



ABS. 1. 82. 113

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ABRIDGEMENT  
OF PART OF THE  
STATUTES  
NOW IN FORCE  
RELATING TO THE  
POST OFFICE  
IN  
*SCOTLAND.*

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1803.



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WILLIAM and MARY,

Session 3d.—3d *September* 1690.

CHAP. III.

Act against Robbing of the  
Packet.

THE Robbing or Seizing the Mail or Penalty  
for Rob-  
bing the  
Mail.  
Packet, or the Letters and Dispatches  
going or coming by the Common Post,  
or any other Expresses, is Robbery, and  
shall be punished with Death, and Con-  
fiscation of Moveables.

*See afterwards 5th George 3. Chap.  
25. Sect. 18.—7th George 3. Chap. 50.  
Sect. 2.—and 42d George 3. Chap. 81.  
Sect. 3.*

## Ninth

## QUEEN ANNE,

## CHAP. X.

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.

I. *The Act of 12 Car. 2. Chap. 35. and the Act of the Parliament of Scotland, in 1695, Will. Parl. 1. Sess. 5. Chap. 20. repealed.*

One General Post Office to be erected, and One Post-master General.

II. There shall be One General Post Office established within the City of *London*, from whence all Letters and Packets may be sent into any Part of *Great Britain and Ireland*, the *West Indies*, or any of Her Majesty's Dominions, or into any other Country beyond the Seas; and One Master of the said

said General Post Office shall be appointed by the Queen, by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of *Great Britain*, by the Style of *Her Majesty's Postmaster General*; which Master and his Deputies, and their Servants and Agents, and no other Person or Persons whatsoever, shall have the receiving, carrying, and delivering of all Letters and Packets to and from all Places of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, the *West Indies*, and other Her Majesty's Dominions, and also to and from all Countries where he shall settle Posts or running Messengers;

Except such Letters as shall respectively concern Goods sent by common Carriers of Goods, by Carts, Waggon<sup>Exceptions.</sup>s, or Pack Horses, and shall be respectively delivered *with* the Goods such Letters do concern, without Hire or other Advantage; and except Letters of Merchants, and Masters of Ships or Vessels, of Merchandise, or any Lading therein sent on Board such Ships, whereof such Masters are Owners, so as such Letters be delivered without Hire; and except Commissions, the Return thereof, Affidavits, Writs\*, Process, or Returns, A 3 issuing

\* Amended by 26 *George 2.* Chap. 13. Sect. 6.

issuing out of any Court, and also Letters sent by private Friends in their Journey, or by Messengers sent on Purpose, concerning the private Affairs of any Person.

Carriers,  
&c. not  
to carry  
Letters.

III. Nothing in the said Exceptions shall extend to, or give Authority to common Carriers of Goods, their Servants or Agents, to receive, collect, or deliver, with or without Hire, any Letters or Packets of Letters whatsoever, that do not concern Goods *in* their Carts, Waggon, or *on* their Pack Horses; nor to any Owners or Drivers of Stage Coaches; nor to any Owners, Master, or Commanders of Passage Boats, sailing between any Part of *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, and any Parts beyond the Seas, or their Servants or Agents, nor to any *Passengers* on Board such Vessels, nor to the Owners of any Vessel passing on any River to and from any Parts of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, or the *West Indies*, or other Her Majesty's Dominions, although such Drivers, Owners, &c. do not receive Hire or other Advantage for the same.

IV. Such

IV. Such Postmaster General shall be at Liberty to keep One Chief Letter Office in the City of *Edinburgh*, another in the City of *Dublin*, and other Chief Offices in Her Majesty's Provinces in *America*, and in each of the *Leeward Islands*, and appoint Deputies under him for improving the Revenue hereby granted.

A Chief Letter Office to be erected in *Edinburgh*, &c.

VI. \* It shall be lawful for such Postmaster General and his Deputies, for the Use of Her Majesty, to receive for the Portage of all Letters and Packets directed on Board, or brought from on Board any Ship riding in any Port in Her Majesty's Dominions, 1d. over and above the Inland Rates.

Rates for Ship Letters.

*See farther Regulations in Sect. 15. and 16. of this Act.—Amended by 5 George 3. Sect. 3. and 4. and by 39 George 3. Chap. 76. Sect. 2.*

And for the Port of all Letters and Packets passing by the Penny Post established

Penny Post.

\* The Rates of Postage established by this Clause for the Conveyance of Letters in *England* are repealed by 37 George 3. Chap. 18. Sect. 1.; and that Act gives additional Rates for *Scotland*, which, with the *English* Rates, are abolished by 41 George 3. Chap. 7. Sect. 1.

blished within *London, Westminster, Southwark*, and Parts adjacent, and to be received and delivered within Ten Miles from the General Letter Office in *London*, 1d.

*See this Clause enlarged by 4 George 2. Chap. 33. and 5 George 3. Chap. 25. Sect. 11.*

Rates for  
Foreign  
Letters.

And for all Letters, Packets, and Parcels of Goods, conveyed to and from any of Her Majesty's Dominions, to or from any other Parts beyond the Seas, according to the Rates following, either by the Letter or the Ounce, viz.

*Letters from London through France to Spain (Port paid to Bayonne) and from Spain through France to London, Single 1s. 6d. Double 3s. Treble 4s. 6d. Ounce 6s.*

*From London through France to Italy or Sicily by Way of Lyons, or to Turkey by Way of Marcellia, and from those Parts through France to London, Single 1s. 3d. Double 2s. 6d. Treble 3s. 9d. Ounce 5s.*

*From the Spanish Netherlands to London, Single 10d. Double 1s. 8d. Treble 2s. 6d. Ounce 3s. 4d.*

*From London through the Spanish Netherlands to Italy or Sicily (Port paid to*

to Antwerp) and *from* Italy or Sicily, &c. *to* London, Single 1s. Double 2s. Treble 3s. Ounce 4s.

*From* London *through* the Spanish Netherlands *to* Germany, Switzerland, Denmark, Sweden, *and all Parts of the North, and to* London, Single 1s. Double 2s. Treble 3s. Ounce 4s.

*From* London *through* the Spanish Netherlands *to* Spain, *and to* London, Single 1s. 6d. Double 3s. Treble 4s. 6d. Ounce 6s.

*From* London *through* the United Provinces *for* Italy or Sicily, *and to* London, Single 1s. Double 2s. Treble 3s. Ounce 4s.

*From* London *through* the United Provinces *to* Germany, Switzerland, Denmark, Sweden, *and all Parts of the North, and from those Parts to* London, Single 1s. Double 2s. Treble 3s. Ounce 4s.

*From* London *through* the United Provinces *to* Spain, *and to* London, Single 1s. 6d. Double 3s. Treble 4s. 6d. Ounce 6s.

*Between* London and Spain, *by Packet Boats*, Single 1s. 6d. Double 3s. Treble 4s. 6d. Ounce 6s.

*From*

*From London to Jamaica, Barbadoes, Antigua, Montserrat, Nevis, and St. Christopher's, and to London, Single 1s. 6d. Double 3s. Treble 4s. 6d. Ounce 6s.\**

Places  
where  
Posts are  
not set-  
tled.

VII. The Postmaster General may take according to the same Rates and Proportions, for the Port of Letters, Packets, and Parcels, to or from Places beyond the Seas, where Posts have not been settled.

Foreign  
Letters  
collected  
between

VIII. All Letters and Packets directed to, or coming from any of the Foreign Parts aforesaid, and collected or delivered

\* The remaining Part of this Clause is repealed, in so far as relates to the Postage of Letters; 1<sup>st</sup>, To and from *France*, the *Batavian Republic*, and *London*, by 42 *George 3. Chap. 101. Sect. 1.*—2<sup>dly</sup>, To and from *London* and *Portugal*, by 37 *George 3. Chap. 18. Sect. 4.*—3<sup>dly</sup>, From *London* through the *Spanish Netherlands*, or the *United Provinces*, to *Hamburgh*, *et vice versa*, by 5 *George 3. Chap. 25. Sect. 15.*—4<sup>thly</sup>, Between *London* and the *British Dominions in America*, and Places within said Dominions, by 5 *George 3. Chap. 25. Sect. 2.*; and again, by 37 *George 3. Chap. 18. Sect. 4.*

Additional Rates of Inland Postage are granted by 41 *George 3. Chap. 7. Sect. 2.*

delivered at any Place between *London* London and the Port and any of the Ports from whence Her Majesty's Packet Boats shall sail, or at whence the Packet Boat sails. which they may arrive with the Foreign Mails, shall pay the same Rates as if they were conveyed in the Mails to or from *London*.

IX. Such Postmaster General shall be at Liberty to keep Packet Boats to Packet Boats to go from go weekly to and from *Donachadee*, Donachadee to or some other Port in *Ireland*, to *Port Patrick*, Port Patrick. or some other Port in *Scotland*, paying over and above the Inland Rates to be received at the Place where such Letters are delivered in as follows; viz.

For every Single Letter 2d. Double 4d. Treble 6d. Ounce 3d.

*Repealed by 5 George 3. Chap. 25. Sect. 8. (as to paying at Delivery.)*

X. It shall be lawful for the Postmaster General to set up Cross Stages Postmaster to erect Cross Stages. to and from any Place, and take for all Letters and Packets which he shall convey in such Cross Stages; as also for all By or Way Letters, the same Rates, in Proportion to the Distances of Places,

Places, as Letters conveyed to and from  
*London.*

*See 41 George 3. Chap. 7. Sect. 2.*

Proviso  
for Mer-  
chants.

XIII. All Merchants Accounts not exceeding One Sheet of Paper, and all Bills of Exchange, Invoices, and Bills of Lading, shall be allowed, without Rate in the Price of the Letters; and likewise the Covers of Letters, not exceeding One-fourth Part of a Sheet of Paper, sent by the Way of *Vienna, Mar-seilles, Venice, or Leghorn*, to be sent to or from *Turkey*, shall be allowed to pass without Payment for the same.

*See this Clause explained by 6 Geo. 1. Sect. 52.*

At Post  
Towns,  
the Post-  
master to  
receive all  
Letters  
from on  
Board  
Ship.

XV. All Letters and Packets that by any Master of a Ship, or any of his Company or Passengers therein, shall be brought to any Port within Her Majesty's Dominions, (other than Letters before excepted), shall be delivered to the Deputies, only of such Post-master General, to be sent Post to the General Post Office, to be delivered according to their Directions, upon Pain of forfeiting 5 l. for every Offence against this Act.

*See*

*See 5 George 3. Chap. 25. Sect. 3.  
and 39 George 3. Chap. 76.*

XVI. Every Master or other Person, And to give the Bringer a Penny a Letter. for every Letter or Packet he shall deliver unto such Deputies, shall receive 1 d. he signing a Certificate of the Number of Letters delivered, and by what Vessel they came, and of the Time he delivered the same, and giving a Receipt for such Pence as he shall receive; which Certificate and Receipt shall be by the next Post returned to the Postmaster General, together with the Letters; and the Deputy shall have Credit for so much Money as he shall pay on that Account.

*See 5 George 3. Chap. 25 Sect. 4.  
and 39 George 3. Chap. 76.*

XVII. No Person or Persons whatsoever, or Body Politick or Corporate, in *Great Britain and Ireland*, or Her Majesty's Plantations in the *West Indies* and *America*, other than such Postmaster General and his Deputies, shall presume to receive, carry, or deliver, any Letter or Packet, (other than as before excepted), or make any Collection of Letters, or employ any Foot  
B Post,  
None to carry Letters but the Postmaster General or his Deputies.

Post, Horse Post, Boat, or Conveyance whatsoever, for receiving, carrying, or delivering Letters or Packets by Sea or Land, or any River within Her Majesty's Dominions, on Pain of forfeiting  
 Penalty. 5*l.* for every Offence, *and* 100*l.* for every Week they shall so collect, carry, or deliver Letters, &c.

Deputy  
Post-  
master to  
account  
for By-  
Letters.

XVIII. If any Person employed as a Deputy Postmaster, or otherwise, shall not duly account for all By or Way Letters, or shall not on his Post Bills mention all the By or Way Letters he shall receive, or shall embezzle or destroy any such By-Letters or Packets, such Person shall forfeit, as the Persons herein prohibited setting up other Posts, or collecting or delivering Letters.

Penalties  
how to be  
recovered.

XIX. The said Penalties shall be recovered in any of Her Majesty's Courts of Record, the one Moiety to Her Majesty, and the other to such Persons who shall sue for the same; and such Person informing shall have Costs.

Letters  
may be  
sent from  
any Place  
to the  
next Stage  
above Six

XXII. Nothing herein shall prohibit the carrying of Letters or Packets to or from the next Post Stage above Six  
 Miles

Miles from the General Post Office, or the Chief Office of *Edinburgh*. Miles from the General Office.

XXIV. If the Mail shall be carried out of *Great Britain* to Places beyond the Seas, in any Ship which is not a free Ship, and navigated with such Seamen as by Law are required, the Postmaster General shall forfeit 100*l*. One Moiety to Her Majesty, and the other to him who shall sue for the same in any Court of Record \*.

XXV. The Deputy acting under the Postmaster General within *Scotland*, and all Officers and Deputies acting under him, on taking the Oaths of Allegiance and Abjuration, and subscribing the same, with the Assurance appointed by any Laws of *Scotland* or of *Great Britain*, shall be qualified to exercise their respective Employments. The Packet not to be carried out of Great Britain in Foreign Ships.

XXVII. The Postmaster General and his Deputies shall observe such Orders for the Settlement of Posts and Stages, as well for the carrying and conveying Post-masters to observe such Orders as Her

B 2

\* Altered, in so far as relates to the Conveyance of the Mail to *Spain*, by 33 *George 3*. Chap. 60.

Majesty shall make. conveying of Letters, as Her Majesty shall make.

Debts for Postage how to be recovered. XXX. All Sums not exceeding 5l. that shall be due for Letters or Packets, or which shall be received for the Port of Letters, without paying the Monies to the Receiver General of the said Revenues for Her Majesty's Use, shall be recovered before Justices of Peace, in the same Manner as small Tithes are by the Laws of *England*; and such Debt shall be preferable in Payment before any Debt to a private Person. \*

Inland Letters to pay where delivered. XXXI. All Inland Letters sent by any Packet Post, shall pay the Rates at such Stages at which they are delivered; unless the Party that doth put in the Letters desireth to pay elsewhere; and unless such Letters are directed on Board any Ship, or to any Person in the Army, or are sent by the Penny Post; and unless they be Letters going out of *Great Britain*, which have usually paid the Rates in *England*.

XXXIII. It

\* These Sums fall to be recovered under the *Small Debt Act*, of which an Abstract is given in the Appendix.

XXXIII. It shall be lawful for the Postmaster General and his Deputies to continue By-Bags for collecting and delivering By-Letters, on accounting to the Receiver General.

XXXIX. *Repealed by 41 George 3. Chap. 7.*

XL. No Person shall willingly open, detain, or delay, or *cause*, permit, or suffer to be opened, detained, or delayed, any Letter or Packet, *after* the same is delivered into the Post Office, or into the Hands of any Person employed for receiving or carrying Post Letters, and *before Delivery to the Persons to whom they are directed* or for their Use, except by an express Warrant *in Writing*, under the Hands of One of the Principal Secretaries of State, for *every* such opening, detaining, or delaying,—or except where the Party *to whom* such Letter or Packet *shall be directed*, shall refuse or neglect to pay the same; and except Letters or Packets returned for want of true Directions, and where the Party cannot be found; and every Person offending in Manner aforesaid, or who shall embezzle any such Letters or

No Letters to be opened or detained.

Exception.

Packets, shall forfeit 20l. ; the said Penalties for every such Offence committed in *Scotland*, to be recovered in the Court of Session or Exchequer there, by such Persons as will sue for the same, with Costs ; and over and above such Penalty, every Person so offending, shall be incapable of holding any Office, Trust, or Employment, in the Post Office.

Post-  
masters to  
be sworn.

XLI. No Person shall be capable of exercising the Office of Postmaster General, or any other Employment relating to the Post Office, unless such Persons shall first have taken the following Oath before some Justice of the Peace for the County where he resides.

The Oath.

**I** A. B. do swear, That I will not wittingly, willingly, or knowingly, open, detain, or delay, or cause, procure, permit, or suffer to be opened, detained, or delayed, any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets, which shall come into my Hands, Power, or Custody, by Reason of my Employment in, or relating to, the Post Office ; except by the Consent of the Person or Persons to whom the same is or shall be directed, or by an express Warrant in Writing, under the Hand  
of

*of One of the Principal Secretaries of State, for that Purpose; or except in such Cases where the Party or Parties to whom such Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets, shall be directed, or who is or are hereby chargeable with the Payment of the Post or Posts thereof, shall refuse or neglect to pay the same; and except such Letters or Packets as shall be returned for want of true Directions, or when the Party or Parties to whom the same is or shall be directed cannot be found; and that I will not any Way embezzle any such Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets, as aforesaid.*

XLIV. No Postmaster General, or his Deputies, or any Person employed under him in the Revenue of the Post Office, shall, by Word, Message, or Writing, or in any other Manner whatsoever, endeavour to persuade any Elector to give, or dissuade him from giving his Vote for the Choice of any Knight of the Shire, Citizen, Burgeſs, or Baron, to ſerve in Parliament; and every Officer offending therein ſhall forfeit 100l.; One Moiety thereof to the Informer, the other to the Poor of the Pariſh where ſuch Offence ſhall be committed;

to be recovered in the Court of Exchequer in *Scotland*; and every Person convicted on such Suit shall become incapable of ever bearing or executing any Office or Place of Trust whatsoever under Her Majesty.

*See 22 George 3. Chap. 41.*

Sixth

## Sixth

## GEORGE I.

An Act for preventing Frauds and Abuses in the Publick Revenues of Excise, Customs, Stamp Duties, Post Office, and House Money.

LI. Bills of Exchange wrote on the same Piece of Paper with a Letter, and also Letters to several Persons wrote upon the same, shall be rated, taxed, and paid for, as so many several and distinct Letters.

Bills of Exchange wrote upon the same Piece of Paper with a Letter.

LII. The Proviso in 9 *Anne*, Chap. 10. Sect. 13. shall extend only to such Merchants Accounts, Bills of Exchange, Invoices, and Bills of Lading, as shall be sent to or from the General Post Office in *London*, to or from any Parts beyond the Seas, not within His Majesty's Dominions\*.

Merchants Accounts, &c. sent to Foreign Parts.

## Fourth

\* The latter Part of this Clause, as inserted in the Act of Parliament, is repealed by 41 *Geo.* 3. Chap. 7. Sect. 4.

## Fourth

## GEORGE II.

## CHAP. XXXIII.

An Act for obviating a Doubt which hath arisen, concerning the usual Allowance made upon the Delivery of Letters sent by the Penny Post, to Places out of the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, and Borough of *Southwark*, and the respective Suburbs thereof.

Penny  
Post.

Nothing in the Act of the 9th of Queen *Anne*, Chap. 10. shall extend to restrain any Person carrying Letters by *The Penny Post*, from demanding or taking for every Letter originally sent by the Penny Post, and not first passing by the General Post, and from thence transmitted by the Penny Post, which shall be delivered to any Person out of the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*,

minster, the Borough of Southwark, and the respective Suburbs thereof, 1 d. over and above the Penny paid upon putting every such Letter into the Penny Post Office.

See 5 George 3. Chap. 25. Sect. 11.

Twenty-sixth

## Twenty-sixth

## G E O R G E II.

## CHAP. XIII.

An Act for the more effectually preventing the fraudulent Removal of Tobacco by Land or Water, and for the Ease of the fair Trader in Tobacco; and for ascertaining the Rates payable for the Portage of certain Letters; and for amending and explaining the Laws relating to the Sale of Spirituous Liquors by Retail.

Every  
Writ, &c.  
to pay as  
a distinct  
Letter.

VI. Every Writ, or Proceedings at Law, inclosed in a Letter, or wrote upon One and the same Piece of Paper with a Letter, shall be rated, taxed, and paid for, as a several and distinct Letter.

VII. *Repealed by 35 George 3. Chap. 53. Sect. 9.*

Fourth

## Fourth

## GEORGE III.

## CHAP. XXIV.

An Act for preventing Frauds and Abuses in relation to the sending and receiving of Letters and Packets free from the Duty of Postage.

I. That, from the 1st Day of *May* 1764, so long as the Revenue arising in the Post Office shall continue to be carried to, and made Part of the Aggregate Fund, no Letters or Packets sent by the Post shall be exempted from paying the Duty of Postage, except all such as shall be sent from or to the King's most Excellent Majesty.\*

No Letters or Packets shall be exempt from Postage, but such as are sent from or to the King.

C

II. It

\* The subsequent Part of this Clause, authorizing Members of Parliament to send Letters within *Great Britain* and *Ireland* free from Postage, not exceeding the Weight of *Two Ounces*, is repealed by 42 *George* 3. Chap. 63. The same Act continues the Privilege mentioned in this Clause, of franking Letters, to certain Persons in Virtue of their Offices, which renders it unnecessary to be engrossed here.

Commis-  
sioners of  
the Trea-  
sury, &c.  
may au-  
thorize  
certain  
Persons in  
their re-  
spective  
Offices to  
frank Let-  
ters upon  
the King's  
Service.

II. It shall be lawful for the Lord High Treasurer, or Commissioners of the Treasury, the Lord High Admiral, or Commissioners of the Admiralty, The Principal Secretaries of State, The Secretary at War, The Postmaster General, and the Deputies of the Postmaster General for *Scotland, Ire-land, and America*, to authorize certain Persons in each of their Offices respectively, a List of whose Names shall be transmitted by the Principal Officer authorizing the same to the General Post Office in *London*, to make and subscribe an Indorsement upon each Letter or Packet which shall concern the publick Business of their respective Offices, signifying that such Letter or Packet is upon His Majesty's Service, and to seal the same with the Seal of the Office; and if any Person employed as afore-said shall knowingly make and subscribe such Indorsement, or procure the same to be made, upon any Letter or Packet which does not really concern the Business of the Office, he shall, for the first Offence, forfeit and pay the Sum of Five Pounds, to be recovered and applied as by the ninth of Queen *Anne*

is directed ; and, for the second Offence, shall be dismissed from his Office.

III. Provided, that the Number of Limita-  
tion of the  
Number. Persons so to be appointed to make such Indorsement shall not exceed Two in any One Office, except only in the Admiralty and War Offices ; and that the Number to be appointed in the Admiralty Office shall not exceed Eight in Time of Peace, or Twelve in Time of War ; and, in the War Office, shall not exceed Six in Time of Peace, or Ten in Time of War.

IV. and V. *See 42 George 3. Chap. 63.*

VI. As it hath been usual for the Clerks to  
the Secre-  
taries of  
State, &c.  
may frank  
Votes, &c. Clerks in the Offices of the Principal Secretaries of State, and also for certain Officers in the Office of the Postmaster General, to frank printed Votes and Proceedings in Parliament, and printed Newspapers, to be sent by the Post, it is enacted, That it shall be lawful for such Clerks and Officers being thereunto licensed by His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, or the Postmaster General respectively, to continue to frank such printed Votes, and Proceedings in  
C 2      Parliament,

Parliament, and printed Newspapers, in such Manner as they have heretofore been accustomed; provided the same shall be sent without Covers, or in Covers open at the Sides.

*See 9 George 3. Chap. 35. Sect. 6.*

VII. and VIII. *See 42 George 3. Chap. 63.*

## Fifth

## GEORGE III.

## CHAP. XXV.

An Act to alter certain Rates of Postage, and to amend, explain, and enlarge several Provisions in an Act made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Queen *Anne*, and in other Acts relating to the Revenue of the Post Office.

II. *Repealed by 37 George 3. Chap. 18. Sect. 4.*

III. And whereas the Provision in Clause 15. of 9 *Anne*, Chap. 10. hath been found ineffectual for the Purposes thereby intended, it is enacted, That from the 10th Day of *October* 1765, no Ship or Vessel shall be permitted to break Bulk, or to make any Entry in any Port in the *British* Dominions, un-

C 3.

til

til all Letters and Packets brought by the Master of such Ship or Vessel, or by any of his Company, or Passenger on Board the same, to any Port in the said Dominions where Posts are or may be established, and from whence such Letters and Packets can be dispatched by Post, shall be delivered to the Deputy or Agents of the Postmaster General, to be forwarded, according to their respective Directions; except such Letters, Commissions, and other Things, as are excepted in the said Act, and also all such Letters and Packets brought in any Ship or Vessel liable to the Performance of Quarantine, which shall be delivered by the Person having Possession thereof to the Persons appointed to superintend the Quarantine; and the said Letters or Packets shall be by them dispatched by the Post; and all Masters, Mariners, Passengers, and other Persons, neglecting or refusing to deliver these Letters or Packets shall, for every such Neglect or Refusal respectively, forfeit the Sum of Twenty Pounds; one Moiety of the said Penalty to His Majesty, and the other to such Person who shall inform against such Offenders, and sue for the same;

same; the said Penalties to be recovered, with full Costs of Suit.

IV. It shall be lawful for the said Deputies to demand and take, for every such Letter and Packet so delivered to them from any Ship or Vessel, other than Packet Boats, as shall be directed to any Place within the Town belonging to such Port, or within the Limits of the Delivery of Letters and Packets by such Deputies, the Sum of One Penny, over and above what may be received for the same.

rd. extra  
charged  
on Ship  
Letters  
not  
brought  
by the  
Packet  
Boat.

V. and VII. *Repealed, in so far as relates to Great Britain, by 37 George 3. Chap. 18.*

XI. The Postmaster General and his Deputies may establish *Penny Post Offices* in any City or Town, and the Suburbs thereof, and Places adjacent, within *Great Britain*, and demand the same Rates for the Postage of all Letters and Packets conveyed by such Penny Post, as are or may be taken for the Carriage of Letters and Packets conveyed by *the Penny Post*, established within the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, and Borough of *Southwark* and Parts adjacent, according

Power gi-  
ven to set-  
tle Penny  
Post Offi-  
ces where  
conve-  
nient.

cording to the Extent and Meaning of the 9 Queen *Anne*, Chap. 10. Sect. 6. and 4 *George* II. and of this present Act.

When settled, no Person to collect Letters.

XII. When such Penny Post Offices shall be established, no Person or Persons whatsoever shall make any Collection of Letters or Packets in or near where the same shall be established, without Leave of the Postmaster General, upon Pain of incurring the Forfeitures and Penalties inflicted by the 9 of Queen *Anne*, to be paid by Persons collecting and delivering Letters contrary thereto, and recovered, with full Costs of Suit.

Weight of Letters to be sent by the Penny Post.

XIV. No Letter, Packet, or Parcel whatsoever, shall be forwarded by *the Penny Post*, if the Weight thereof *shall exceed Four Ounces*, other than such Letters or Packets as have first come by the Post to the General Post Office, or shall be passing by *the Penny Post* into the said General Post Office.

Rates of Postage between London and *Ham-burgh*.

XV. The Postmaster General and his Deputies may demand and take, for the Conveyance of all Letters and Packets,

ets, sent by the Post from *London* to *Hamburg*, or from *Hamburg* to *London*, the same Rates as, by the Act 9 *Anne*, Chap. 10. Sect. 6. are settled for all Letters and Packets passing from *London* to all other Parts of *Germany*. \*

XVI. The Postmaster General and his Deputies, if such Postmaster General shall deem it expedient, may cause the Rates for all Letters and Packets sent out of *Great Britain* to be paid upon their being put into any Post Office within the said Kingdom.

The Postage of Foreign Letters may be ordered to be paid at input.

XVII. If any Person employed in the Business of the Post Office shall secrete, embezzle, or destroy, any Letter, Packet, Bag, or Mail of Letters which he shall be entrusted with, or which shall have come to his Possession, by Virtue of his Employment in the Post Office, containing any Bank Note, Bank Post Bill, Bill of Exchange, Exchequer Bill, *South Sea* or *East India* Bond, Dividend Warrant of the Bank, *South Sea*, *East India*, or any other Company, Society, or Corporation, Navy or Victual-  
ling

Penalty on Officers secreting or embezzling Letters, &c.

\* That is, for every Single Letter 1s. Double 2s. Treble 3s. Ounce 4s. See Page 9.

ling Bill, Seaman's Ticket, State Lottery Ticket, Goldsmith's Note for the Payment of Money, or other Bond or Warrant, Bill or Promissory Note for the Payment of Money, or *American* Provincial Bill of Credit; or shall steal and take out of any Letter or Packet, that shall have come to his Possession as aforesaid, any such Bank Note, &c. with intent to secrete, embezzle, or destroy the same; every such Offender, being thereof convicted in due Form of Law, shall suffer Death.

*Amended by 7 George 3. Chap. 1. Sect. 1.*

Penalty of  
robbing  
the Mail.

XVIII. If any Person shall rob any of His Majesty's Mails of any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets, Bag or Mail of Letters, although such Robbery shall not appear or be proved to be a taking from the Person, or upon the King's Highway, or to be a Robbery committed in any Dwelling-house, Coach-house, Stable, Barn, or any Out-house belonging to a Dwelling-house, and although it should not appear that any Person or Persons were put in Fear by such Robbery, yet such Offender being thereof convicted as aforesaid shall suffer Death.

*Amended*

*Amended by 7 George 3. Chap. 1.*  
*Seet. 2.*

XIX. If any Person appointed to take in Letters or Packets, and receive the Postage thereof, shall embezzle, or apply to his Use, any Money by him received with such Letters or Packets for the Postage thereof; or shall burn or otherwise destroy any Letters or Packets by him taken in, or who, by Virtue of his Office, shall advance the Rates upon Letters or Packets sent by the Post, and shall not duly account for the Money received for such advanced Postage, every such Offender being thereof convicted shall be deemed guilty of Felony.

Penalty on Officers misapplying the Postage received by them, or destroying Letters, or advancing the Rates and not accounting for the Postage.

*Amended by 7 George 3. Chap. 1.*  
*Seet. 3.*

XX. If any Post-boy or Rider, having taken any of His Majesty's Mails, or Bags of Letters, under his Care, in order to convey the same to the next Post Town or Stage, shall quit or desert the same before his Arrival at such Post Town or Stage, or shall suffer any Person except the Guard to ride on the Horse or Carriage along with the said Mails;

Post-boy quitting the Mail, or suffering any Person to ride on his Horse or Carriage,

or loiter-  
ing on the  
Road,

to be com-  
mitted to  
hard La-  
bour.

Mails ; or shall loiter on the Road, and wilfully mispend his Time, or shall not in all possible Cases convey such Mails after the Rate of Six *English* Miles an Hour at the least ; every such Offender being thereof convicted, either by voluntary Confession of the Party, or by the Oath or Oaths of One or more credible Witness or Witnesses, before any Justice of the Peace, shall be sent to the House of Correction, and confined to hard Labour for any Time not exceeding One Month, nor less than Fourteen Days.

Penalty on  
a Post-boy  
unlawful-  
ly collect-  
ing or de-  
livering  
Letters.

XXI. If any Post-boy or Rider shall, by himself, or in Combination with others, unlawfully collect or receive Letters or Packets, or convey, or cause them to be unlawfully conveyed, and shall thereof be convicted as aforesaid, every such Offender shall, for every such Letter or Packet so by him or them unlawfully collected, conveyed, or delivered, forfeit the Sum of Ten Shillings, to be paid to the Informer ; and if the same shall not be forthwith paid upon Conviction, any Justice may commit him to the House of Correction, there to remain

main at hard Labour for any Space not exceeding Two Months, nor less than One Month.

XXVI. See 42 George 3. Chap. 63.

D

Seventh

## Seventh

## GEORGE III.

## CHAP. L.

An Act for amending certain Laws relating to the Revenue of the Post Office; and for granting Rates of Postage for the Conveyance of Letters and Packets between *Great Britain* and the *Isle of Man*, and within that Island.

Officers  
employed  
in the Post  
Office,

I. If any Deputy, Clerk, Agent, Letter Carrier, Post-boy or Rider, or any other Officer or Person whatsoever employed in receiving, stamping, sorting, charging, conveying, or delivering Letters or Packets, or in any other Business relating to the Post Office, shall secrete, embezzle, or destroy any Letter, Packet, Bag, or Mail of Letters which he shall be intrusted with, or which shall have come to his Possession, containing any Bank Note, Bank Post

who shall  
embezzle  
or destroy  
any Letter  
which  
shall come  
to their  
Possession,

Post Bill, Bill of Exchange, Exchequer Bill, *South Sea* or *East India* Bond, Dividend Warrant of the Bank, *South Sea*, *East India*, or any other Company, Society, or Corporation, Navy or Victualing or Transport Bill, Ordnance Debenture, Seaman's Ticket, State Lottery Ticket or Certificate, Bank Receipt for Payment on any Loan, Note of Assignment of Stock in the Funds, Letter of Attorney for receiving Annuities or Dividends, or for selling Stock in the Funds, or belonging to any Company, Society, or Corporation, *American Provincial* Bill of Credit, Goldsmith's or Banker's Letter of Credit, or Note for or relating to the Payment of Money, or other Bond or Warrant, Draught, Bill, or Promissory Note whatsoever for the Payment of Money; or shall steal and take out of any Letter or Packet that shall come to his hands, any such Bank Note, &c. every such Offender being thereof convicted shall be deemed guilty of Felony, and suffer Death as a Felon, without Benefit of Clergy.

containing  
any Bank  
Note as  
Payment  
of Money,

or shall  
steal there-  
out any  
such Bank  
Note, &c.

on Con-  
viction  
shall suffer  
Death.

*See this Clause amended by 42 George 3. Chap. 81. Sect. 1. and 2.*

Persons  
who shall  
rob the  
Mail of  
Letters,  
or shall  
steal Let-  
ters from  
the Mail,  
or from  
any Post  
Office,

being con-  
victed,  
shall suffer  
Death.

II. If any Person shall rob any Mail, in which Letters are sent or conveyed by the Post, of any Letter, Packet, or Mail of Letters; or shall steal and take from or out of any such Mail or Bag of Letters, or out of any Post Office, any Letter, Packet or Packets, although such Robbery, stealing, or taking, shall not be proved to be a taking from the Person, or upon the King's Highway, or to be a Robbery committed in any Dwelling-house, or Out-house belonging to a Dwelling-house; and although it should not appear that any Person was put in Fear by such Robbery, stealing, or taking; yet such Offender being thereof convicted shall be deemed guilty of Felony, and suffer Death as a Felon, without Benefit of Clergy.

*Amended by 42 George 3. Chap. 81.  
Sect. 3. and 4.*

Officers,  
&c. who  
shall de-  
stroy any  
Letter to  
be sent by  
Post,

III. If any Deputy, Clerk, Agent, Letter Carrier, Officer, or other Person whatsoever, employed in any Business relating to the Post Office, shall receive into his Hands any Letter or Packet to be forwarded by the Post, and receive any Sum for the Postage thereof, or shall burn or destroy any such Letter  
or

or Packet ; or if they shall advance the Rate of Postage upon any Letter or Packet sent by the Post, and shall secrete and not duly account for the Money received for such advanced Postage; every such Offender, being thereof convicted, shall be deemed guilty of Felony.

or who shall advance the Postage of Letters without accounting for the Money, are deemed guilty of Felony.

IV. The Postmaster General and his Deputies may demand and take, for the Port and Conveyance of all Letters and Packets carried by *Packet Boats* to or from the Port of *Whitehaven*, or any other convenient Port in *Great Britain*, from or to the Port of *Douglas*, or any other convenient Port in the *Isle of Man*, (over and above all other Rates payable for such Letters or Packets), the Rates after mentioned, (the same being rated either by the Letter or by the Ounce); that is to say,

For every Single Letter 2d. Double Letter 4d. Treble Letter 6d. Ounce 8d. And so in Proportion for every Packet of Deeds, Writs, and other Things.

V. The Postmaster General may establish Post Offices and Post Roads within the *Isle of Man*, and may de-

Convenient Post Offices and Post Roads to

D 3

mand,

be established within the said Island.

Inland Post of Letters there to be charged after the Rate of Postage in England.

mand, for the Inland Conveyance of all Letters and Packets sent by the Post within the said *Isle*, such Rates of Postage, in Proportion to the Number of Miles or Stages such Letters and Packets are carried by the Post, as now are respectively settled for the Inland Conveyance of Letters and Packets within *England*.

See 41 George 3. Chap. 7.

Ninth

## Ninth

## GEORGE III.

## CHAP. XXXV.

An Act for discontinuing, upon the Exportation of Iron imported in Foreign Ships, the Drawback of such Part of the Duties payable thereon as exceed the Duties payable upon Iron imported in *British* Ships; to prohibit the Exportation of Pig and Bar Iron, and certain Naval Stores, unless the Pre-emption thereof be offered to the Commissioners of the Navy; to repeal so much of an Act, made in the Sixth Year of His present Majesty's Reign, as discontinued the Drawback upon Foreign Rough Hemp exported; for providing

providing a Compensation to the Clerks in the Offices of the Principal Secretaries of State, for the Advantages such Clerks enjoyed before the Commencement of an Act, made in the Fourth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, for preventing Frauds and Abuses in Relation to the sending and receiving Letters and Packets free from the Duty of Postage ; and to explain and amend the said Act.

Privilege  
to Mem-  
bers of  
sending  
Votes, &c.  
limited to  
the Session  
of Parlia-  
ment, or  
within 40  
Days be-  
fore, or 40  
Days after,

VI. It is the true Intent and Meaning of 4 *George 3. Chap. 24.* that Votes, Proceedings, and Newspapers sent and directed as therein mentioned, should be conveyed free from the Duty of Postage, during such Times only as are allowed and limited in the preceding Part of the said Act for the Conveyance, free of Postage, of Letters and Packets, not exceeding the Weight of Two Ounces, sent from or to any Member

ber of either of the Two Houses of Parliament in *Great Britain* or *Ireland* respectively, as in the said Act is particularly expressed; that is to say, during the sitting of any Session of Parliament, or within Forty Days before or Forty Days after any Summons or Prorogation thereof.

VII. See 42 George 3. Chap. 63.

Twenty-second

Twenty-second  
 GEORGE III.

CHAP. XLI.

An Act for better securing the Freedom of Elections of Members to serve in Parliament, by disabling certain Officers, employed in the Collection or Management of His Majesty's Revenues, from giving their Votes at such Elections.

The Postmaster General, his Deputies, &c. shall have no Vote in the Election of Members of Parliament.

No Postmaster, Postmasters General, or their Deputies, or any Person employed by or under them in receiving, collecting, or managing the Revenue of the Post Office, or any Part thereof, nor any Captain, Master, or Mate of any Ship, Packet, or other Vessel employed by or under the Postmaster or Postmasters General in conveying the Mail to and from Foreign Ports, shall be capable of giving his Vote for the Election

tion of any Knight of the Shire, Commissioner, Citizen, Burgefs, or Baron to ferve in Parliament for any County, Stewartry, City, or Borough, or for choofing any Delegate in whom the Right of electing Members to ferve in Parliament for *Scotland* is vefted: And if any Perfon, hereby made incapable of voting as aforefaid, fhall nevertheless prefume to give his Vote during the Time he fhall hold, or within Twelve Calendar Months after he fhall ceafe to hold or execute any of the Offices aforefaid, contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of this Act, fuch Votes fo given fhall be held null and void to all Intents and Purpofes whatfoever, and every Perfon fo offending fhall forfeit the Sum of 100l. one Moiety thereof to the Informer, and the other to be immediately paid into the Hands of the Clerk of the Juftices of the Peace of the Counties or Stewartries within which fuch Offence fhall have been committed in *Scotland*, to be applied and difpofed of to fuch Purpofes as the Juftices at the next General Quarter Seflion of the Peace to be held for fuch County or Stewartry fhall think fit, and to be recovered by any Perfon that fhall  
fue

sue for the same by summary Complaint before the Court of Session in *Scotland*; and the Person convicted on any such Suit shall thereby become disabled and incapable of ever bearing or executing any Office or Place of Trust whatsoever under His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors.

Limita-  
tion of  
Actions.

V. Provided that no Person shall be liable to any Forfeiture or Penalty by this Act, unless Prosecution be commenced within Twelve Months after such Penalty or Forfeiture shall be incurred.

Twenty-

## Twenty-second

## GEORGE III.

## CHAP. LXX.

An Act to enable the Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces, and the Secretary to the Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces, to send and receive Letters and Packets free from the Duty of Postage.

I. See 42 George 3. Chap. 63.

II. The Commander in Chief may authorize Two Persons in his Office, The Commander in Chief to appoint (a List of whose Names shall be transmitted by him to the General Post Office in *London*), Two Persons to indorse Letters on Publick Business. to make and subscribe an Indorsement upon Letters and Packets to be sent by the Post from his Office, which shall concern the Publick Business of his Office, signifying that such Letters and Packets are upon His Majesty's

jefty's Service ; which Letters and Packets being so subscribed, and sealed with the Seal of the Commander in Chief, or his Secretary, shall be conveyed by the Post free from the Duty of Postage.

Penalty  
on indor-  
sing any  
Letter  
which  
does not  
concern  
the said  
Office.

III. If any Person authorized to make and subscribe such Indorsement, shall knowingly make, or procure the same to be made, upon any Letter or Packet which does not really concern the Business of the said Office, such Person shall, for the first Offence, forfeit the Sum of Five Pounds ; and, for the second, shall be dismissed from his Office.

Twenty-fourth

## Twenty-fourth

## GEORGE III.

## SESSION II.

## CHAP. VIII.

An Act for establishing certain Regulations concerning the Portage and Conveyance of Letters and Packets by the Post between *Great Britain* and *Ireland*.

I. After the Establishment of a General Post Office in *Ireland*, it shall be lawful for certain Persons who, by Virtue of their respective Offices in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, send and receive Letters and Packets free from the Duty of Postage, under the Fourth of *George 3*. Chap. 24; and for the Secretary of the General Post Office of *Ireland*, and the Surveyors of the said General Post Office, all for the Time being, to send and receive by the Post Letters and Packets from *Great Britain* to *Ireland*,

Certain Officers allowed to send and receive Letters, &c. to and from *Great Britain* and *Ireland* free from *British* Postage.

from *Ireland* to *Great Britain*, free from the Duty of Postage, on Account of the Post Office of *Great Britain*; provided that all such Letters and Packets relate to the Business of their respective Offices; and that they shall be certified on the Outside, under the Hand-writing of such Officers respectively, to be on His Majesty's Service, and shall be sealed with the Seal of the Office or Officer sending the same: And in Case any Officers shall receive, under Cover to them, any Letters or Packets directed to other Persons, such Officers are required to send the same to the General Post Office in *London* or *Dublin*, to be charged with the Duty of Postage; it being the true Meaning of this Act, that the Privilege of sending and receiving Letters and Packets by such Officers shall extend to such only as relate to the Business of their respective Offices.

*See 42 George 3. Chap. 63.*

Twenty-fourth

GEORGE III.

CHAP. XXXVIII.

An Act for granting to His Majesty certain additional Rates of Postage for Conveyance of Letters and Packets by the Post within the Kingdom of *Great Britain*; for preventing Frauds in the Revenue, carried on by the Conveyance of certain Goods in Letters and Packets; and for further preventing Frauds and Abuses in relation to the sending and receiving of Letters and Packets free from Postage.\*

E 3

II. *Repealed*

\* The Rates mentioned in Sect. 1. of this Act, in so far as relate to *England*, are repealed by 37 *George 3.* Chap. 18.; and to *Scotland*, by 41 *George 3.* Chap. 7.

II. *Repealed by 41 George 3. Chap. 7.*

III. *See 41 George 3. Chap. 7.*

Directions  
relative to  
Foreign  
Letters,  
suspected  
of contain-  
ing prohi-  
bited  
Goods,  
&c.

IV. For the Prevention of Frauds on the Revenue, by the Importation into this Kingdom in Letters or Packets sent by the Post, of Goods which are prohibited to be imported, or on the Importation of which a Duty is payable; it is enacted, That, whenever any Foreign Letter or Packet containing any Inclosure, shall be received at any of the Offices of the General Post Offices, it shall be lawful for any of the Officers employed in the said Office to carry such Letter or Packet to any Justice of Peace, or other Magistrate for the Town, District, or County in which such Office shall be situate, and to make Oath before such Magistrate that he suspects the same to contain Goods which are prohibited to be imported, or on the Importation of which a Duty is payable; and it shall then be lawful for him, in the Presence of the said Magistrate, to cut with a Penknife through the Folds of the said Letter or Packet, and its Inclosures, One Slit, not exceeding Two Inches in Length;

Length ; and if it shall then appear to the said Magistrate that any such Goods as aforesaid are contained therein, he shall proceed to open the said Letter or Packet, and shall, in Presence of the Officer, destroy such Goods ; and, in such Case, the Magistrate shall inclose each Letter or Packet in a Cover, in which shall be written an Attestation, signed by him, containing the Name of the Officer by whom such Letter or Packet shall have been brought to him, the Time of its being so brought, and the Quantity and Description of the Goods found therein, and attesting that the same were then by him destroyed ; and shall deliver the said Letter or Packet so inclosed, and also sealed by him to the said Officer, to be by him forwarded to the Commissioners of His Majesty's Customs, who shall, on the Receipt thereof, cause be paid to the said Officer any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds, nor less than Ten Shillings.

V. If, on making such opening in such Letter or Packet, no such Goods shall be found therein, the Magistrate shall then inclose the same in a Cover, with an Attestation, signed by him, that

If no such Goods are found, the Magistrate shall inclose the Letter in a Cover, with a

the

proper  
Attestation.

the Opening in such Letter or Packet was made in his Presence, and shall deliver the same, sealed up, to the said Officer, to be transmitted by the ordinary Course of the Post to the Person to whom such Letter or Packet shall have been directed when it was received at the Post Office: Provided that no additional Postage shall be charged in consequence of these Proceedings, nor shall any Letter or Packet be detained thereby beyond the due and regular Course of the Post, except in Cases of the most urgent Necessity.

VII. *See 42 George 3. Chap. 63.*

IX. *See 42 George 3. Chap. 63.*

Twenty-fifth

Twenty-fifth

GEORGE III.

CHAP. LVII.

An Act to exempt Carriages carrying the Mail from paying Tolls at any Turnpike Gate in *Great Britain*.

After the Fifteenth Day of *July*, One thousand seven hundred and eighty-five, all Carriages of what Description soever, or Horses employed in conveying the Mail or Packet made up under the Authority of the Postmaster General, or his Deputies, shall be exempted from the Payment of any Tolls that may be demanded for the Passage of such Carriages or Horses through any Turnpike at which any Toll is collected.

All Carriages or Horses carrying the Mail exempted from Toll.

Twenty-seventh

Twenty-seventh  
 G E O R G E III.

CHAP. IX.

An Act for granting Rates of Postage, for the Conveyance of Letters and Packets between *Great Britain* and the Port of *Waterford* in the Kingdom of *Ireland*, by Way of *Milford Haven*.

Packet  
 Portage of  
 Letters  
 from *Mil-*  
*ford haven*  
 to *Water-*  
*ford*.

After the Fifth Day of April, One thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven, the Postmaster General and his Deputies may take, for the Port and Conveyance of Letters and Packets that shall be conveyed by *Packet Boats* to or from the Port of *Milford Haven*, or any other Convenient Port in *Great Britain*, from or to the Port of *Waterford*, or any other Convenient Port in *Ireland*, (over and above all other Rates payable for the Conveyance thereof), according to the Rates following :

For

For every Single Letter 6d. Double Letter 1s. Treble Letter 1s. 6d. <sup>Rates of Postage.</sup>  
 Ounce 2s. And so in Proportion for  
 every Packet of Deeds, Writs, and other  
 Things.

*Enlarged by 41 George 3. Chap. 7.  
 Sect. 9.*

Thirty-third

## Thirty-third

## GEORGE III.

## CHAP. LX.

An Act to enable the Postmaster General to send the Mail to the Dominions of His Catholick Majesty, on Board of any Vessels authorized by His Catholick Majesty to carry the same.--  
[17th June 1793.]

The Postmaster General may send the Mail to *Spain* by any Ships belonging to His Catholick Majesty.

The Postmaster General is hereby empowered to send the Packet or Mail intended for the Dominions of His Catholick Majesty from *Falmouth*, by any Ship belonging to his said Catholick Majesty, and duly authorized by him for the Purpose of carrying Packets or Mails between the Two Countries.

Thirty-fourth

## Thirty-fourth

## GEORGE III.

## CHAP. XVIII.

An Act for granting Rates of Postage for the Conveyance of Letters and Packets between *Great Britain* and the Islands of *Jersey* and *Guernsey*, and within these Islands.  
—[28th March 1794.]

I. His Majesty's Postmaster General and his Deputies may take for the Port and Conveyance of all Letters and Packets that shall be conveyed by *Packet Boats* from or to the Port of *Weymouth*, or any other convenient Port in *Great Britain*, to or from any of the Ports of *Jersey* and *Guernsey*, and to or from the Ports of *Jersey* and *Guernsey*, (over and above all other Rates payable for such Letters or Packets,) according to the Rates following:

For every Single Letter	2d.	Double	Rates.
Letter	4d.	Treble Letter	6d.
		Ounce	
	F		8d.;

8d.; and so in Proportion for every Packet of Deeds, or other Things.

Post Offices and Roads may be established in *Jersey* and *Guernsey*, and the like Rates taken for Inland Postage as in *England*.

II. His Majesty's Postmaster General may establish Post Offices and Post Roads within the Islands of *Jersey* and *Guernsey*, wherever it shall appear to him to be necessary so to do, and take, for the Inland Port or Conveyance of Letters and Packets sent by the Post, within the said Islands, such Rates of Postage, in Proportion to the Number of Miles or Stages they are carried, as are now paid for the Inland Port or Conveyance of Letters and Packets within *England*.

See 41 George 3. Chap. 17.

Thirty-fifth

## Thirty-fifth

## GEORGE III.

## CHAP. LIII.

An Act for further regulating the sending and receiving Letters free from the Duty of Postage ; for allowing Non-commissioned Officers, Seamen, and Private Men, in the Navy and Army, whilst on Service, to send and receive Letters at a Low Rate of Postage ; and for permitting Patterns and Samples of Goods to be transmitted by the Post at an easier Rate than is now allowed by Law.—[5th May 1795.]

VII. After the passing of this Act, Postage on Soldiers and Seamen's Letters. no *Single* Letter sent by the Post from any Non-commissioned Officer, Seaman,

or Private employed in His Majesty's Navy, Army, Militia, Fencible Regiments, Artillery, or Marines, shall, whilst they are employed on His Majesty's Service, and not otherwise, be charged with an higher Rate of Postage than the Sum of 1d. for the Conveyance of each Letter; such Postage to be paid at the Time of *putting the same into the Post Office*: Provided there shall be written upon every such Letter, in the Hand-writing of, and signed by the Commanding Officer for the Time being, the Name of such Commanding Officer, and of the Ship, Vessel, Corps, Regiment, or Detachment, commanded by him.

As also on  
Letters to  
them.

VIII. No *Single* Letter sent by the Post, directed to any Non-commissioned Officer, Seaman, or Private employed as aforesaid, upon his own Private Concerns only, shall be charged with an higher Rate of Postage than 1d. for each Letter, to be paid at the Time of *Delivery thereof*: Provided that no such Letter shall be exempted from the Rate of Postage chargeable upon Letters according to the Laws now in Force, unless every such Letter specify the Ship, Vessel, Regiment, Troop, Corps, Company,  
or

or Detachment to which he may belong; and it shall not be lawful for the Deputy Postmaster of the Place to which such Letter shall be sent to be delivered, to deliver it to any Person except the Non-commissioned Officer, Seaman, or Private to whom it shall be directed, or any Person appointed to receive the same by the Commanding Officer of the Ship, &c. to which the Non-commissioned Officer, Seaman, or Private shall belong.

IX. Every Packet or Cover, containing one or more Papers with Patterns, or one or more Patterns of Cloth, Silk, Stuff, or other Goods, or one or more Samples of any other Sort of Thing, not exceeding together one Ounce in Weight, shall be charged with no higher Rate of Postage than as a Single Letter, so as every Packet or Cover be sent open at the Sides, and without any Letter or Writing in or thereupon, other than the Name of the Person sending the same, and the Place of his Abode, and the Price of the Articles contained therein.

Packets not exceeding one Ounce, containing Samples, to be charged as Single Letters.

*See 41 George 3. Chap. 7. Sect. 11.*

Thirty-seventh

GEORGE III.

CHAP. XVIII.

An Act for altering certain Rates of Postage for Conveyance of Letters in *England* and *Scotland* respectively, and of Packets to and from *Great Britain* from and to *Portugal* and the *British Colonies in America* respectively; and for setting apart at the Receipt of the Exchequer, for a certain Period, out of the Revenues of the Post Office, the Annual Sum of Forty thousand Pounds, towards defraying the increased Charge occasioned by any Loan raised, or Stock created, by any Act or Acts passed in the

Thirty-fifth

Thirty-fifth Year of the  
Reign of His present Maje-  
sty.—[28th *December* 1796.]

II. and III. *Repealed by 41 George 3.  
Chap. 7.*

IV. It shall be lawful for the Post-<sup>Packet</sup>master General and his Deputies to <sup>Portage on</sup>take, for the Port and Conveyance of <sup>Letters to</sup>all Letters, Packets, and other Things <sup>and from</sup>which shall be conveyed from or to *Great Britain and Portugal*, a *Packet Postage*, according to the following Rates :

For every Single Letter 1s. Double Letter 2s. Treble Letter 3s. Ounce 4s.; and so on in Proportion for every other Letter or Packet of greater Weight than an Ounce.

V. The Postmaster General and his <sup>and to and</sup>Deputies may take, for the Port and <sup>from the</sup>Conveyance of all Letters, Packets, and <sup>British</sup>other Things which shall be conveyed <sup>Dominions in</sup>from or to *Great Britain*, to or from any Port within the *British* Dominions in *America*, a *Packet Postage*, according to the following Rates :

For

Rates.

For every Single Letter 1s. Double Letter 2s. Treble Letter 3s.; and for every Ounce in Weight 4s.; and so in Proportion for every other Letter or Packet of greater Weight than an Ounce.

Letters to  
or from  
*Portugal*  
or *Ameri-  
ca* charge-  
able with  
the Inland  
Rates.

VI. Over and above the Rates afore-  
said, all Letters and Packets passing to  
or from *Portugal*, or to or from the *Bri-  
tish* Dominions in *America*, from or to  
*Great Britain*, shall be charged with the  
full Inland Rate of Postage, according  
to the Distance such Letters and Packets  
shall be conveyed within *England* and  
*Scotland*.

See 41 George 3. Chap. 7.

Mode of  
charging  
Letters by  
Weight.

VII. No Letter, or the Contents  
thereof, shall be rated at an higher Rate  
of Postage than as a Treble Letter, un-  
less the same shall be an Ounce in  
Weight; and then it shall be rated as  
Four Single Letters and in Proportion  
for every Quarter of an Ounce above  
the Weight of an Ounce, reckoning  
each Quarter of an Ounce as a Single  
Letter.

Thirty-ninth

Thirty-ninth

GEORGE III.

CHAP. LXXVI.

An Act for the more secure  
Conveyance of Ship Letters,  
and for granting to His Ma-  
jesty certain Rates of Post-  
age thereon.—[12th *July*  
1799.]

I. It shall be lawful for His Majesty's Postma-  
ster Gene-  
ral may  
forward  
Letters by  
other Vef-  
sels than  
Packet  
Boats;  
Postmaster General and his Deputies  
to collect Letters, and Packets of Let-  
ters, directed to Places within His Ma-  
jesty's Dominions, or to the Countries  
beyond the Seas, and forward them by  
any Vessels that he shall think fit, (al-  
though not Packet Boats;) and also to  
take, for every Letter and Packet which  
shall be delivered to them for Convey-  
ance, a Sum not less than One-half Part  
of the Rates payable by Law for such  
respective Letters and Packets, as if the  
same were conveyed by Packet Boats;  
and, in Cases where no Rate of Postage  
is and take  
Rates for  
the Con-  
veyance.

is already established, then to take as near as the same can be ascertained, equal to One-half of what is now paid for Letters sent beyond the Seas.

Postma-  
ster Gene-  
ral may  
take, for  
every Sin-  
gle Letter  
brought  
by other  
Vessels  
than Pack-  
et Boats,  
4d. in Ad-  
dition to  
the Inland  
Postage ;

and may  
allow the  
Masters of  
Vessels 2d.  
for every  
Letter  
they deli-  
ver to the  
Post Of-  
fice.

II. The said Postmaster General may take, for every Letter and Packet which shall be brought by Ships and Vessels, (other than Packet Boats,) in the Manner before mentioned, from Places within His Majesty's Dominions, and from any of the Kingdoms and Countries beyond the Seas into *Great Britain*, to be conveyed by Inland Carriage, the Sum of 4d. for every Single Letter, and so in Proportion for Packets, in *Addition* to any Inland Postage which may arise upon the Inland Conveyance of them ; and, for the Encouragement of the Masters of such Ships or Vessels, it shall be lawful for the Postmaster General to allow them the Sum of 2d. a Letter or Packet upon all such as they shall respectively have or take on Board such Vessels, provided such Letters and Packets shall have been delivered to them from the Post Office ; and in like Manner, on their Arrival from Parts beyond the Seas, it shall be lawful to pay to such Masters of Ships and Vessels the

the Sum of 2d. a Letter or Packet for such as they shall respectively have on Board; provided that they shall have been regularly delivered unto the said Masters, by the Deputies of the Postmaster General, at the Place or Post Town from whence such Vessels have sailed or departed.

III. The Postmaster General may cause the Rates of Postage, hereby chargeable, to be paid, either prior to such Letters and Packets being forwarded, or on Delivery thereof.

Postage to be paid either prior to the Letters being forwarded, or on Delivery.

Forty-first

Forty-first

GEORGE III.

CHAP. VII.

An Act for repealing the Rates and Duties of Postage in *Great Britain*, and granting other Rates and Duties in Lieu thereof, and on Letters conveyed to or from any Part of the United Kingdom, from or to any Place out of the said Kingdom, and by Packet Boats from or to the Ports of *Holyhead* and *Milford Haven*.—  
[24th March 1801.]

I. The several Rates of Postage established within *Great Britain* by 9 *Anne*, Chap. 10. 5 *George* 3. Chap. 25. 24 *George* 3. Sess. 2. Chap. 37. 37 *George* 3. Chap. 18. and by 34 *George* 3. Chap. 17. shall, from the Fifth Day of *April*, One thousand eight hundred and one, cease and determine.

II. It

II. It shall be lawful for His Majesty's Postmaster General and his Deputies to take, for the Port and Conveyance of all Letters and Packets within *Great Britain*, according to the several Rates after mentioned, the same being rated by the Letter, or by the Ounce; (that is to say),

For the Port and Conveyance of Letters by the General Post, not exceeding 15 measured Miles, within *Great Britain*, for every Single Letter 3d. Double Letter 6d. Treble Letter, or other Letter under an Ounce in Weight, 9d.; and for every Ounce in Weight, and not exceeding an Ounce, 1s.

Above 15 measured Miles, not exceeding 30 Miles, for every Single Letter 4d. Double Letter 8d. Treble Letter 1s.; and for every Ounce in Weight 1s. 4d.

Above 30 measured Miles, and not exceeding 50 Miles, for every Single Letter 5d. Double Letter 10d. Treble Letter 1s. 3d.; and for every Ounce in Weight 1s. 8d.

Above 50 measured Miles, and not exceeding 80 Miles, for every Single Letter 6d. Double Letter 1s. Treble Letter

From  
April 5th  
1801, the  
following  
Rates to  
be paid.

Rates by  
the General  
Post.

Letter 1s. 6d.; and for every Ounce in Weight 2s. 6d.

Above 80 measured Miles, and not exceeding 120 Miles, for every Single Letter 7d. Double Letter 1s. 2d. Treble Letter 1s. 9d.; and for every Ounce in Weight 2s. 4d.

Above 120 measured Miles, and not exceeding 170 Miles, for every Single Letter 8d. Double Letter 1s. 4d. Treble Letter 2s.; and for every Ounce in Weight 2s. 8d.

Above 170 measured Miles, and not exceeding 230 Miles, for every Single Letter 9d. Double Letter 1s. 6d. Treble Letter 2s. 3d.; and for every Ounce in Weight 3s.

Above 230 measured Miles, and not exceeding 300 Miles, for every Single Letter 10d. Double Letter 1s. 8d. Treble Letter 2s. 6d.; and for every Ounce in Weight 3s. 4d.

For the Port and Conveyance of every Single Letter by the Post, for every Distance of 100 measured Miles above 300 Miles, a *further* Sum of 1d. Double Letter 2d. Treble Letter 3d.; and for every Ounce in Weight 4d.

And where such Distance above 300 measured Miles shall not amount to 100 Miles,

Miles, the like *further* Sum for every Single Letter 1d. Double Letter 2d. Treble Letter 3d.; for every Ounce in Weight 4d.

And where the Distance above 300 measured Miles shall exceed 100 Miles, and so progressively for any like Excess of Distance of 100 Miles, the like *further* Sum, for every Single Letter 1d. Double Letter 2d. Treble Letter 3d.; for every Ounce in Weight 4d.; and so in Proportion for every other Letter or Packet of greater Weight than an Ounce.

For the Port and Conveyance of Letters to or from any Part of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* from or to any Place out of the said Kingdom, not within His Majesty's Dominions, in *Addition* to all other Rates now payable, for every Single Letter 4d. Double Letter 8d. Treble Letter 1s.; and for every Ounce in Weight 1s. 4d.; and so in Proportion for every other Letter or Packet of greater Weight than an Ounce\*.

IV. All Merchants Accounts, Bills of Exchange, Invoices, and Bills of Lading

Merchants  
Accounts,  
Bills of

G 2

\* Repealed, as to Letters sent to or from *France* and the *Batavian* Republick, by 42 *George 3. Chap. 101.*

Exchange, &c. shall be rated as Letters, ding whatever, shall be rated, taxed, and paid for, as so many several Letters, or by the Ounce, according to the respective Rates payable on Letters and Packets conveyed by the General Post.

The Postmaster General may undertake the Conveyance of Letters to and from Places not being Post Towns; V. It shall be lawful for His Majesty's Postmaster General to undertake, at the Expence of the Revenue of the Post Office, the Conveyance and Delivery of Letters directed to Persons abiding in Towns, Villages, and Places (not being Post Towns) from the respective Post Towns to which such Letters shall be carried by the Post in the usual Manner; and also the Collection and Conveyance of Letters in and from such Places in order to be sent by the Post; and to take such Sums of Money for such extra Service to be performed as shall be mutually agreed upon between him and the Inhabitants respectively.

but the Inhabitants of such Places may act as heretofore.

VI. Provided that nothing herein contained shall extend to prevent the Inhabitants of any such Places from carrying or employing any Person to carry any Letters or Packets to or from the Post Town, in such Manner as they have

have been accustomed, and are by Law authorized.

VIII. It shall be lawful to His Majesty's Postmaster General to enter into any Agreement with any Person for indemnifying His Majesty in Whole or in Part, and for such Time as may be thought necessary, against the Expence which may be incurred beyond the Rates of Postage, by extending the Conveyance of Letters by Post to Places at the Request of such Person, and it shall appear doubtful, whether by extending the said Conveyance an additional Expence to the Revenue may not be incurred.

The Postmaster General may agree with any Person for indemnifying His Majesty against the Expences which may be incurred beyond the Rates by extending the Conveyance of Letters.

IX. The Postmaster General and his Deputies may take for the Port and Conveyance of all Letters and Packets that shall be conveyed by Packet Boats from or to the Ports of *Holyhead* or *Milford Haven*, to or from any Ports in *Ireland*, over and above all the Rates payable for such Letters or Packets, a Packet Postage according to the Rates following:—For every Single Letter 2d. Double Letter 4d. Treble Letter, 6d.; and for every Ounce in Weight 8d.; and so in Proportion for every

G 3

Letter

Rates of Packet Postage from or to *Holyhead* or *Milford Haven* to or from any Ports in *Ireland*.

Letter or Packet exceeding an Ounce in Weight.

Act not to  
alter the  
Manner of  
charging  
for Pat-  
terns of  
Cloth, &c.

XI. Nothing herein contained shall alter the Manner of charging the Rate of Postage upon Letters or Covers containing Patterns of Cloth, Silk Stuff, or other Goods or Samples of other Sort of Things not exceeding One Ounce in Weight.

Forty-second

Forty-second

GEORGE III.

CHAP. LXIII.

An Act to authorize the sending and receiving of Letters and Packets, Votes, Proceedings in Parliament, and printed Newspapers by the Post, free from the Duty of Postage, by the Members of the Two Houses of Parliament of the United Kingdom, and by certain Publick Officers therein named; and for reducing the Postage on such Votes, Proceedings, and Newspapers, when sent by any other Person.—[22d June 1802.]

I. After the passing of this Act, and so long as the Revenue arising in the Post Office shall continue to be made

Members of Parliament may send Letters free

Part

from Post-  
age, under  
certain  
Regula-  
tions.

Part of the Consolidated Fund of *Great Britain*, it shall be lawful for every Member of the Two Houses of Parliament of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* to send by the Post to Places within the said Kingdom, free from the Duty of Postage, during the sitting of any Session of Parliament, or within Forty Days before, or Forty Days after, any Summons or Prorogation of the same, any Number of Letters and Packets not exceeding Ten in any One Day, so as none of them shall exceed the Weight of One Ounce, and that each of them be superscribed or directed in Manner after mentioned; and also during the aforesaid Period to receive by the Post, from Places within the said United Kingdom, any Number of Letters and Packets, not exceeding Fifteen in any One Day, so as each Letter and Packet do not exceed the Weight of One Ounce, and be directed to the Member at the Place where he shall actually be at the Time of the Delivery thereof, or at his usual Place of Residence in *London*, or at the House or Lobby of the House of Parliament, of which he shall be a Member.

II. Provided

II. Provided that no Letter or Packet, <sup>Super-</sup>directed by any Member, shall be ex-<sup>scription</sup>empted from the Payment of Postage, <sup>of Letters</sup>unless the whole <sup>to be of</sup>Supercription upon eve-<sup>the Hand-</sup>ry such Letter or Packet so sent shall be <sup>writing of</sup>of his Hand-writing; and have endorsed thereon the Name of such Member, together with the Name of the Post Town from which the same is intended to be sent, and the Day, Month, and Year when the same shall be put into the Post Office; the Day of the Month to be in Words at Length, and the Whole to be of the Hand-writing of the Member; and also unless every such Letter or Packet shall be put into the Post Office on the Day of the Date put upon such Letter or Packet; and unless the Member, whose Name shall be endorsed thereon, shall actually be in the Post Town into the Post Office of which every such Letter or Packet shall be put, or within Twenty Miles of such Post Town, on the Day, or on the Day before the Day on which such Letter or Packet shall be put into the Post Office.

III. Whenever the Number of Letters <sup>The Sur-</sup>or Packets, not weighing more than <sup>plus Let-</sup>One Ounce, each sent or received by <sup>ters to be</sup>any <sup>charged</sup>age.

any Member in any One Day, shall exceed the Number permitted to pass free from the Duty of Postage; and the Rates of Postage on the said Letters or Packets respectively shall differ, then such of them as would be chargeable with an higher Rate of Postage than the Remainder, shall be included in the Number so exempted in Preference to any which would be chargeable with a lower Rate of Postage; and the Remainder shall be chargeable with the several Rates of Postage respectively.

The Treasury, &c. may send Letters free from Postage,

IV. It shall be lawful for the Lord High Treasurer, or Commissioners of the Treasury, the Secretaries to the Treasury, the Lord High Admiral or Commissioners of the Admiralty, the Secretaries of the Admiralty, His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, their Under Secretaries, the Clerks of His Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council, His Majesty's Secretary at War, the Deputy Secretary at War, His Majesty's Postmaster General, the Secretary to such Postmaster General, the Deputy of the Postmaster General for *Scotland*, his Secretary, the Surveyors of the Post Office, the Paymaster General

ral of the Forces, the Commander in Chief, the Secretary to the Commander in Chief, the Adjutant General of the Forces, the Comptroller of Army Accounts, all within *Great Britain*; His Majesty's Lieutenant General, or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland*, and his or their Chief Secretary, his or their Secretary for the Provinces of *Ulster* and *Munster* in *Ireland*, his or their Secretary residing in *Great Britain*, the Under Secretary for the Law Department of the Chief Secretary's Office, the Under Secretary and First Clerk for the Military Department of the Chief Secretary's Office, the Lord High Treasurer or Commissioners of the Treasury, the Secretary to the Treasury, His Majesty's Postmaster General, all within *Ireland*, to send and receive Letters and Packets free from the Duty of Postage in the United Kingdom, in the same Manner as Persons heretofore or now authorized either in *Great Britain* or *Ireland* respectively, do now send and receive them free from the Duty of Postage.

V. It shall be lawful for the Clerk of the Parliaments, the Clerk's Assistant, and the <sup>and the Clerks of Parliam-  
ment, &c.;</sup> the

the Reading Clerk of the House of Peers of the said United Kingdom, and the Clerk of the House of Commons, the Deputy to the Clerk of the House of Commons, the Two Clerks Assistant of the House of Commons, and the Chief Clerk without Doors of the House of Commons of the said United Kingdom, to send and receive Letters and Packets, within the said United Kingdom, free from the Duty of Postage, in the same Manner, and under such Restrictions, as the Clerk of the Parliaments, and the Clerk of the House of Commons are now authorized to send and receive the same within *Great Britain* \*.

as may also  
to the  
Treasurer  
of the Na-  
vy, &c.

VI. It shall be lawful to and for the Treasurer, or Paymaster of the Navy, and Inspector of Seamen's Wills, to send and receive Letters within the said United Kingdom, free from the Duty of Postage, in the same Manner, and under such Restrictions, as they were by Law authorized, previous to the passing of

\* These Officers are limited to the Weight of Two Ounces in the Letters they send or receive; and also, with respect to Foreign and Ship Letters, as Members of Parliament.

of an Act, made in the Thirty-fifth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty \*.

VII. It shall be lawful for the Lord High Chancellor, the Lord High Treasurer or Commissioners of the Treasury, the Secretary to the Treasurer, the Quartermaster General, the Chief Commissioner of the Barrack Board, the Assistant Under Secretary for the Law Department of the Chief Secretary's Office, the First Clerk of the Civil Department in the said Office, the Treasurer or Receiver General of the Post Office, the Comptroller of the Sorting Office in the Post Office, and the Surveyors of the Post Office, all within *Ireland*, to send and receive Letters and Packets by the Post in *Ireland*, free from the Duty of Postage, in the same Manner, and under such Restrictions, as certain Officers in *Ireland* have done under an Act, made in the Fortieth Year of His present Majesty's Reign.

VIII. It shall be lawful for His Majesty's Postmaster General of *Ireland* to authorize, under his Hand and Seal, any Persons, not exceeding Two in Number  
H at

\* Under the same Limitations as the Officers mentioned in the preceding Section.

send Let-  
ters free  
from Post-  
age.

at one Time, to send by the Post Let-  
ters and Packets which shall concern  
the Business of the Post Office only,  
free from the Duty of Postage, so as  
such Persons do make and subscribe an  
Indorsement upon each Letter or Pack-  
et, signifying that they are upon His  
Majesty's Service, and to seal the same  
with the Seal of Office; and, if any  
such Person shall knowingly make and  
subscribe such Indorsement, or procure  
the same to be made, upon any Letter  
or Packet which does not really con-  
cern the Business of the Office, he shall,  
for the first Offence, forfeit and pay the  
Sum of Five Pounds, to be recovered and  
applied, as by Act of the 9th of Queen  
*Anne* is directed; and, for the second Of-  
fence, shall be dismissed from his Office.

Persons,  
from bodi-  
ly Infirmi-  
ty, may  
authorize  
another to  
frank their  
Letters.

IX. Provided, that, in case any Per-  
son entitled to send Letters or Packets  
free from the Duty of Postage being,  
by bodily Infirmary, disabled from writ-  
ting the whole Supercription thereon,  
shall authorize some one Person on his  
Behalf to sign his Name upon, and  
write the Supercription of such Letters  
and Packets, and shall cause Notice  
thereof in Writing, under his Hand and  
Seal,

Seal, or the Hand and Seal of any Person authorized by him to notify the same, such Authority being to be certified by the Signature of any Witness who shall subscribe such Notice, to be transmitted to His Majesty's Postmaster General, all such Letters and Packets so signed, shall be allowed to pass free of the Duty of Postage.

X. It shall be lawful for every Member of both Houses of Parliament of the United Kingdom, and the said respective Clerks of the Two Houses of Parliament, to send by the Post, within the said United Kingdom, any printed Votes, Proceedings in Parliament, or printed Newspapers, free from the Duty of Postage, so as the same be sent without Covers, or in Covers open at the Sides, which shall be signed on the Outside by the Hand of any Member, or either of the said respective Clerks, in such Manner as hath been heretofore practised; and also, it shall be lawful for every Member, and for each of the said respective Clerks, to authorize printed Votes, Proceedings in Parliament, and printed Newspapers, to be sent by the Post free from the Duty of Postage,

Persons  
entitled to  
send  
Votes, &c.  
free from  
Postage.

addressed to him at such Place within the said United Kingdom as he shall have previously given Notice in Writing to the Postmaster General, either at *London* or *Dublin*.

Persons  
authorized  
to send  
Votes, &c.  
under any  
former  
Act.

XI. The several Persons who, by Virtue of any Act of Parliament passed in the Parliament of *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, and now in Force, are authorized, in respect of their Offices, to send Votes, Proceedings in Parliament, and printed Newspapers, free from the Duty of Postage, shall and may send the same within the United Kingdom, in such Manner as they have been accustomed to do.

Packets so  
sent to be  
inspected  
at the Post  
Office.

XII. It shall be lawful for His Majesty's Postmaster General in *England* and *Ireland* respectively, or any of the Officers employed under them, 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 be inclosed with such printed Paper, and whether such printed Newspapers shall have been duly stamped; and in Case any other Paper shall be found to be so inclosed, or there shall be any Writing  
other

other than the Superfcription upon fuch printed Paper, or upon the Cover containing the fame, the whole of fuch Packet fhall be charged with Treble the Duty of Poftage; and in Cafe any fuch Newspaper fhall appear not to have been duly ftamped, every fuch Officer is hereby required to flop the fame, and fend it to the Commiffioners of the Stamp Duties, either at *London* or *Dublin*, as the Cafe may be.

XIII. It fhall be lawful for any Per-  
 fon to fend printed Votes, Proceedings  
 in Parliament, and printed Newspapers,  
 by the Poft to *Ireland*, at the Rate of  
 1 d. only for the Carriage of each, and  
 alfo to fend any printed Newspaper by  
 the Poft from *Ireland* to *England* and  
*Scotland* at the fame Rate of 1 d.; fuch  
 printed Votes, Proceedings, and printed  
 Newspapers, when fo fend, to be open  
 at both Ends; the faid Sum of 1 d. to  
 be paid when the fame fhall be put in-  
 to the Poft Office, and which fhall, on  
 fuch Payment, be marked Poft paid,  
 and the Money received thereon in  
*Great Britain* fhall be carried to the  
 Revenue of the Poft Office of *Great Bri-*

Any Per-  
 fon may  
 fend  
 Votes, &c.  
 to *Ireland*,  
 on paying  
 1 d.

tain, and the Money received thereon in *Ireland* shall be carried to the Revenue of the Post Office of *Ireland*.

Forging  
the Hand-  
writing of  
any Mem-  
ber, &c.

XIV. If any Person whatsoever shall forge or counterfeit the Hand-writing of any Person in the Superscription of any Letter or Packet to be sent by the Post, in order to avoid the Payment of the Duty of Postage, or forge or alter, or shall procure to be forged, counterfeited, or altered, the Date upon the Superscription of any such Letter or Packet, or shall write and send by the Post, or cause to be written and sent by the Post, any Letter or Packet, the Superscription or Cover whereof shall be forged or counterfeited, or the Date upon such Superscription or Cover altered in order to avoid the Payment of the Duty of Postage, knowing the same to be forged, counterfeited, or altered, every Person so offending, and being thereof convicted, shall be deemed guilty of Felony, and be transported for Seven Years.

Forty-second

Forty-second

GEORGE III.

CHAP. LXXXI.

An Act for amending so much of an Act, passed in the Seventh Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, as relates to the secreting, embezzling, or destroying any Letter or Packet sent by the Post; and for the better Protection of such Letters and Packets; and for more effectually preventing Letters and Packets being sent otherwise than by the Post.—[22d *June* 1802.]

I. Whereas it is expedient to extend the Provisions of the 7 *George* 3. Chap. 50. so as to protect the Conveyance by the Post of every Part or Parts of Securities or Instruments therein mentioned,  
be

Persons  
employed  
in the Post  
Office se-  
creting,  
&c. Let-  
ters con-  
taining  
any Secu-  
rity or  
Parts  
thereof.

be it enacted, That if any Deputy, Clerk, Agent, Letter Carrier, Post-boy or Rider, or any other Person employed, or to be hereafter employed, in receiving, stamping, sorting, charging, conveying, or delivering Letters or Packets, or in any other Business relating to the Post Office, shall secrete, embezzle, or destroy any Letter or Letters, Bag or Mail of Letters which they shall be entrusted with, or which shall have come to their Hands or Possession, containing any Part or Parts of any such Security or Instrument as in the said recited Act are described or mentioned, or shall steal, or take out of any Letter or Packet, any Part or Parts of any such Security or Instrument, every such Offender, being thereof convicted, shall be deemed guilty of Felony, and suffer Death as a Felon, without Benefit of Clergy.

Persons  
procuring  
Officers of  
the Post  
Office to  
commit  
such Of-  
fences.

II. If any Person whatsoever, whether employed in any Business relating to the Post Office or not, shall counsel, command, hire, persuade, procure, or abet any such Deputy, Clerk, &c. to commit any Felony or Offence in the said Act, or in this Act; or shall, with a fraudulent Intention, buy or receive

ceive the whole or any Part of any such Security or Instrument, which, at the Time of buying or receiving thereof, he shall know to have been contained in any such Letter or Letters, so by any Deputy, Clerk, &c. secreted, stolen, or taken out thereof, that shall come to their Possession; and every Person so offending, being thereof convicted, shall be deemed guilty of Felony, and suffer Death as a Felon, without Benefit of Clergy, and may be tried, as well before as after the Trial or Conviction of the principal Felon, whether he shall have been apprehended, or shall be amenable to Justice or not.

IV. If any Person or Persons shall wilfully secrete, keep, or detain, or being required to deliver up by any Person whatsoever, employed in any Business relating to the Post Office, shall refuse or wilfully neglect to deliver up any Mail, or Bag of Letters sent, or made up in order to be sent by the Post, or any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets sent, or put for that Purpose into any Post Office, or to be sent by the Post, and which Letters, Bag, or Mail of Letters shall have been found

Persons secreting  
Bags or  
Mails of  
Letters  
that may  
have been  
lost.

by

by any Person, or shall, through Accident or Mistake, have been left at the House of any Person, each and every Person so offending shall be deemed guilty of a Misdemeanor, to be punished by Fine and Imprisonment.

**Forty-second**

Forty-second

GEORGE III.

CHAP. CI.

An Act for repealing the Rates and Duties of Postage upon Letters to and from *France* and the *Batavian* Republick from and to *London*, and for granting other Rates and Duties in Lieu thereof; and for exempting from the Duty of Tonnage the Ships and Vessels to be employed in conveying the Mails of Letters from *France* to the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*.—[26th June 1802.]

II. That, from the passing of this Act, it shall be lawful for His Majesty's Postmaster General and his Deputies, to demand and take, for the Conveyance of

Rates of Postage on Letters to or from *France* and the *Batavian* Republick.

all Letters and Packets which shall be sent by Post from *London* directed to any Part of *France*, and from any Part of *France* unto *London*, according to the several Rates and Sums herein after mentioned, the same being rated by the Letter or by the Ounce ; (that is to say),  
 Single Letter 10d. Double Letter 1s. 8d. Treble Letter 2s. 6d. ; and for every Ounce in Weight 3s. 4d.

And for the Conveyance of all Letters and Packets from *London* directed to any Part of the *Batavian* Republick, and from any Part of the *Batavian* Republick unto *London*, according to the several Rates and Sums herein after mentioned, the same being rated by the Letter or by the Ounce ; (that is to say),

For every Single Letter 1s. Double Letter 2s. Treble Letter 3s. ; and for every Ounce in Weight 4s.

## APPENDIX.

## APPENDIX.

## Thirty-ninth & Fortieth

GEORGE III.

CHAP. XLVI.

An Act for the more easy and expeditious Recovery of small Debts, and determining Small Causes in that Part of *Great Britain* called *Scotland*.--[30th May 1800.]

II. That, from the 1st Day of June 1800, it shall be lawful for any Two or more Justices of the Peace in Scotland, within their respective Counties or Stewartries, to hear and determine, as shall appear to them agreeable to Equity and good Conscience, all Causes brought before them concerning the Recovery of Debts, or the making ef-

Two Jus-  
tices may  
determine  
Causes for  
Sums not  
exceeding  
£1. Ster-  
ling.

I                      fectual

fectual any Demand: Provided, that the same shall not exceed the Value of 5*l.* Sterling, exclusive of Costs, and that in a summary Way.

How  
Causes  
shall be  
proceeded  
upon.

III. All such Causes shall proceed upon Petition or Complaint, which, being signed by the Justice of Peace Clerk, or his Deputy by him appointed, or, in case of his failing to appoint, by a Clerk to be appointed within the respective Districts, shall be a Warrant for any Peace Officer for summoning the Defender to appear at the next Meeting of the Justices in the District of the County or Stewartry where he resides, the same not being sooner than upon the 6th Day after the Date of the Citation; and also for summoning Witnesses to the same Day and Place: Provided, that a Copy of the said Petition or Complaint, with the Citation annexed, and also a Copy of the Document of Debt, with the Names of the Witnesses, or other Means of Proof, shall be delivered to the Defender personally, or at his Dwelling-house; in which last case, if the Defender does not appear, he shall be cited a second Time, upon the Words *de novo* being either sub-  
joined

joined to the original Petition, and signed by any one Justice, or written in the Procedure Book kept by the Clerk, and signed by the Justices, to appear either at the next stated Meeting, or an adjourned Meeting fixed by the Justices at the first Diet; which second Meeting shall not be sooner than three Days from the Date of the first, or, in Default, to be held as confessing the Debt; and the Peace Officer shall, in both Cases, return an Execution of Citation signed by him, or shall appear and give Evidence upon Oath of his having duly cited the Defender: Provided, that, if the Defender shall appear at any Time before such second Citation, and the Parties and Witnesses shall be then ready, the Justices may proceed to hear and determine the Cause.

IV. The original Warrant shall contain an Authority to the Officer to summon Witnesses, not only for the Pursuer but the Defender, if the Officer shall, at any Time before the Diet of Appearance, be required by the Defender to cite such Witnesses.

Warrant shall authorize Witnesses to be summoned for both Parties.

Witnesses  
not ap-  
pearing on  
a second  
Summons  
liable to  
Penalty.

V. If the Witnesses cited do not appear, it shall be competent to the Party to apply for a new Warrant for compelling them to attend at the next Meeting; which Warrant may be signed by any one Justice, and may require them to attend in order to give Evidence, under a Penalty not exceeding Twenty Shillings Sterling, to be awarded in Default of their Appearance, unless a reasonable Excuse be offered and sustained, and to be recovered by the Party at whose Instance they were cited; or, in the Option of the Justice, to be imprisoned for a certain Time in the County Prison, not exceeding Ten Days.

Parties  
and Wit-  
nesses may  
be exa-  
mined on  
Oath, but  
no Practi-  
ser of the  
Law to  
plead.

VI. When the Parties shall appear, the Justices shall hear them *viva voce*, and examine Witnesses upon Oath, and also the Parties by Declaration, or upon Oath: Provided, that no Person practising the Law shall be allowed to plead for them, either *viva voce*, or by Writing; nor shall the Pleadings, or Minutes, or Evidence, be taken down in Writing, or entered upon any Record.

Defender  
not ap-  
pearing, or

VII. If the Defender shall not appear by himself, or by one of his Family,  
and

and shall not send a satisfactory Excuse, not sending a sufficient Excuse, shall be held as confessing the Debt. he shall be held as confessing the Debt; but, if a sufficient Excuse shall be made, so as to induce the Justices to adjourn the Meeting to another Day, it shall be competent for them to make such Adjournment, and the Parties and Witnesses shall be ordered then to attend.

VIII. Where a Decree has gone in Absence, it shall be still competent for the Defendant, upon consigning the Sums decreed for in the Clerk's Hand, and making Intimation of this to the Pursuer personally, or by two Citations at his Dwelling-house, at any Time before the Days of the Charge elapse, to have the Matter re-heard at the following Court Day; and, in like Manner, where *Absolutor* has passed in Absence, it shall be competent for the Pursuer, upon consigning 2s. 6d. and giving the like Notice to the other Party, to have the Cause again called at the next Court Day, the 2s. 6d. being paid over to the Defender, in order to defray his previous Expence. Matters may be re-heard, on certain Conditions.

IX. In case it shall be proved, that the Non-attendance of Parties or Witnesses Justices may punish Offences

cers for  
Failure of  
Duty.

nesses has been occasioned by any Failure of Duty on the Part of the Officer, and that he has returned a false Execution, it shall be in the Power of the Justices to punish him, by a Fine to the Poor, not exceeding 20s. or Imprisonment, not exceeding 10 Days.

Clerk to  
enter  
Trans-  
cripts of  
Petitions  
and De-  
crees.

X. The Clerk shall keep a Book, wherein shall be entered a Transcript of the Petition or Complaint, with the Date of giving it in, the several Deliverances of the Justices, and the final Judgment, with the Date thereof; which last shall be signed by the Justices present, or by their Preses, if more than Two are present; and a Copy of the said Decree shall, by the Clerk, be annexed to the principal Petition or Complaint, containing Warrant for arresting or poinding the Effects of the Defender, or for committing him to Prison; which Copy being signed by the Clerk, and delivered to the Party in whose Favour the same is granted, shall be a Warrant for Execution, after the Expiration of Six free Days from the Date of pronouncing the Decree, if the Party against whom it is given has been present in Court when it was pronounced; or, if  
he

Copy of  
Decree to  
be War-  
rant for  
Execu-  
tion.

he has not, Execution shall only proceed after a Charge of Six free Days given by the Officer against the Party, and to which Charge the Officer shall make Oath, if required.

XI. The Form of the Poinding shall be summary, *viz.* by carrying the Effects poinded to the nearest Market Town, or Kirk Town, or Village within the Parish, and, after getting the same duly apprised, selling them between the Hours of 11 and 12 Forenoon, at the Cross or most publick Place, after One Hour's Notice given by a Crier by publick Roup, to the highest Bidder, returning the Overplus (if any) to the Owner, after deducting what is allowed for Poinding and Sale; and, if the Effects are not sold, delivering them over at the apprised Value to the Creditor, to the Amount of the Debt, and Allowance for Poinding: Provided, that in case the Place of Sale is not a Market Town, but only a Kirk Town or Village, the Place and Time of Sale shall be advertised Two Days at least before the Day of Sale, at the Door of the Parish Church, upon *Sunday* after the Forenoon Sermon.

Form of  
Poinding.

XII. The

Justices  
may order  
the Debts  
to be paid  
by Instal-  
ments.

XII. The Justices may direct the Sums found due to be repaid by Instalments, Weekly or Monthly, according to the Circumstances of the Parties found liable, and under such Conditions as they shall think fit to annex.

Decree not  
subject to  
Advoca-  
tion.

Caution to  
be found  
where a  
Reduction  
is brought.

XIII. The Decree given by the Justices shall not be subject to Advocation nor Suspension; and in case either Party shall afterwards insist in an Action of Reduction before the Court of Session, for setting aside the Proceedings, he shall, before he is heard in such Action, be obliged to find sufficient Caution, and to lodge the same in the Hands of the Clerk of Court, for Payment of such Expences as may be awarded against him; nor shall such Action be competent after the Expiration of One Year from the Date of the Decree.

The fol-  
lowing  
Fees to be  
taken.

XIV. That the following, and no higher Fees, shall be allowed and taken,  
*viz.*

	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
To the Clerk of Court for drawing up Petition and Complaint	—	6
For entering and transcribing the same in his Book	—	6
		To

	s.	d.
To the Clerk for a Copy of Service - - - - -	—	2
To him for signing and entering the same in his Book - - -	—	4
To the Clerk for entering the Appearance of a Defender - - -	—	6
To him for every Oath - - -	—	4
To him for the Decree containing the Warrant of Execution - - -	—	6
To him for Warrant to cite Defender's Witnesses, or any other Warrant or Order - - -	—	4
To the Crier for calling the Action - - - - -	—	1
To the Officer for summoning the Defender or Witnesses, on giving any of the Notices required by this Act, each Time - - -	—	4
To him for the Execution of Arrestment of the Defender's Effects - - - - -	—	6
To him and the Assistants for pointing the Effects - - -	2	—
To him and his Assistants for selling the same - - -	2	—
To him and his Assistants for Execution against the Defender's Person - - - - -	3	—
To		

	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
To the Officer for every Mile he shall travel into the Coun- try - - - - -	—	4
And to each Assistant, where As- sistance is necessary - - - - -	—	3

A Copy of which Table of Fees, signed by the Clerk, shall be hung up in every Place for holding of Courts, and in his Office; and the said Fees shall be subject to the Modification of the Justices.

Fines to be  
paid to the  
Poor.

Excep-  
tions.

XV. An Account to be kept by the Clerk of Court of all Fines awarded by the Justices; (excepting Penalties for Witnesses on Non-appearance, which are to be paid to the Parties at whose Instance they were summoned;) and shall be paid to the Poor, in such Manner as the said Justices shall direct.

Justices to  
make Di-  
visions of  
Counties.

XVI. The Justices of the Peace for each County or Stewartry shall, at their first or any after Meeting of the Quarter Sessions, make suitable Divisions of the County or Stewartry into Districts, within which they shall meet at a convenient Place in each District, upon the first *Monday* of every Month, (or upon  
such

such other lawful Day of the first Week of every Month, as they at their Quarter Sessions shall fix,) at 11 of the Clock Forenoon, in order to carry the Purposes of this Act into Execution; and which Monthly Meetings may be adjourned to any other lawful Day of the Month, to be held at the same Place; and the Quarter Sessions shall at the same Time appoint the Place of Meeting in each District, of which they shall order due Notice to be given by Advertisement at the Church Doors of every Parish, at least Two *Sundays* after the Places are certified.

Quarter  
Sessions to  
order. No-  
tice of  
Meetings  
to be given.

XVII. In case the Justice of Peace Clerk shall fail to name a Deputy in each of the said Districts, on or before the Time appointed for each District Meeting, or before any subsequent Meeting, of which the said Clerk has had personal Notice, the Justices are empowered to name a Clerk for that District, who shall be removable by any subsequent Quarter Sessions, and another Clerk may then be appointed by the said Quarter Sessions, from Time to Time, as they shall see Cause.

If the Clerk  
shall fail to  
name a  
Deputy.

XVIII. For

Justices at  
Quarter  
Sessions  
may make  
Rules for  
the Pur-  
poses of  
this Act.

XVIII. For the better regulating the Proceedings of the said Justices, it shall be lawful for them, at their Quarter Sessions, to make such Rules and Orders as shall seem most expedient and conducive for the Purpose of this Act; and being so made, they shall be in Force, and kept and observed by the said Justices and their Officers, and the Suitors before them, until the same shall be repealed or varied by the Justices at their Quarter Sessions, or by the Lords of Session or Justiciary in *Edinburgh*, or by the Circuit Courts of Justiciary, upon Application of any Two or more Justices of the Peace.

No Mem-  
ber of any  
Court  
exempt  
from the  
Jurisdic-  
tion of the  
Justices.

XIX. No Privilege shall be allowed to exempt any Person liable to be summoned by virtue of this Act, from the Jurisdiction of the said Justices, on Account of his being a Member of any other Court of Justice.

Act not to  
extend to  
certain  
Cases.

XX. Provided, that this Act shall not extend to any Debt for Rent, upon a Tack or real Contract, where the Title of any Lands or Tenements may come to be brought in Question, nor to any other Debt that may arise concerning the

the Validity of any Will, or Contract of Marriage, although the same shall not amount to the Sum of 5l. Sterling; nor to any Debt won at any Horse Race, Cock Match, or any Kind of Gaming; or any Debt or Demand on Account of any Spirituous Liquors.

XXI. The Magistrates of *Edinburgh* shall have full power and libetty, as Justices of the Peace, at their weekly Courts, to hear and determine, in a summary Manner, all Causes brought before them concerning the Recovery of Debts, or the making effectual any Demand against all Persons residing within the said City and Liberties thereof, as described in a Royal Charter in Favour of the City, dated the 23d *October* 1636, provided that the Debt or Demand shall not exceed the Value of 40l. Scots.

Magistrates of *Edinburgh* may determine Causes, &c. for Demands not exceeding 40l. Scots.

XXII. In every Case where the Claim or Demand shall not exceed the aforesaid Sum of 40l. Scots, the Provisions herein contained shall be observed and put in Execution by the said Magistrates of *Edinburgh* at their said weekly Courts; and that their Decrees shall be

Where the Claim shall not exceed 40l. Scots, the Provisions of this Act to be observed.

K

put

put in Execution in the same Way and Manner as herein before directed, relative to the Proceedings before and by the other Justices of the Peace.

The Jurisdiction of Justices not hereby regulated, to remain entire.

XXIII. The Jurisdiction of the Justices of the Peace in *Scotland*, so far as not regulated by this present Act, shall remain entire, and be exercised in the same Manner as they are entitled to exercise the same before the passing of this Act.

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## NEWSPAPERS.

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FINIS.



## ERRATA.

After Sect. 3. on Page 31. add, "*See 39 George 3. Chap. 76.*"

After Sect. 4. on the same Page, add, "*See 39 George 3. Chap. 76.*"











