding the Weight of Two Ounces, sent from and to any Places within Great Britain or Ireland, during the Sitting of Parliament, or within Forty Days before or after any Summons or Prorogation, which shall be signed on the Outside by any Member of either House of the Parliament of Great Britain, and whereof the whole Supercription shall be of his own Hand Writing, or which shall be directed to a Member of either House, at any of the Places of his usual Residence, or at the Place where he shall actually be at the Time of the Delivery thereof, or at either House of Parliament.

All Letters and Packets, not exceeding the Weight of Two Ounces, sent from and to any Places within Ireland, during the Sitting of Parliament, or within Forty Days before or after any Summons or Prorogation, which shall be signed on the Outside by any Member of either House of the Parliament of Ireland, and whereof the whole Supercription shall be of his own Hand Writing, or which shall be directed to a Member of either House, from any Part of Great Britain or Ireland, at any of the Places of his usual Residence, or at the Place where he shall actually be at the Time of the Delivery thereof, or at either House of Parliament.

All such Letters and Packets as shall be sent from and to certain Persons by Virtue of their Offices, under such Conditions, Restrictions, and Limitations, as in the said Act is particularly expressed.

It is likewise Enacted, That all printed Votes, or Proceedings in Parliament, or printed News Papers, sent without Covers, or in Covers open at the Sides, signed on the Outside thereof, by the Hand of any Member of Parliament, in such Manner as hath been heretofore practised; or directed to any Member at any Place whereof he shall have given Notice in Writing to the Postmaster-General, or to his Deputy at Edinburgh or Dublin respectively, shall pass free of Postage.

And also, That the Clerks in the Offices of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, and certain Officers in the Office of His Majesty's Postmaster-General, may continue to Frank such printed Votes, and Proceedings in Parliament, and printed News Papers, in the Manner they have heretofore been accustomed, provided they be sent without Covers, or in Covers open at the Sides.

It is further Enacted, That any Officer employed under the Postmaster-General, shall have Power to examine and search any Packet sent without a Cover, or in a Cover open at the Sides, in Order to discover whether any other Paper or Thing whatsoever be inclosed or concealed in or with such printed Votes, Proceedings in Parliament, and printed News Papers; and in Case any such other Paper or Thing whatsoever, shall be found in or with such printed Paper, or in Case there shall be any Writing, other than the Supercription upon such printed Paper, or upon the Cover thereof, the whole of such Packet shall be charged with the Duty of Postage.

And it is further Enacted, That if any Person shall, after the First Day of June next, counterfeit the Hand Writing of any Person whatsoever in the Supercription of any Letter, or Packet, to be sent by the Post, in Order thereby to avoid the Payment of the Duty of Postage, every Person so offending, shall be deemed Guilty of Felony, and be transported for Seven Years.

And whereas many Letters directed to Members,

are, in the Hurry of Business, charged with Postage, chiefly for Want of the Words, Member of Parliament, being added to the Supercription: It is therefore desired, that all Persons corresponding with Members, would make that Addition, or distinguish them by M. P. at the Corner; and in Case any Letter or Packet, not exceeding the Weight of Two Ounces, should after every Precaution, happen to be charged, all Postmasters are hereby directed, immediately to remit the Postage to such Member, who is desired to return the Cover, when it can be conveniently done, as a Voucher to the Postmaster, in passing of his Accounts with this Office.

And whereas great Numbers of Letters are privately collected and delivered contrary to Law, to the Prejudice of the Revenue of this Office; all Carriers, Coachmen, Watermen, Wherry-men, Dispersers of News Papers, Higlers, and all other Persons whatsoever, hereafter detected in the illegal collecting, conveying, or delivering of Letters and Packets, will be prosecuted with the utmost Severity. The Penalty is Five Pounds for every Letter so collected or delivered, contrary to Law, and One Hundred Pounds for every Week such Practice is continued: One Moiety to His Majesty, and the other to the Informer.

By Command of the Postmaster General,  
Anthony Todd, Secretary.

*Navy Office, May 19, 1764.*

*The Principal Officers and Commissioners of His Majesty's Navy give Notice, that on Tuesday the 5th of June next, at Eleven o'Clock in the Morning, they will expose to Sale at this Office, Several Lots of Old Stores, consisting of Slit Deals, Uphroes, Cabin and Bulkhead Stantions, Broken Cradles, Horses of Enjement, and Ladders, Paper Stuff in Junk and Ropes, Bolt and White Rope, and Horse Halters, Corn Sacks, Canvas, Hammocks, and Bantiu Colours in Rags, Iron in Parts of Hand-screws, Broken Iron-plates, Pots, Sbit, &c. Parts of Tin, Hand, and Poop Lanterns, &c. Yard and Ship Engines, and Azimuth and Brass Box Compasses, lying in His Majesty's Yard at Deptford; where any Persons willing to be Purchasers, may have the Liberty of viewing them at any Time in the common working Hours of the said Yard, till the Day of Sale.*

*And as a Deposit of 25 l. per Cent. or in that Proportion, is to be made by the Purchasers, all Persons who shall attend the said Sale, are to take Notice thereof, and come prepared for that Purpose; and unless the said Stores so purchased shall be paid for, and taken away at the End of Forty Days after the Day of Sale, the Deposit shall be forfeited, and become the Property of the Crown.*

*Printed Inventories may be seen in the Clerk of the Acts Office, and in the said Yard.*

*Mercers Hall, London, May 4, 1764.*

*The Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery of Mercers of the City of London do hereby desire all Persons, to whom the said Company were indebted for Arrears of Charities, or by simple Contract, at or before the 10th of October, 1763, to deliver their Claims (in Writing) to the Clerk of the said Company, at their Office in Ironmonger Lane, Cheapside, London, before the 24th of June next.*

*The said Wardens and Commonalty do likewise desire all Persons, who are possessed of any of their Bonds, to deliver in Writing an Account of the principal Sums, the Names of the Persons to whom the same are made payable, the Dates of them, and the Names of the present Possessors, together with the Interest in Arrear upon the 10th of October 1763, to the Clerk of the said Company, at their Office in Ironmonger Lane aforesaid, before the 24th of June next.*

*W. Cayne, Clerk.*

*Notice is hereby given to the Officers and Company of His Majesty's Ship the Lowestoffe, Joseph Deane, Esq; Commander, who were actually on Board at the Taking of the Chevalier De Barrow, a French Privateer, on the 26th of March 1760, That the Head-Money for the*