

We do, therefore, in pursuance of the powers so vested in His Majesty, his heirs, and successors, by this Our Royal Proclamation, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, and by and with the advice of His Majesty's Privy Council, think proper to order and direct, and We do hereby order and direct, that all gold, silver, and jewels, or other articles received as treasure by special order, conveyed in His Majesty's ships and vessels in the care and charge of the Captain or Officer commanding such ship or vessel, shall be liable to the payment of freight, whether such treasure belong to the Crown or to other parties.

That on the delivery of any gold, silver, or jewels, or other articles as aforesaid, laden on board of any of His Majesty's ships or vessels, for which freight may or shall be payable as aforesaid, or according to the provisions and directions hereinafter contained, a receipt or bill of lading, or receipts or bills of lading, shall be made and signed by the Captain or Officer commanding such ship or vessel, describing the quantity or value of such gold, silver, jewels, or other articles as aforesaid, and the terms on and extent to which such Captain or Officer commanding such ship or vessel so receiving the said gold, silver, or jewels, or other articles, on board his said ship or vessel, shall be liable or responsible for the same, in case of loss or damage thereof, to which by law he might be liable, in form or to the effect following:

[Here insert bill of lading in the usual form.]

And it is hereby stipulated and agreed between the said _____ and the shipper and owners and consignees of the said _____, that in case of loss or damage happening to the said gold, silver, jewels, or other articles as aforesaid, the Captain or Officer commanding such ship or vessel as aforesaid shall not be holden liable or responsible for more than three fourths of the amount of such loss or damage.

That the rates at which freight shall be paid for public and for private treasure respectively, and in peace or war respectively, and for different voyages, shall be as follows, viz.

Between any two ports in Europe on this side Gibraltar (Gibraltar included), and including also the Azores, Madeira, or Canaries

Between any two ports on the same foreign station, the navigable distance between which shall not exceed six hundred leagues, the Mediterranean Sea, Gibraltar included, being considered as one foreign station

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Between any port in Europe out of the Mediterranean, and any port in the Mediterranean beyond Gibraltar, or any port on the West Coast of Africa, including Simon's Bay, or any port on the East side of America, North or South, or the West India or other Islands on the American Coast, including Bermuda and Newfoundland; or between any two ports in the same foreign station, the nearest navigable distance between which shall exceed six hundred leagues, or between any two ports on different stations not otherwise ordered

Per Cent.
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Between any port in the European or Atlantic Seas, North of the Equator, and any port beyond the Cape of Good Hope or Cape Horn

Per Cent.
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That in case of any difference on any question arising out of the above scale, or omitted in the said scale, the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty shall have authority to decide what the freight shall be under the said scale, or adhering as nearly as possible in cases not specified, to the spirit and principles of the said scale.

That on the shipment of gold, silver, or jewels, or other articles received on board as treasure by special order, the rate of freight per centum according to the above scale shall be endorsed on the bill or bills of lading, or receipt or receipts of the Officer receiving the charge thereof, such endorsement or endorsements to be signed by the said Officer; but in case of any difference of opinion abroad, or when immediate reference cannot be had to the Lords of the Admiralty, it may be expressed, "at such rate as the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty shall decide."

When treasure belonging to the Crown shall be shipped in any of His Majesty's ships or vessels with a commissary or conductor specially charged with the care thereof, the Officer commanding such ship or vessel shall not be required to give any receipt, nor to sign any bill of lading, and such Officer shall not receive any freight on account thereof, nor be liable to make good any loss or damage which may happen to the same.

That the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty shall have authority to direct at what time, and for what time, and within what limits the war freight shall be payable on private treasure received by special order.

And We do hereby further order and direct, that the whole amount of the said freight when received shall be divided into four parts and distributed as follows, subject to the proviso herein-