

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," certain scales of weight and rates of postage were fixed and made chargeable and payable upon, for, or 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 said Act powers were given to the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, from time to time, and at any time thereafter, 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 to make and establish any new or other rates in lieu thereof, and from time to time, by Warrant as aforesaid, to appoint at what time the rates which may be payable are to be paid; and the power thereby given to alter and fix rates of postage is extended to any increase or reduction or remission of postage.

And whereas by an Act, 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Post-office," the provision fixing the maximum weight of letters to be sent by the post, in the first-mentioned Act, is repealed; and in order to prevent packets of an unwieldy bulk or an inconvenient size being transmitted by the post, power is given to the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury at any time or times thereafter, by Warrant under their hands, to fix the maximum weight of letters to be sent by the post, and from time to time to repeal or revoke such maximum weight, wholly or in part, and declare any other maximum of weight in lieu thereof; and it is provided that all letters shall be forwarded, conveyed, and delivered by the post in conformity with any such Warrant, and also in conformity with, and under, and subject to all such orders, conditions, limitations, regulations, and restrictions, as to the form, size, or dimensions thereof, whether in proportion to the weight, or otherwise, as the Postmaster-General with the consent of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury shall from time to time direct. And by the said Act, power is also given to the Postmaster-General to collect and receive the foreign and colonial postage charged or chargeable on any letters sent by the post, and also with the consent of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to require the postage, British, colonial, or foreign, of any letters sent by the post to be prepaid, either in money or in stamps as he may think fit, on the same being put into the Post-office, and also with such consent to abolish or restrict the prepayment in money of postage on letters sent by the post, either altogether or on certain letters, and to require the prepayment thereof to be in stamps, and also to refuse, to receive, or send by the post, any letters tendered contrary to any regulations thereby made. And it is also declared and enacted, that in all cases in which the British postage, chargeable on any letters sent by the post, shall exceed

the sum of one penny, the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury may, by Warrant under their hands, reduce such postage to any other rate of postage they may from time to time think fit. And also that the Postmaster-General may, if he shall think fit, with the consent of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, allow any printed words, writing, or marks, in addition to the direction, to be put on any printed newspapers or other printed papers sent by the post, or on the covers thereof, and that any such newspapers or other printed papers, shall from thenceforth be forwarded either free of postage or subject to such rates of postage as the Postmaster-General with the consent of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury shall from time to time direct. And it is also declared and enacted that the Postmaster-General and any officer of the Post-office may detain any letters which shall be posted or sent by the post contrary to the regulations of that Act or the first-mentioned Act, or contrary to any regulations made under the authority of that Act, or of the first-mentioned Act, or contrary to the regulations of any Treasury Warrant to be issued under or by virtue of that Act, or which had been or should be issued under or by virtue of the first-mentioned Act, and open such letters, and either return them to the senders thereof or forward them to the places of their destination, charged in either case with such rates of postage as the Postmaster-General with the consent of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury shall from time to time direct.

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

1. Now, we the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury in exercise of the powers reserved to us in and by the said two before mentioned Acts, 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 and direct, that all packets consisting of books, publications, or works of literature or art, whether British, colonial, or foreign, and all packets consisting of printed votes and proceedings of the Imperial Parliament or the Colonial Legislatures, may be transmitted by the post between the several colonies and places mentioned, and set forth in the schedule to this Warrant annexed, and that all such respective packets shall be so transmitted in conformity with, and under and subject to the several regulations, orders, directions and conditions hereinafter mentioned and contained, and that the single rate of postage for the transmission thereof, shall be that which is mentioned and set forth against the said places respectively in the said schedule; and that all such respective packets so transmitted shall be subject to the several progressive and additional rates of postage hereinafter mentioned (that is to say):

On every such packet so transmitted under the provisions of this Warrant as aforesaid, if not exceeding half a pound in weight, there shall be charged, taken and paid for the transmission thereof respectively as aforesaid, the uniform single rate of postage which is mentioned and set forth against the said places respectively in the said schedule.

And on every packet exceeding half a pound in weight, there shall be charged, taken and paid, progressive and additional rates of postage as follows (that is to say):

On every such packet, if exceeding half a pound and not exceeding one pound in weight, two rates of postage.