

General Post Office, London, Nov. 12, 1745.

Whereas by an Act of Parliament passed in the Ninth Year of the Reign of her late Majesty Queen Anne, intituled, An Act for establishing a General Post-Office for all her Majesty's Dominions, and for settling a Weekly Sum out of the Revenues thereof for the Service of the War, and other her Majesty's Occasions, It is (amongst other Things) enacted to the Purport and Effect following: That there shall be one General Post-Office established within the City of London, and one Master of the said General Post-Office shall from time to time be appointed by her Majesty, her Heirs and Successors, by Letters Patents under the Great Seal of Great Britain, by the Stile of her Majesty's Postmaster General; which said Master, and his Deputies, and their Servants and Agents, and no other, should have the Receiving, Carrying, and Delivering of Letters and Packets, to and from all Places in Great Britain and Ireland, North America, the West Indies, and other her Majesty's Dominions; (except as in the said Act is excepted;) And that no Person or Persons whatsoever, or Body Politick or Corporate, in any Part of the said Kingdoms, Plantations and Colonies in the West-Indies and America, other than such Postmaster-General appointed as aforesaid; and his Deputy or Deputies, or Assigns, should presume to receive, take up, order, dispatch, convey, carry, recarry, or deliver any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets of Letters (other than as in the said Act is excepted) or make any Collection of Letters, or set up or employ any Foot-Post, Horse Post, or Packet-Boat, or other Vessel or Boat, or other Person or Persons, Conveyance or Conveyances whatsoever, for the receiving, taking up, ordering, dispatching, conveying, carrying, recarrying, or delivering any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets of Letters, by Sea or Land, or on any River within her Majesty's Dominions (other than as in the said Act is excepted) on Pain of forfeiting Five Pounds of British Money for every several Offence, and also the Sum of a Hundred Pounds of like Money, for every Week that any Offender shall continue to act against the Tenor of the said Statute.

And whereas, his Majesty's Postmaster General have settled and established Packet-Boats, to carry, recarry and convey, Letters and Packets to and from England, to and from the Islands of Jamaica, Barbadoes, Antegoa, Montserrat, Nevis, and St. Christopher's, in America;

This publick Notice is hereby given thereof, to warn all Persons whatsoever from presuming to take upon them to act contrary to the Intent and true Meaning of the said Statute, and from presuming, under any Colour or Pretence whatsoever, to collect, receive, take up, order, dispatch, convey, carry, recarry, or deliver any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets of Letters, (except as in and by the said Act is excepted) what soever the future may be directed to, or come from any of the Islands above-mentioned (without a lawfull Authority first had and obtained from his Majesty's Postmaster General for that Purpose) as they would avoid such Prosecutions as may and must ensue for the Recovery of such Penalties as are inflicted by the said Act for all and every Offence or Offences above specified and recited.

By Command of the Postmaster-General,
George Shelvocke, Secretary,

General Post-Office, August 24, 1745.

Whereas the Communication with Flanders, by the Way of Ostend, is interrupted, and for the present at an End; Publick Notice is hereby given to all Merchants and others whom it may concern, That as their Letters for the several Parts and Provinces of the Austrian Netherlands are now, of Necessity, to be forwarded by the Way of Holland, it will be most proper for them to inclose their Letters and Packets, or recommend them to such as may be their Friends or Correspondents in Holland, from thence to be forwarded to the Places they are designed for in the Netherlands aforesaid; as also that it will be most safe and convenient for them, that the Answers, in Return to their said Letters, should be sent under Cover to Holland, to be forwarded from thence to this Office.

But in regard to the Correspondence with the Army, all Persons are hereby to take Notice, That their Letters, directed for any Person or Persons in the same, will be received at this Office, and from hence forwarded to the Army, in the Manner hitherto observed, a proper Method of conveying the Army Letters directly from hence, having been settled by the Way of Holland, in Conformity to the Usages in regard thereto, during the Wars of King William and Queen Anne.

By Command of the Post-master General,
George Shelvocke, Sec.

General Post-Office, London, Nov. 12, 1745.

Whereas a Number of Pacquet Boats have been, for some Time past, appointed, and are now almost prepared to take on board of them His Majesty's Mails of Letters and Packets for the West-Indies;

Publick Notice is hereby given to all Merchants, and all others in general whom it may concern, That all Letters and Packets for the Islands of Jamaica, Barbadoes, Antegoa, Montserrat, Nevis, and St. Christopher's, will, for the Time to come, be taken in and received, at this Office, upon the Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday of every Week of the Year throughout, upon their being paid for after the Rates settled by Act of Parliament, viz.

	s.	d.
For a Single Letter, ————	1	6
A Double Letter, ————	3	0
A Treble Letter, ————	4	6
An Ounce, ————	6	0

And farther Notice is hereby given, That the Mails to contain the Bags of Letters, for the several Islands above, will be constantly made up at this Office, upon the last Saturday of every Month of the Year, to commence the last Saturday of this present Month, in order to be forwarded by the Post of that Night to Falmouth, where the said Pacquets are to be stationed, and from whence they are, in Turn, to sail for the West-Indies as aforesaid, Wind and Weather, permitting, upon the Thursday next after the last Saturday of every Month of the Year.

Letters or Packets for the West-Indies will be taken in at the several Receiving-Houses in Town, and Post-Houses in the Country.

N. B. The full Port or Postage of the above Letters and Package must be paid into this Office, at the Time of Delivery, or they will not be forwarded from hence.

The same is to be understood of such of them as are or may be put into Receiving-Houses in Town, or Offices in the Country.

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