

And whereas by a Warrant, under the hands of two of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, bearing date the 19th day of September, 1855, certain rates of postage were fixed on letters transmitted by the post, direct by British packet boat, between any ports in the British colonies, or between any port in the British colonies and any foreign port (not in any such cases passing through the United Kingdom).

And whereas by another Warrant, under the hands of two of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, bearing date the 10th day of November, 1855, it was directed that the term "by the post," used in the said recited Warrant of the 19th day of September, 1855, should, so far as respects the conveyance of letters sent between Malta, Gibraltar, or the Ionian Islands and Her Majesty's colonies and possessions in the East Indies or the Chinese Sea, without passing through the United Kingdom, include the conveyance through Egypt, but all letters sent between any of Her Majesty's colonies and any port or place in Egypt, or between Her Majesty's colonies and any foreign country through Egypt, without passing through the United Kingdom, should be charged and chargeable with the same rates of postage as if the said Warrant of the 19th day of September, 1855, had not been signed.

And whereas it is expedient that further regulations should be made for the transmission by the post of the letters hereinafter mentioned.

Now we, the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, in exercise of the powers vested in us, in and by the said recited Act, 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 and direct that on every letter not exceeding half an ounce in weight transmitted by the post direct by British packet-boat, between Gibraltar and Hong Kong, or Singapore, without passing through the United Kingdom, there shall be charged and taken in lieu of any rates of postage heretofore chargeable on such letters, or which would be chargeable thereon, under or by virtue of the said recited Warrants, or either of them, a uniform British rate of one shilling and ten pence (in which the Red Sea or Persian Gulf packet rate is included).

And we direct, that on every letter transmitted, as is mentioned in this Warrant, exceeding half an ounce in weight, there shall be charged, taken and paid progressive and additional rates of postage, as follows; that is to say:

On every such letter exceeding half an ounce in weight, and not exceeding one ounce in weight, two rates of postage.

On every such letter exceeding one ounce, and not exceeding two ounces in weight, four rates of postage.

On every such letter exceeding two ounces, and not exceeding three ounces in weight, six rates of postage.

On every such letter exceeding three ounces, and not exceeding four ounces in weight, eight rates of postage.

And for every ounce in weight above the weight of four ounces, there shall be charged and taken two additional rates of postage, and every fraction of an ounce above the weight of four ounces, shall be charged as one additional ounce, and each progressive and additional rate chargeable under this clause shall be estimated and charged at the sum which any such letter would be charged with under this Warrant, if not exceeding half an ounce in weight.

And we further direct, that nothing in this Warrant contained shall in anywise alter, prejudice, or affect the exemptions and privileges granted by the said recited Act, passed in the fourth year of the reign of Her present Majesty, nor in anywise prejudice or affect the privilege which officers, seamen and soldiers employed in Her Majesty's service, and seamen and soldiers employed in the service of the East India Company, now by law enjoy of sending and receiving letters, by the post, subject to the regulations and restrictions in respect of the same.

And we further direct, that the term "by the post," used in this Warrant, shall include the conveyance through Egypt.

And we further direct, that this Warrant shall come into operation on the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six.

And we hereby declare and direct, that it shall be lawful for the Commissioners, for the time being, of Her Majesty's Treasury, or any two of them, by Warrant under their hands, at any time hereafter, to alter or repeal any of the rates hereby altered or the regulations hereby made, and to make and establish any new or other rates or regulations in lieu thereof, and from time to time to appoint at what time the rates that may be payable are to be paid.

Whitehall, Treasury-chambers, the thirty-first day of December, 1855.

Duncan.
H. Brand.

TREASURY WARRANT.

WHEREAS by an Act, passed in the fourth year of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled "An Act for the regulation of the duties of postage," power is 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 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 whereas another Act was 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 another Act was 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 a treaty having been lately entered into between Her Majesty and the Emperor of the French for facilitating the exchange of newspapers and other printed papers between their respective dominions, it is expedient that such regulations should be made as are hereinafter contained.

Now we, the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, in exercise of the powers reserved to us in and by the said hereinbefore recited Acts of Parliament and every 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 and direct,