

A *Handwritten mark*  
COLLECTION  
OF THE  
STATUTES  
Now in FORCE,  
RELATING TO THE  
POST OFFICE.

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L O N D O N:

Printed by *Mark Baskett*, Printer to the King's  
most Excellent Majesty; and by the Assigns of  
*Robert Baskett*. 1767.

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Anno nono

ANNÆ REGINÆ.

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*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.*

*Most Gracious Sovereign,*

**W**hereas by an Act made in Preamble.  
the Twelfth Year of the  
Reign of His late Majesty  
King Charles the Second, a General Post  
Office was erected and established in  
that Part of Great Britain called Eng-  
land, and by the Twentieth Act of the  
fifth Session of the First Parliament  
of His late Majesty King William the  
A 3 Third,

*Anno Regni nono Annæ Reginae.*

Third, a General Post Office was erected and established in that Part of *Great Britain* called *Scotland*, and several Rates of Postage were thereby severally appointed to be received, under several different Powers and Authorities; which Two Kingdoms being since United, it is most likely that a Correspondence by Posts will be best managed and ordered for the Publick Good, by uniting also the said Two Post Offices under One Postmaster General: **And whereas** also Posts have, at great Charges, been established by Packet Boats between that Part of *Great Britain* called *England* and the *West Indies*, and also on the Main Land in *North America*, through most of Her Majesty's Plantations and Colonies in those Parts, as also to divers Parts in *Europe*, to which no Packet Boats were till lately settled, and more Posts may yet be settled and established for the Publick Good and Welfare of all Your Majesty's Subjects: **And whereas** the several Rates of Postage may, in many Parts, with little Burthen to the Subject, be encreased, and other new Rates granted; which additional and new Rates may, in some measure, enable  
Your

Your Majesty to carry on and finish the present War, so as suitable Powers and Authorities be made for collecting the same, and sufficient Provision be made, as well for preventing the undue Collecting and Delivery of Letters by Private Posts, Carriages, Higlers, Wagemen, Drivers of Stage Coaches, and other Persons, as all other Frauds to which the Revenue might otherwise be liable; which cannot be well and properly done, to answer the Ends aforesaid, without Authority of Parliament in a new Act to be made for the said Office, and for the Revenues to arise thereby: We therefore Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Commons of *Great Britain* in Parliament assembled, do most humbly beseech Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by Authority of the same, That the said Act made in *England* and in the Twelfth Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty King *Charles* the Second, intituled, *An Act for erect-*

Former Acts in *England* and *Scotland*, relating to the Post Office, repealed.



*Anno Regni nono Annæ Reginae.*

*ing and establisbing a Post Office, and the said Act made in Scotland in the Fifth Session of the First Parliament of His said late Majesty King William the Third, intituled, An Act anent the Post Office, and every Article, Clause, and Thing therein, or in either of them contained, shall be, and is and are hereby, from and after the First Day of June, One thousand seven hundred and eleven, actually repealed, except as is herein after mentioned.*

**And** to the end a General Post Office may be establisbed for and throughout Her Majesty's Kingdoms of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, Her Colonies and Plantations in *North America*, and the *West Indies*, and all other Her Majesty's Dominions and Territories, in such Manner as may be most beneficial to the People of these Kingdoms, and Her Majesty may be supplied, and the Revenue arising by the said Office better improved, settled, and secured to Her Majesty, Her Heirs, and Successors, in such Manner as is herein after mentioned; **be it enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the said First Day of *June*, One thousand seven hundred and eleven, there

One General  
Post Office to  
be erected;

there be from thenceforth one General Letter Office and Post Office erected and established in some convenient Place within the City of *London*, from whence all Letters and Packets whatsoever may be with Speed and Expedition sent into any Part of the Kingdoms of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, or to *North America*, the *West Indies*, or to any other of Her Majesty's Dominions or Territories, or unto any other Kingdom or Country beyond the Seas, at which said Office all Returns and Answers may be likewise received; and that one Master of the said General Letter Office and Post Office shall be, from time to time, appointed by the Queen's Majesty, Her Heirs, and Successors, to be made and constituted by Letters Patents under the Great Seal of *Great Britain*, by the Name and Stile of *Her Majesty's Postmaster General*; which said Master of the said Office, and his Deputy and Deputies by him thereunto sufficiently authorized, and his and their Servants and Agents, and no other Person or Persons whatsoever, shall, from time to time, and at all Times, have the receiving, taking up,  
A 5 ordering,

Exception.

ordering, dispatching, sending Post or with Speed, carrying and delivering of all Letters and Packets whatsoever, which shall, from time to time, and at all or any Times, be sent to and from all and every the Parts and Places of *Great Britain and Ireland, North America, the West Indies*, and other Her Majesty's Dominions, and also to and from all and every the Kingdoms and Countries beyond the Seas, where he shall settle or cause to be settled Posts, or Running Messengers for that Purpose ; except such Letters as shall respectively concern Goods sent by common known Carriers of Goods by Carts, Waggon, or Pack Horses, and shall be respectively delivered with the Goods such Letters do concern, without Hire or Reward, or other Profit or Advantage, for receiving or delivering such Letters ; and except Letters of Merchants, and Masters Owners of any Ships, Barques, or Vessels of Merchandize, or any the Cargo or Lading therein, sent on Board such Ships, Barques, or Vessels of Merchandize, whereof such Merchants or Masters are Owners, as aforesaid, and delivered by any Masters of any such Ships,

Ships, Barques, or Vessels of Merchandize, or by any other Person employed by them, for the Carriage of such Letters aforesaid, according to their respective Directions, so as such Letters be delivered to the respective Persons to whom they shall be directed, without paying or receiving any Hire or Reward, Advantage or Profit for the same in any wise; and also except Commissions, or the Return thereof, Affidavits, Writs, Process, or Proceedings, or Returns thereof, issuing out of any Court, and also any Letter or Letters to be sent by any private Friend or Friends, in their way of Journey or Travel, or by any Messenger or Messengers sent on Purpose, for or concerning the private Affair of any Person or Persons.

**Provided always nevertheless,** Carriers, Coachmen, Watermen, &c. not to carry Letters. That nothing in the said Exception contained shall extend or be construed to extend to give any Licence or Authority to any common known Carriers of Goods by Carts, Waggon, or Pack Horses, their Servants or Agents, to receive, collect, or deliver, with or without Hire, any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets of Letters whatsoever,



ever, 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, Masters, or Commanders of Boats called Passage Boats, sailing between any Part of *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, and any Parts or Places beyond the Seas, or their Servants or Agents, nor to any Passenger or Passengers on Board such Boats or Vessels, nor to the Owners or Watermen on Board of any Boat, Barge, or Vessel, passing or re-passing on any River or Rivers, to and from any Parts of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, *North America*, or the *West Indies*, or other Her Majesty's Dominions and Territories, although such Drivers of Stage Coaches, Owners, Masters or Commanders of Boats called Passage Boats, or Passengers therein, Owners or Watermen on Board of any such Boat, Barge, or Vessel, passing or re-passing on any such River or Rivers as aforesaid, do not receive any Hire or Reward, or other Advantage for the same; but that all such Carriers, Owners and Drivers of Stage Coaches, Owners, Masters or Commanders of Passage Boats, and the Passengers there-  
in

and all Owners and Watermen on board of any Boat Barge, or Vessel, passing or re-passing on any River or Rivers, to or from any the Parts and Places aforesaid, collecting and delivering Letters as aforesaid, though without Hire or Reward, shall be deemed and taken, and are hereby declared to be Persons offending against this Act, and shall forfeit and pay such Sum and Sums of Money, as Persons collecting, receiving, taking up, conveying, and delivering of Letters for Hire, or setting up, employing, and maintaining, any Post contrary to this Act, or that are or shall be concerned therein, are herein after enacted to forfeit and pay.

AND, to the end there may be One Chief Letter Office also in *North Britain* and *Ireland*, and at *New York* in *North America*, and in the *West Indies*, from whence the Distances for which the Rates hereby granted may be computed and settled; **be it enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That such Postmaster General so to be constituted, as aforesaid, shall be at liberty to keep One Chief Letter Office in the City of *Edinburgh*, and One other Chief Letter Office in the City of *Dublin*,  
and

A Chief Letter Office to be erected at *Edinburgh*, at *Dublin*, and at *New York*, &c.

and One Chief Letter Office in *New York* afore said, and other Chief Offices at some convenient Place or Places in each of Her Majesty's Provinces or Colonies in *America*, and in each of the Islands in the *West Indies*, called the *Leward Islands*, and appoint sufficient Deputies under him for the better managing, ordering, collecting, and improving the Revenue hereby granted.

The Post-master General, and no other, to provide Horses for riding Post.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority afore said, That such Post-master General for the time being, as shall from time to time be made and constituted by Her Majesty, Her Heirs, and Successors, and the respective Deputies or Substitutes of such Post-master General, and no other Person or Persons whatsoever, shall prepare and provide Horses and Furniture to let to Hire unto all or any Person or Persons riding in Post, by Commission or without, to or from all and every the Parts and Places of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, where any Post Roads are, or shall be settled and established.

Rates for carrying Letters in *England*.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority afore said, That it shall and may

may be lawful to and for such Post-master General to be constituted and appointed as aforesaid, and his Deputy and Deputies by him thereunto sufficiently authorized, to and for the Use of Her Majesty, Her Heirs, and Successors, to demand, have, receive, and take, for the Portage and Conveyance of all such Letters and Packets which he shall so convey, carry, or send Post, as aforesaid, and for the providing and furnishing Horses for Persons riding in Post, as aforesaid, according to the several Rates and Sums of lawful *British* Money hereafter mentioned, not to exceed the same; (that is to say) For the Port of every Single Letter, or Piece of Paper, to or from any Place not exceeding Eighty *English* Miles distant from the said General Post Office in *London*, and within that Part of *Great Britain* called *England*, and not coming from or directed on Ship-board, Three Pence; and for the like Port of every Double Letter, Six Pence; and so proportionably unto the said Rates for the Port of every Packet of Letters; and for the like Port of every Packet of Writs, Deeds, and other Things, after  
the



the Rate of Twelve Pence of *British* Money for every Ounce Weight ; and for the Port of every Single Letter, or Piece of Paper, to or from any Place above Eighty such *English* Miles distant from the said General Post Office, and within that Part of the Kingdom of *Great Britain* called *England*, or to the Town of *Berwick* upon *Tweed*, and not coming from or directed on Ship-board, Four Pence ; and for the like Port of every Double Letter, Eight Pence ; and so proportionably unto the said Rates for the Port of every Packet of Letters ; and for the like Port of every Packet of Writs, Deeds, and other Things, after the Rate of One Shilling and Four Pence *British* Money for every Ounce Weight : And for the Port of every Single Letter, or Piece of Paper, from the said General Post Office in *London* unto the City of *Edinburgh*, in that Part of *Great Britain* called *Scotland*, or from thence to the said General Post Office in the City of *London*, and to and from *Dumfreys*, or *Cockburnspeth*, and between either of those Places and the said City of *Edinburgh*, not coming from, or directed on Board any Ship, Six Pence ; and

Rates for *Scotland*.

or the like Port of every Double Letter, Twelve Pence; and so proportionably unto the said Rates, for the Port of every Packet of Letters; and for the like Port of every Packet of Writs, Deeds, and other Things, after the Rate of Two Shillings *British* Money, for every Ounce Weight; and for the Port of every Single Letter, or Piece of Paper, to or from the chief Post Office in the said City of *Edinburgh*, to or from any Place, not exceeding Fifty such *English* Miles distant from the said chief Post Office in *Edinburgh*, and within that Part of the Kingdom of *Great Britain*, called *Scotland*, and not coming from, or directed on Board of any Ship or Vessel, Two Pence *British* Money; and for the like Port of every Double Letter, Four Pence of like Money; and so proportionably to the said Rates for the Port of every Packet of Letters; and for the like Port of every Packet of Writs, Deeds, and other Things, after the Rate of Eight Pence *British* Money for every Ounce Weight; and for the Port of every single Letter, or Piece of Paper, to or from any Place above Fifty such Miles distant from the said chief Office

Office in *Edinburgh*, and not exceeding Eighty such Miles, and within that Part of *Great Britain* called *Scotland*, and not coming from, or directed on Ship-board, Three Pence; and for the like Port of every Double Letter, Six Pence; and so proportionably to the said Rates for the Port of every Packet of Letters; and for the like Port of every Packet of Writs, Deeds, and other Things, after the Rate of Twelve Pence *British* Money for every Ounce Weight; and for the Port of every Single Letter, or Piece of Paper, to or from any Place above Eighty *English* Miles distant from the said chief Office in *Edinburgh*, and within that Part of *Great Britain* called *Scotland*, and not coming from, or directed on Ship-board, Four Pence *British* Money; and for the like Port of every Double Letter, Eight Pence; and so proportionably to the said Rates for the Port of every Packet of Letters; and for the like Port of every Packet of Writs, Deeds, and other Things, after the Rate of One Shilling and Four Pence *British* Money for every Ounce Weight: And for the Port of every Single Letter or Piece of Paper  
from

from the said General Letter Office in *London*, unto the City of *Dublin* in *Ireland*, or from the said City of *Dublin* in *Ireland*, unto the said General Post Office, and not coming from, or directed on Board of any Ship, Six Pence of *British* Money; and for the like Port of every Double Letter, Twelve Pence *British* Money; and so proportionably unto the said Rates for the Port of every Packet of Letters; and for the like Port of every other Packet of Writs, Deeds, and other Things of greater Bulk, Two Shillings of *British* Money for every Ounce Weight; and for the Port of such Letters or Packets as shall be conveyed or carried from the chief Post Office in the said City of *Dublin*, unto any other Place or Places within the Kingdom of *Ireland*, or from any other Place within the said Kingdom, not coming from, or directed on Ship-board, according to the Rates and Sums of *British* Money hereafter following, viz. For the Port of every Single Letter from the chief Post Office in the said City of *Dublin*, to or from any Place not exceeding Forty *English* Miles distant from the said chief Office in *Dublin*, and within the said Kingdom of *Ireland*, not coming from, or directed on Ship-board,

Two



Two Pence; and for the like Port of every Double Letter, Four Pence; and so proportionably unto the said Rates for the Port of every Packet of Letters; and for the like Port of every other Packet of Writs, Deeds, or other Things, after the Rate of Eight Pence for every Ounce Weight; and for the Port of every Single Letter, or Piece of Paper, to or from any Place above Forty *English* Miles distant from the said chief Office in *Dublin*, and within the said Kingdom of *Ireland*, and not coming from, or directed on Board of any Ship or Vessel, Four Pence; and for the like Port of every Double Letter, Eight Pence; and so proportionably unto the said Rates for the Port of every Packet of Letters; and for the like Port of every Packet of Writs, Deeds, and other Things, after the Rate of One Shilling and Four Pence for every Ounce Weight: And for the Port of all and every the Letters and Packets of Letters directed on Board, or fetched or brought from on Board any Ship or Vessel, riding or stopping in any Port within her Majesty's Dominions, the Sum of One Penny, over and above the Rates granted in and by this Act; and for the Port of all and every the

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Rates of Letters on Board any Ship.

Penny Post.

Letters and Packets, passing or repassing by the Carriage called *The Penny Post*, established and settled within the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, and Borough of *Southwark*, and Parts adjacent, and to be received and delivered within Ten *English* Miles distant from the said General Letter Office in *London*, One Penny; and for the Port of all and every the Letters, Packets, and Parcels of Goods that shall be carried or conveyed to or from any of her Majesty's said Dominions, to or from any other Parts or Places beyond the Seas, according to the several and respective Rates following, the same being rated by the Letter or by the Ounce; that is to say,

Rates for Foreign Letters.

All Letters and Packets coming from any Part of *France* to *London*.

Single, Ten pence.  
Double, One shilling eight pence.  
Treble, Two shillings six pence.  
Ounce, Three shillings four pence.

All

All Letters and Packets passing from <i>London</i> , through <i>France</i> , to any Part of <i>Spain</i> or <i>Portu- gal</i> (Port paid to <i>Bay- onne</i> ) and from <i>Spain</i> and <i>Portugal</i> through <i>France</i> , unto <i>London</i>	Single, One shilling six pence.
	Double, Three shil- lings.
	Treble, Four shil- lings six pence.
	Ounce, Six shillings.

All Letters and Packets passing from <i>London</i> , through <i>France</i> , to any Part of <i>Italy</i> , or <i>Sicily</i> , by the Way of <i>Lyons</i> , or to any Part of <i>Tur- key</i> , by the Way of <i>Marcelia</i> , and from any of those Parts, through <i>France</i> , unto <i>London</i>	Single, One shilling three pence.
	Double, Two shil- lings six pence.
	Treble, Three shil- lings nine pence.
	Ounce, Five shillings.

All Letters and Packets coming from any Part of the <i>Spanish Nether-</i> <i>lands</i> unto <i>London</i>	Single, Ten pence.
	Double, One shilling eight pence.
	Treble, Two shillings six pence.
	Ounce, Three shil- lings four pence.

All Letters and Packets passing from <i>London</i> through the <i>Spanish Ne-</i> <i>therlands</i> , to any Part of <i>Italy</i> or <i>Sicily</i> (Port paid to <i>Antwerp</i> ) and from any Part of <i>Italy</i> or <i>Si-</i> <i>cily</i> , through the <i>Spa-</i> <i>nish Netherlands</i> unto <i>London</i> ———	Single, One shilling.
	Double, Two shil- lings.
	Treble, Three shil- lings.
	Ounce, Four shillings.

All



All Letters and Packets passing from <i>London</i> through the <i>Spanish Ne-</i> <i>therlands</i> to any Part of <i>Germany Switzerland,</i> <i>Denmark, Sweden,</i> and all Parts of the North, and from any of those Parts, through the <i>Spanish Ne-</i> <i>therlands</i> unto <i>London</i>	Single, One shilling.
	Double, Two shil- lings.
	Treble, Three shil- lings.
	Ounce, Four shillings.

All Letters and Packets passing from <i>London</i> through the <i>Spanish</i> <i>Netherlands</i> to any Part of <i>Spain</i> or <i>Portugal,</i> and from any Part of <i>Spain</i> or <i>Portugal,</i> through the <i>Spanish</i> <i>Netherlands</i> unto <i>Lon-</i> <i>don</i> ———	Single, One shilling six pence.
	Double, Three shil- lings.
	Treble, Four shil- lings six pence.
	Ounce, six shillings.

All Letters and Packets passing from any Part of the <i>United Provinces</i> unto <i>London</i> —	{Single, Ten pence. Double, One shil- ing eight pence. Treble, Two shil- lings six pence. Ounce, Three shil- lings four pence.
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All Letters and Packets passing from <i>London</i> through the <i>United Pro- vinces</i> for any Part of <i>Italy</i> or <i>Sicily</i> , and from any Part of <i>Italy</i> or <i>Si- cily</i> , through the <i>United Provinces</i> unto <i>London</i>	{Single, One shilling. Double, Two shil- lings. Treble, Three shil- lings. Ounce, Four shil- lings.
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<p>All Letters and Packets passing from <i>London</i> through the <i>United Pro-</i> <i>vinces</i> to any Part of <i>Germany, Switzerland,</i> <i>Denmark, Sweden,</i> and all Parts of the North, and from any of those Parts and Places, through the <i>United Pro-</i> <i>vinces</i> unto <i>London</i> ---</p>	<p>Single, One shilling. Double, Two shil- lings. Treble, Three shil- lings. Ounce, Four shil- lings.</p>
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<p>All Letters and Packets passing from <i>London</i> through the <i>United Pro-</i> <i>vinces</i> unto any Part of <i>Spain</i> or <i>Portugal,</i> and from any Part of <i>Spain</i> or <i>Portugal,</i> through the <i>United Provinces</i> unto <i>London</i> —————</p>	<p>Single, One shilling six pence. Double, Three shil- lings. Treble, Four shil- lings six pence. Ounce, Six shillings.</p>
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All Letters and Packets passing from <i>London</i> through the <i>Spanish</i> <i>Netherlands</i> or the <i>Unit-</i> <i>ed Provinces</i> to <i>Ham-</i> <i>burgh</i> (Port paid to <i>Antwerp</i> or <i>Amsterdam</i> ) and from <i>Hamburgh</i> , through the <i>Spanish</i> <i>Netherlands</i> or the <i>U-</i> <i>nited Provinces</i> unto <i>London</i> ———	Single, Ten pence.
	Double, One shil- ling eight pence.
	Treble, Two shil- lings six pence.
	Ounce, Three shil- lings four pence.

All Letters and Packets passing between <i>Lon-</i> <i>don</i> , <i>Spain</i> , or <i>Portu-</i> <i>gal</i> , by Packet Boats ---	Single, One shilling six pence.
	Double, Three shil- lings.
	Treble, Four shil- lings six pence.
	Ounce, Six shillings.



All Letters and Packets passing from <i>London</i> unto <i>Jamaica, Barba-</i> <i>does, Antegoa, Montser-</i> <i>rat, Nevis and Saint</i> <i>Christophers in Ameri-</i> <i>ca</i> , and from any of those Places to <i>London</i>	{ Single, One shilling six pence.
	{ Double, Three shil- lings.
	{ Treble, Four shil- lings six pence.
	{ Ounce, Six shillings.

All Letters and Packets from <i>London</i> to <i>New</i> <i>York</i> in <i>North America</i> , and thence to <i>London</i>	{ Single, One shilling.
	{ Double, Two shil- lings.
	{ Treble, Thre shil- lings.
	{ Ounce, Four shil- lings.

All Letters and Packets  
from any Part of the  
*West Indies*, to *New*  
*York* aforesaid.—

Single, Four  
pence.  
Double,  
Eight  
pence.  
Treble, One  
shilling.  
Ounce, One  
shilling  
four pence.

All Letters and Packets  
from *New York*, to any  
Place within Sixty *Eng-*  
*lish* Miles thereof, and  
thence back to *New*  
*York* ———

Single, Four  
pence.  
Double,  
Eight  
pence.  
Treble, One  
shilling.  
Ounce, One  
shilling  
four pence.

All Letters and Packets from <i>New York</i> to <i>Perth</i> <i>Amboy</i> , the chief Town in <i>East New Jersey</i> , and to <i>Bridlington</i> , the chief Town in <i>West New</i> <i>Jersey</i> , and from each of those Places back to <i>New York</i> , and from <i>New York</i> to any Place not exceeding One hun- dred <i>English</i> Miles, and from each of those Places to <i>New York</i> ---	Single, Six
	pence.
	Double,
	One shil-
	ling.
	Treble, One
	shilling six
	pence.
	Ounce,
	Two shil-
	lings.

All Letters and Packets from <i>Perth Amboy</i> and <i>Bridlington</i> to any Place not exceeding Sixty <i>English</i> Miles, and thence back again---	Single, Four
	pence.
	Double,
	Eight
	pence.
	Treble, One
	shilling.
	Ounce, One
	shilling
	four pence.

All Letters and Packets from <i>Pertb Amboy</i> and <i>Bridlington</i> to any Place not exceeding One hundred <i>English</i> Miles, and thence back again	Single, Six pence.
	Double; One shil- ling.
	Treble, One shilling six pence.
	Ounce, Two shil- lings.

All Letters and Packets from <i>New York</i> to <i>New</i> <i>London</i> , the chief Town in <i>Connecticut</i> in <i>New</i> <i>England</i> , and to <i>Phila-</i> <i>delphia</i> , the chief Town in <i>Pensilvania</i> , and from those Places back to <i>New York</i> ———	Single, Nine pence.
	Double, One shil- ling six pence.
	Treble, Two shil- lings three pence.
	Ounce, Three shil- lings.

All Letters and Packets from <i>New London</i> and <i>Philadelphia</i> , to any Place not exceeding Sixty <i>English</i> Miles, and thence back again ---	Single, Four pence.
	Double, Eight pence.
	Treble, One shilling.
	Ounce, One shilling four pence.

All Letters and Packets from <i>New London</i> and <i>Philadelphia</i> , to any Place not exceeding One hundred <i>English</i> Miles, and so back again ———	Single, Six pence.
	Double, One shilling.
	Treble, One shilling six pence.
	Ounce, Two shillings.



<p>All Letters and Packets from <i>New York</i> afore- said to <i>Newport</i>, the chief Town in <i>Rhode Island</i>, and <i>Providence Plantation</i> in <i>New Eng- land</i>, and to <i>Boston</i>, the chief Town in <i>Massa- chusets Bay</i> in <i>New Eng- land</i> aforesaid, and to <i>Portsmouth</i>, the chief Town in <i>New Hamp- shire</i> in <i>New England</i> aforesaid, and to <i>An- napolis</i>, the chief Town in <i>Maryland</i>, and from every of those Places to <i>New York</i>--</p>	<p>Single, One shilling. Double, Two shil- lings. Treble, Threeshil- lings. Ounce, Four shil- lings.</p>
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<p>All Letters and Packets from <i>Newport</i>, <i>Boston</i>, <i>Portsmouth</i>, and <i>Anna- polis</i> aforesaid, to any Place not exceeding <i>Sixty English Miles</i>, and thence back again---</p>	<p>Single Four pence. Double, Eight pence. Treble, One shilling. Ounce, One shilling four pence.</p>
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All Letters and Packets  
from *Newport, Boston,*  
*Portsmouth,* and *Annapolis* afore-  
said, to any  
Place not exceeding  
One hundred *English*  
Miles, and thence back  
again —————

Single, Six  
pence.  
Double,  
One shil-  
ling.  
Treble, One  
shilling six  
pence.  
Ounce,  
Two shil-  
lings.

All Letters and Packets  
from *New York* afore-  
said, to the chief Of-  
fices in *Salem,* and *Ips-  
wich,* and to the chief  
Office in *Piscataway,*  
and to *Williamsburgh,*  
the chief Office in *Vir-  
ginia,* and from every  
of those Places to *New  
York* —————

Single, One  
shilling  
three  
pence.  
Double,  
Two shil-  
lings six  
pence.  
Treble,  
Three shil-  
lings nine  
pence.  
Ounce, Five  
shillings.

All Letters and Packets from the chief Offices in <i>Salem, Ipswich, Piscata- way, and Williamsburgh</i> aforefaid, to any Place not exceeding Sixty <i>English</i> Miles, and thence back again——	{ Single, Four pence.
	{ Double, Eight pence.
	{ Treble, One shilling.
	{ Ounce, One shilling four pence.

All Letters and Packets from the chief Offices in <i>Salem, Ipswich, Piscata- way, and Williamsburgh</i> aforefaid, to any Place not exceeding One hun- dred <i>English</i> Miles, and thence back again——	{ Single, Six pence.
	{ Double, One shil- ling.
	{ Treble, One shilling six pence.
	{ Ounce, Two shil- lings.

All Letters and Packets from <i>New York</i> afore- said, to <i>Charles-town</i> , the chief Town in <i>North</i> and <i>South Caro-</i> <i>lina</i> , and from <i>Charles-</i> <i>town</i> afore said, to <i>New</i> <i>York</i> ———	{ Single, One shilling six pence.
	{ Double, Three shil- lings.
	{ Treble, Four shil- lings six pence.
	{ Ounce, Six shillings.

All Letters and Packets from <i>Charles-town</i> a- fore said, to any Place not exceeding Sixty <i>English</i> Miles, and thence back again——	{ Single, Four pence.
	{ Double, Eight pence.
	{ Treble, One shilling.
	{ Ounce, One shilling four pence.

All Letters and Packets from <i>Charles-town</i> a- foresaid, to any Place not exceeding One hun- dred <i>English</i> Miles, and thence back again—	{	Single, Six
		pence.
		Double,
		One shil- ling.
		Treble, One shilling six pence.
		Ounce,
		Two shil- lings.

**And be it enacted** by the Autho-  
rity aforesaid, That such Postmaster  
General so to be appointed as aforesaid,  
shall and may receive and take, ac-  
cording to the same Rates and Pro-  
portions for the Port of Letters, Pack-  
ets, and Parcels, to or from any of  
the Parts or Places beyond the Seas,  
where Posts have not been heretofore  
settled, and may hereafter be settled  
by such Postmaster General for the  
time being.

Places where  
Posts are not  
yet settled, to  
pay according  
to these Rates.

**And be it further enacted,** That  
all Letters and Packets directed to, or  
coming from any of the Foreign Parts  
or Places aforesaid, and collected or  
delivered at any Part or Place between  
*London* and any of the Ports from  
whence

Foreign Let-  
ters collected,  
&c. between  
*London* and the  
Port whence  
the Packet  
Boat sails, to  
pay as to, or  
from *London*.



whence any of Her Majesty's Packet Boats shall at any Time hereafter fail, or at which they shall or may arrive with the Foreign Mails, do pay the same Rates as if the same were conveyed in the said Mails to or from *London*.

Packet Boats  
to go from  
*Donachadee* to  
*Port Patrick*.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That such Postmaster General shall be at liberty to keep and maintain Packet Boats to go weekly (Wind and Weather permitting) to and from *Donachadee*, or some other convenient Port in *Ireland*, to *Port Patrick*, or some other convenient Port in that Part of *Great Britain* called *Scotland*, for Conveyance of Letters and Packets for the Conveniency of Trade and Commerce between the said Kingdoms, paying over and above the Inland Rates hereby rated and appointed to be received for such Letters and Packets, at the Place where such Letter or Letters are delivered in to be sent by such Packet Boats, according to the Rates following; (that is to say) For every such Single Letter Two Pence, Double Four Pence, Treble Six Pence, Ounce Eight Pence.

**And**

**And**, forasmuch as it may be convenient to erect some Cross Stages for the better maintaining of Trade and Commerce, and mutual Correspondencies, and to settle the Rates for all By or Way Letters and Packets conveyed by Post in any of the said Kingdoms; **be it therefore enacted** by the Authority aforeaid, That from and after the said First Day of *June*, One thousand seven hundred and eleven, it shall and may be lawful to and for the Postmaster General for the time being, so constituted as aforeaid, to erect and set up Cross Stages to and from any Place or Places whatsoever, and thereupon such Postmaster General, and his Deputy and Deputies by him thereunto sufficiently authorized, shall and may lawfully demand, have, receive, and take, for the Postage and Conveyance, as well of all such Letters and Packets which he or they shall so convey, carry, or send Post as aforeaid, in any such Cross Stages, as for all By or Way Letters and Packets, the same Rates in proportion to the Distances of the Places to which they shall be directed from the Places at which they shall be put in, as Letters and Packets conveyed

Postmaster to  
erect Cross  
Stages, &c.

conveyed and re-conveyed to and from *London* are rated to pay.

**And**, for the better reducing all Miles in both the said Kingdoms throughout all the Post Roads within One hundred Miles Distance from the said chief Offices, and in the Cross Roads now settled, or hereafter to be settled, to One and the same Measure and Standard; and for preventing Disputes touching the same, **be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for such Person and Persons as the Postmaster General for the time being shall appoint, to measure, or cause to be measured, by the Wheel, all Roads, except such Roads where Stages are already settled; and that such Person or Persons so to be authorized, shall cause fair Surveys or Books to be made for each of the said Kingdoms; One of each whereof to be left with Her Majesty's Postmaster General in *London*; another of each to be left at the chief Post Office in *Edinburgh*, with the Postmaster General's Deputy there; another of each to be left at the chief Post Office in *Dublin*, with the Postmaster General's Deputy there, to remain

A Survey to  
be taken of  
the Distances  
of the Roads.

main in the said Post Offices ; and each of which said Books shall be signed by such Person or Persons making the same, and by the Postmaster General or the time being, and his Deputies, in such General Offices in each Kingdom, and the Comptrollers and Surveyors belonging or to belong to the said General Post Offices in *London*, *Edinburgh*, and *Dublin* ; which Books or Surveys shall ascertain and determine the Distances on all the said roads.

**Provided always,** That such Person or Persons who shall be authorized to measure the said Distances, and every of them, shall be sworn to perform the same according to the best of their Skill and Judgement ; which oath shall and may be administered by any of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace in the said Kingdoms respectively, who shall make a Certificate thereof in Writing, to be entered in the Three General Post Offices aforesaid, without Fee or Charge.

**Provided always,** That all Merchants Accounts, not exceeding One Sheet of Paper, and all Bills of Exchange, Invoices, and Bills of Lading, are

Surveyor to be sworn.

Proviso for Merchants.



are and shall hereby be understood to 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, Marseilles, Venice, or Leghorn*, to be sent to or from *Turkey*, shall be understood to be allowed to pass without Rate or Payment for the same.

Rates for Riding Post.

**AND** in regard the said Postmaster General and his Deputies are obliged, as well for performing the Duties of the several Stages of *Great Britain and Ireland*, as for furnishing such as ride Post with Horses and Furniture, to be a great Charge to maintain a convenient Number of Servants, Horses, and Furniture; **be it enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for such Postmaster General, and his Deputy and Deputies, to ask, demand, take, and receive of every Person, that he or they shall furnish and provide with Horses and Furniture, or with Horses, Furniture, and Guide, to ride Post in any of the Post Roads as aforesaid, Three Pence of *British* Money for each and every Horse-hire or Postage. for every Eng-



ish Mile, and Four Pence of like Money for the Person riding as Guide for every Stage; and the Deputy or Deputies of such Postmaster General shall not charge any Person riding Post, for the carrying of any Bundle or Parcel of Goods, carried along with them in their Way of Travel, so as any such Bundle or Parcel of Goods do not exceed the Weight of Eighty Pounds *Averdupoize*, to be laid on the Horse rid by the Guide; and no Deputy shall be obliged to carry above that Weight for any Person riding Post.

**And whereas,** upon the Arrival of Ships from Parts beyond the Seas, into several Ports within Her Majesty's Dominions, many Letters directed to several Merchants and others, have been either imbezzled or long detained, to the great Damage of the Merchants and others, to whom the same were directed, in want of that speedy Advice and Intelligence which they might have had, if the same had been forthwith dispatched by the settled Posts, and sometimes such Letters have been delivered by the Masters or Passengers of such Ships, to ignorant and foolish Hands, that understand not the  
Ways

Ways and Means of speedy Conveyance and Delivery of Letters, whereby great Prejudice hath accrued to the Affairs of Merchants and others, as well by the Miscarriage of many Letters so brought, as oftentimes by the Opening the same, to the Discovery of the Correspondency and Secrets of the Merchants; **be it therefore further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid That all Letters and Packets, that by any Master of any Ship or Vessel, or any of his Company, or any Passengers therein, shall or may be brought to any Port Town, or which shall arrive or touch at any Port belonging to any Port Town within any Her Majesty's Dominions, or any the Members thereof, or which shall be on Board any Ship or Vessel, that shall or do touch or stay at any such Port Town (other than such Letters as are before excepted) or may be sent by common known Carriers in Manner aforesaid, or by a Friend as aforesaid, shall by such Master, Passenger, or other Person or Persons, be forthwith delivered unto the Deputy or Deputies only of such Postmaster General for the time being, by him appointed for such Place

At Port Towns  
Deputy Post-  
master to re-  
ceive all Let-  
ters from on  
Board Ships,  
&c.

Port Town, and to be by such Deputy or Deputies sent Post unto the said General Post Office, to be delivered according to the several and respective Directions of the same, upon pain of forfeiting the Sum of Five Pounds of *British* Money, for every several Offence against the Tenor of this present Act.

**AND** for the Encouragement of all such Masters of Ships or Vessels, or such other Persons, on their Arrival at such Ports as aforesaid, from any Parts beyond the Seas, to deliver unto the Deputy or Deputies of such Postmaster General, for such Place or Port Town at which they shall so touch or arrive, all such Letters and Packets as they shall respectively have on Board such Vessel or Vessels, every such Master, or other Person, for every Letter, or Packet of Letters he or they shall so deliver unto such Deputy or Deputies, shall receive the Sum of One Penny of such Deputy or Deputies, he or they signing a Certificate of the Number of Letters delivered, and by what Vessel they came, and of the Time when he or they delivered the same to such Deputy or Deputies, and giving a Receipt

And to give the Bringer a Penny a Letter, &c.

ceipt for such Number of Pence as he or they shall receive of such Deputy or Deputies ; which Certificate and Receipt shall be by such Deputy, by the next Post, returned to the said Postmaster General, together with the Letters so delivered, who shall have Credit on his Account for so much Money, as any such Deputy shall pay on that Account.

None to carry Letters, &c. but the Postmaster General, or his Deputies ;

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That no Person or Persons whatsoever, or Body Politick or Corporate, in any Part of these Kingdoms of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, or other Her Majesty's Plantations and Colonies in the *West Indies* and *America*, other than such Postmaster General as shall, from time to time, be nominated and appointed by Her Majesty, Her Heirs, and Successors, and constituted by Letters Patents under the Great Seal of *Great Britain*, as aforesaid, and his Deputy and Deputies, or Assigns, shall presume to receive, take up, order, dispatch, convey, carry, recarry, or deliver any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets of Letters (other than as before excepted) or make any Collection of Letters, or set up or employ any

Foot



Foot Post, Horse Post, or Packet Boat, or other Vessel or Boat, or other Person or Persons, Conveyance or Conveyances whatsoever, for the receiving, taking up, ordering, dispatching, conveying, carrying, recarrying, or delivering any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets of Letters, by Sea or by Land, or on any River within Her Majesty's Dominions, or by means whereof any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets of Letters, shall be collected, received, taken up, ordered, dispatched, conveyed, carried, recarried, or delivered, by Sea or Land, or on any River within Her Majesty's Dominions (other than as before excepted) or shall presume to keep, provide, and maintain, Horses or Furniture for the Horsing of any Person or Persons riding Post; that is to say, riding several Stages upon a Post Road, and changing Horses; or shall let to Hire, or furnish any Person or Persons whatsoever with Horses or Furniture for riding Post, as aforesaid, on any of the Post Roads or Stages now or hereafter to be appointed, with or without a Guide or Horn, for Hire or Reward, or on any Agreement or Promise of Reward, or whereby

or provide  
Horses for  
riding Post.



Penalty.

by he or they may have any Profit or Advantage, on Pain of forfeiting the Sum of Five Pounds of *British* Money for every several Offence against the Tenor of this present Act; and also the Sum of One hundred Pounds of like *British* Money for every Week that any Offender against this Act shall collect, receive, take up, order, dispatch, convey, carry, recarry, or deliver, any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets of Letters, by Sea or Land or on any River within Her Majesty's Dominions (other than as before excepted) or that shall presume to set up, continue, or employ, any Foot Post, Horse Post, or Packet Boat, or other Vessel or Boat, or any other Person or Persons, Conveyance or Conveyances whatsoever, for the receiving, taking up, ordering, dispatching, conveying, carrying, recarrying, or delivering, of any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets of Letters, by Sea or Land or on any River within Her Majesty's Dominions, as aforesaid.

Deputy Postmaster to account for By or Way Letters.

**And whereas** divers Deputy Postmasters do collect great Quantities of Post Letters called By or Way Letters and by clandestine and private Agreements

ments amongst themselves, do convey the same Post in their respective Mails, or By Bags, according to their several Directions, without accounting for the same, or endorsing the same on their Bills, to the great Detriment of Her Majesty's Revenues: For preventing whereof for the time to come, **be it enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That if at any Time hereafter, any Person or Persons employed as a Deputy Postmaster or otherwise, in these Kingdoms of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, or in any of Her Majesty's Dominions and Territories in the *West Indies*, or in *North America*, shall not duly answer and account to Her Majesty, Her Heirs, and Successors, for all such By or Way Letters as such Deputy or Deputies, or any by his, her, or their Order shall receive the Port for, or that shall not on his or her Post Bills exactly mention all the By or Way Letters he, she, or they shall or do receive, or which shall come to his, her, or their Hand or Hands, Custody or Power, distinguishing them severally, whether Single, Double, Treble, or Ounce Weight, or that shall destroy or imbezil any such By Letter

C or

or By Letters, Packet or Packets of Letters, every such Person so offending shall forfeit and pay, for every such Offence, such Penalties and Forfeitures as the Persons herein before prohibited setting up or employing other Posts, or collecting, carrying, recarrying, ordering, dispatching, or delivering Letters and Packets, contrary hereunto, are enacted to forfeit and pay.

Penalties how  
to be recovered.  
..

**And it is hereby enacted,** That all and singular the said several Penalties and Forfeitures by this Act imposed on any Offender or Offenders against the same, or any Part thereof, shall and may be sued for and recovered by Action or Actions of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any of Her Majesty's Courts of Record, wherein no Essoin, Privilege, Protection, or Wager at Law shall be admitted; and the said several and respective Penalties and Forfeitures, that shall happen, from time to time, to be recovered, shall be and remain, the one Moiety thereof to Her Majesty, Her Heirs, and Successors, and the other Moiety thereof to such Person or Persons who shall or will inform against the Offender or Offenders against this present Act, and shall

shall and will sue for the said Penalties and Forfeitures upon the same; and in every such Recovery, such Person or Persons so informing, and prosecuting for the said Penalties and Forfeitures, shall recover, and have also taxed and paid their full Costs of Suit.

**Provided always,** That if any Postmaster of any respective Stages on any Post Roads, in any Her Majesty's Dominions now settled, or hereafter to be settled, doth not or cannot furnish any Person or Persons riding in Post, with sufficient Horses within the Space of One half Hour after Demand, that then such Person or Persons is and are hereby understood to be left at Liberty to provide themselves as conveniently as they can to the next Stage, and so at every Stage where he or they shall not be furnished as aforesaid; and the Person or Persons who shall furnish such Horses, shall not therefore be liable to any Penalties or Forfeitures contained in this Act, by reason thereof.

Proviso, when Postmaster doth not furnish Horses in One half Hour.

**Provided always,** That if through default or Neglect of the Postmaster General, or his Deputy for the time being, any Person or Persons riding in Post shall fail, as aforesaid, of being

Penalty on Postmaster not providing.



furnished with a sufficient Horse or Horses for his or their Use, after Demand as aforesaid, that then, and in every such Case, the Postmaster General, or his Deputy, so offending, shall forfeit the Sum of Five Pounds Sterling, the One Moiety to Her Majesty, Her Heirs, or Successors, and the other Moiety to him or them who shall sue for the same in any Court of Record, to be recovered and divided as aforesaid.

Letters may be sent from any Place, to the next Stage about 6 Miles from the General Office.

**Provided always, and be it further enacted,** That nothing herein contained shall be understood to prohibit the carrying or recarrying of any Letters or Packets, to or from any Town or Place, to or from the next respective Post Road or Stage appointed for that Purpose, above Six Miles from the said General Post Office, or the chief Offices of *Edinburgh* and *Dublin*, but that every Person shall have free Liberty to send and employ such Person or Persons as they shall think fit for to carry the said Letters or Packets as aforesaid, without any Forfeiture or Penalty therefore; any thing herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

**Provided always nevertheless,** That nothing herein contained shall be  
con-



construed to extend to give Licence to any Person or Persons whatsoever, to make Collection of Letters in or near the City of *London*, or Suburbs thereof, under Pretence of conveying the same to any Parts or Places in the said City or Suburbs, or to the General Office of the said City, without the Licence and Leave of the Postmaster General for the time being; and any Person or Persons acting contrary hereunto, shall forfeit and pay as Persons collecting, receiving, carrying, recarrying, and delivering, Letters contrary to this Act, are hereby enacted to forfeit and pay, to be recovered as aforesaid, and with full Costs of Suit.

**Provided always,** That if the Packet or Mail shall be carried out of *Great Britain*, into any Part or Place beyond the Seas, in any Ship or Vessel which is not a free Ship, and navigated with such Seamen, as by the Laws of this Land the same are required to be, that then, and in every such Case, the Postmaster General for the time being shall forfeit the Sum of One hundred Pounds Sterling, the one Moiety to Her Majesty, Her Heirs, and Successors, and the other Moiety to him or them

None may collect Letters in *London*, &c. without Licence, &c.

The Packet not to be carried out of *Great Britain* in foreign Ships.

them who shall sue for the same in any Court of Record, to be recovered by Bill, Plaint, or other Information, wherein no Effoin, Protection, or Wager of Law shall be allowed.

Postmaster,  
&c. how to  
qualify him-  
self.

**Provided always, and be it enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That such Postmaster General, and all Officers and Deputies acting under him, and all Officers belonging to the said General Post Office, within that Part of the said United Kingdom called *England*, receiving the Sacrament according to the Usage of the Church of *England*, and taking, making, and subscribing the Test, and the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, and Abjuration, appointed by any of the Laws of the said Part of the said United Kingdom, to be taken, made, and subscribed, by Officers in publick Places of Trust in the Government, and within such Times, and in such Places, as are particularly appointed by any of those Laws for doing the same, shall be deemed and taken to be sufficiently qualified to act in their respective Stations and Duties, and to execute their respective Employments throughout the said whole United Kingdom, and all other Her Majesty's Dominions,

minions, and shall not incur any Penalties, Forfeitures, or Disabilities, for not taking the Oaths of Allegiance and Abjuration, and subscribing the Assurance appointed by any the Laws of that Part of the said United Kingdom called *Scotland*, or by any Law or Laws of the said United Kingdom of *Great Britain*, to be taken and made by any Person in publick Trust, notwithstanding such Postmaster General, and such Deputies and Officers shall exercise their respective Offices or Employments within all and every the Parts and Places of that Part of the said United Kingdom called *Scotland*; and all Deputies and Agents acting under such Postmaster General, within that Part of the said United Kingdom called *Scotland*, taking and making the Oaths of Allegiance and Abjuration, and subscribing the same, with the Assurance appointed by any of the Laws of the said Part of the said United Kingdom called *Scotland*, or by any Law or Laws of the said United Kingdom of *Great Britain*, to be taken and made by any Person in publick Trust, and within such Times, and at such Places, as are particularly appointed by any of those Laws for doing

the same, shall be deemed and taken to be sufficiently qualified to execute and exercise their respective Employments in the said Office, throughout the said whole United Kingdom, and all other Her Majesty's Dominions; any Act or Acts of Parliament, in either of the said United Kingdoms, at any Time heretofore made to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding.

Proviso for  
*Truro*, *Pen-*  
*rin*, *Kendall*,  
*Penrith*, &c.

**Provided** also, and be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That a Letter, or Packet Post, shall twice every Week come by the Way of *Truro* and *Penrin* to the Town of *Penzance*, in the County of *Cornwall*; and once a Week to *Kendall*, by the Way of *Lancaster*; and to the Town of *Penrith* in *Cumberland*, by the Way of *Newcastle* and *Carlisle*; and to the City of *Lincoln* and the Borough of *Grimsby*, in the County of *Lincoln*; any thing in this Act contained to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding.

The Post-  
master to ob-  
serve such Or-  
ders as Her  
Majesty shall  
make.

**And** for the better Management of the said Post Office, and that the People of these Kingdoms may have their Intercourse of Commerce and Trade the better maintained, and their Letters and Advices conveyed, carried,  
and



and recarried with the greatest Speed, Security, and Conveniency that may be; **be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Postmaster General so nominated, appointed, and constituted as aforesaid, and his Deputies, shall from time to time observe and follow such Orders, Rules, Directions, and Instructions for and concerning the Settlement of Posts and Stages upon the several Roads in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, and other Her Majesty's Dominions, and the providing and keeping a sufficient Number of Horses at the said several Stages, as well for the carrying and conveying the said Letters and Packets, as for the Horring of all Persons riding in Post by Warrant, or otherwise, as aforesaid, as Her Majesty, Her Heirs, and Successors, shall from time to time, in that Behalf, make and ordain.

**Provided always, and be it enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, No Horses to be seized without the Owners Consent. That no Person or Persons shall have

Power to take, use, or seize any Horses for the Services mentioned in this Act, without the Consent of the Owner or Owners thereof; any Law, Statute, C 5 Usage,



Uſage, or Cuſtom to the contrary thereof in any wiſe notwithstanding.

Post to pay  
nothing for  
paſſing Ferries  
in *North Ame-  
rica*.

**AND** in aſmuch as the Poſt muſt neceſſarily paſs ſeveral Ferries in *North America*, in which the Ferrymen give great Delays, and ſometimes have endeavoured to exact Money from them, notwithstanding the ſame have always been free for the Poſt; **be it therefore enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That no Deputy or Agent of ſuch Poſtmaſter General, travelling with any Mail of Letters, ſhall pay any thing for paſſing or repaſſing any Ferry within any of the Colonies or Plantations of Her ſaid Maſteſty in *North America* aforeſaid; but ſuch Ferrymen ſhall forthwith, within One Half Hour after Demand, convey ſuch Deputies, on pain of forfeiting for every Offence the Sum of Five Pounds, to be recovered in any Court of Record within any of the Provinces or Colonies in *North America*, by Bill, Complaint, or Information, wherein no Eſſoin, Protection, or Wager of Law ſhall be allowed; One Moiety thereof to Her Maſteſty, Her Heirs, and Succeſſors, towards the Support of the Government of the ſaid Provinces, and the contingent

ingent Charges thereof, and the other Moiety to the Postmaster General, who shall sue and prosecute for the same, together with full Costs of Suit.

**And whereas** many Persons having received their Letters, refuse to pay for the same, or often run in Debt for the Postage of their Letters, or having received some small Sum for the Port of Letters, which Sums being very small in Particulars, are properly to be recovered in a summary Way; **be it therefore enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That all Sum and Sums of Money, not exceeding Five Pounds, that now is, or shall be due from any Person or Persons for Letters or Packets, or any Letter or Packet to them delivered by any Deputy or Deputies of such Postmaster General, or which now is, or shall be due from any Person or Persons for the Port of Letters or Packets to them delivered by any Deputy or Agent of such Postmaster General, not exceeding the said Value, or which have been, or shall be received for the Port of Letters, not exceeding the same Value, without answering or pay-

Debts for Postage to be recovered as small Tythes are.

ing the Monies so due and owing to the Receiver General of the said Revenues for Her Majesty's Use, shall be recovered before Justices of the Peace, in the same Manner, and under the same Rules, as small Tythes are, by the Laws of *England*, to be recovered; and such Debt or Sums of Money shall be preferable in Payment by the Person owing the same, or from whose Estate the same is or shall be due, before any Debt of any Sort to any private Person whomsoever.

Inland Letters  
to pay where  
delivered.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That all Inland Letters sent by any Packet Post established by this Act, as aforesaid, do and shall pay the Rates and Prices before mentioned at such Stages at which they are last delivered only, unless the Party that doth put in the Letters desireth to pay elsewhere, and unless any such Letters are directed on Board any Ship or Vessel, or to any Person in the Army, or are sent by the Penny Post, and unless they be Letters or Packets going out of *Great Britain*, which have usually paid the Rates in *England*; any thing in this Act contained to the contrary

contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding.

**Provided** always, That this Act, Proviso for the Two Universities. or any thing therein contained, shall not in any wise be prejudicial to the Privileges of the Two Universities of *Oxford* and *Cambridge*, or either of them, or to the Chancellors or Scholars of the same, or their Successors, but that they may use and enjoy such Privileges as heretofore they have lawfully used and enjoyed; and that all Letters and other Things may be sent or conveyed to or from the said Two Universities in Manner as heretofore hath been used; any thing herein to the contrary notwithstanding.

**Provided** always, That it shall By Bags for and may be lawful to and for the Post-By Letters.master General for the time being, his Deputy and Deputies, to continue By Bags for collecting and delivering of By Letters, as hath been heretofore accustomed, such Deputy and Deputies duly accounting to, and paying the respective Parts thereof to the Receiver General of the said Revenue for the time being, for the Use of Her Majesty, Her Heirs, and Successors.

**Provided**



Sums due on  
1 June, 1711,  
how recover-  
able.

**Provided** always, and be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every Sum and Sums of Money which shall or may be due and owing to Her Majesty on the said First Day of *June*, One thousand seven hundred and eleven, for the Duties and Revenues that have arisen, or shall or may arise, to that Time by Posts, or by Reason of the Duties and Revenues granted by either of the said former Acts, shall be paid to the Receiver General of the said Revenue for Her Majesty's Use, and be recovered and recoverable in such Manner, and by such Ways and Means, as the same were recoverable before the making of this present Act; any thing herein contained to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding.

After 29 Sept.  
1711, for 32  
Years, 700*l.*  
to be paid  
weekly into  
the Exchequer  
out of the  
Post Office.

**And**, towards the Establishment of a good, sure, and lasting Fund, in order to raise a present Supply of Money for carrying on the War, and other Her Majesty's most necessary Occasions; be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the Twenty ninth Day of *September*, One thousand seven hundred and eleven, for and during the whole Term



Term of Thirty two Years from thence  
next and immediately ensuing, the full,  
clear, and entire weekly Sum of Se-  
ven hundred Pounds of lawful Money  
of *Great Britain*, out of all the Du-  
ties and Revenues from time to time  
arising by virtue of this Act, shall be  
brought and paid by the Postmaster  
General, the Receiver General of the  
Post Office, or such other Person or  
Persons who for the time being shall  
have the Receipt of the said Duties  
and Revenues, who are hereby respec-  
tively enjoined and required to bring  
and pay the same accordingly into the  
Receipt of the Exchequer, upon *Tues-*  
*day* in every Week, if it be not a Ho-  
ly-day; and if it be, then upon the  
next Day that is not a Holy-day, as  
one Week shall successively and im-  
mediately follow and succeed another;  
and in case in any Week or Weeks the  
whole Receipt of the Monies of the  
said Duties or Revenues hereby charg-  
ed, as aforesaid, shall not be sufficient  
to answer the said weekly Payment or  
Payments, hereby directed for such  
particular Week or Weeks, that then  
and so often the Deficiency and De-  
ficiencies thereof shall be supplied and  
made

made good out of the whole Receipt of the said Duties or Revenues arising in the next Week or Weeks, when the Receipt or Receipts shall be sufficient to bear the same; all which Payments into the Exchequer shall be made for the Purposes, and under the Penalties, Forfeitures, and Disabilities hereafter in this Act expressed.

Accountant  
General and  
Receiver Ge-  
neral's Duty.

**And it is hereby further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That the Postmaster General for the time being, at the Head Office in *London*, shall from time to time cause an Account to be kept by an Accountant General of all the Monies arising by virtue of this Act, of or for the Duties or Revenues aforesaid, and every or any of them, as the same shall from time to time arise, be paid or brought into the said Office, to the Hands of the Receiver General for the time being, who is or shall be appointed from time to time to receive the same; and that such Receiver General for the time being, shall, out of the Monies so arising, make the said weekly Payments into the Exchequer, in manner as aforesaid; and if the said Postmaster General for the time being, shall re-  
ful

use or neglect to appoint or keep such Accountant General, or if such Accountant General shall neglect to keep a just and true Account, as aforesaid, or if such Receiver General shall at any Time refuse or neglect to make any such weekly Payments, as aforesaid, into the Exchequer, according to the true Meaning of this Act, or if the said Postmaster General, Accountant General, and Receiver General for the time being, or any of them, or any other Officer of the said Duties, shall divert or misapply any of the Monies which should make good the said weekly Payments, or any of them, or any Part thereof, contrary to the tenor and true Meaning of this Act, at any Time or Times during the said Term of Thirty two Years, then and in any such Case, they and every of them so offending, shall forfeit their several Offices and Places, and be incapable to serve the Queen, Her Heirs, or Successors, in any Office or Place of Trust or Profit, and shall be liable, for every such Offence, to pay double the value of the Money so diverted or misapplied to any Person or Persons who shall or may be grieved by Reason of such

such Offence, and will inform or sue for the same, by Action of Debt, or of the Case, Bill, Suit, or Information, in any of Her Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, wherein no Effoin, Protection, Wager of Law, or more than One Imparlance shall be granted or allowed.

A Book to be kept in the Exchequer, for the weekly Payments.

**AND** to the end the said weekly Sum of Seven hundred Pounds may be made a Fund or Security for the Purposes in this Act expressed; **be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That there shall be provided and kept in the Office of the Auditor of the Receipt of the Exchequer, One Book, in which all the Monies which shall be paid in weekly, as aforesaid, for or upon Account of the said weekly Sums out of the said Duties, shall be entered apart and distinct from all other Monies which shall be brought and paid to the said Receipt upon any other Account whatsoever.

Appropriation of the 700 l. a Week.

**Provided always, and it is hereby enacted**, That the said weekly Sum of Seven hundred Pounds for the Purposes aforesaid, shall from time to time, during all the said Term of Thirty two Years, be paid into the Exchequer,



exchequer, as aforesaid, out of the whole Produce of the Duties and Revenues arising by virtue of this Act, with Preference to all other Payments which are, shall, or may be charged or chargeable thereupon, the necessary charges for managing the said Post Office; and the Duties thereof, and for receiving, answering, and accounting for the Revenues arising thereby only excepted; and that the said Duties and Revenues arising by this Act (after Deduction, from time to time, to be first made of so much as shall be then due and incurred, or in Arrear of for the said weekly Payments, at any Time within or during the Term aforesaid, and after the Allowance of such necessary Charges, as aforesaid, and not otherwise) shall from time to time be subject and liable to such Annuities, and other Payments and Imbrances, which by any Act of Parliament now in Force were lawfully charged upon the Revenues of the Post Office, or any of them granted by the said former Acts hereby repealed, as aforesaid, or which having been charged by any Grant upon the said Revenues, have been saved by Act of Parliament,

This Revenue  
liable to all  
Annuities,  
Grants, &c.  
charged upon  
the former  
Act.



liament, of and for such Estate and Estates in Possession, Reversion, or Remainder, and subject to such Conditions, Limitations, Restrictions, and Appointments, and in such or the like Manner and Form, (and not otherwise) as the said Revenues, payable by the said former Acts, or any of them, would have been subject or liable to, if this Act had not been made; any thing herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

After 1 June, 1743, the old Rates to be taken for Letters, &c.

**Provided** always, and be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the First Day of June, One thousand seven hundred forty and three, the same Rates and Prices only, and no more, shall be taken or paid for the Carriage, Conveyance, and Delivery of all Letters and Packets sent by the Post from One Part of *Great Britain* to another, and also for all Letters brought to *Great Britain*, or sent from thence from or to any Parts beyond the Seas, that were authorized or allowed to be taken by the Postmaster General, or his Deputy or Deputies, for the Postage of such Letters, by the said several Acts hereby repealed.

**And whereas** Abuses may be committed by wilfully opening, imbeziling, detaining, and delaying, of Letters or Packets, to the great Discouragement of Trade, Commerce, and Correspondence; for Prevention thereof, **be it enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the said first Day of *June*, One thousand seven hundred and eleven, no Person or Persons shall presume wittingly, willingly, knowingly, to open, detain, or delay, or cause, procure, permit, or suffer to be opened, detained, or delayed, any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets, after the same is or shall be delivered to the General or other Post Office, or into the Hands of any Person or Persons employed for the receiving or carrying Post Letters, and before Delivery to the Persons to whom they are directed, or for their Use; except by express Warrant in Writing under the Hand of One of the Principal Secretaries of State for every such Opening, Detaining, or Delaying; 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

No Letters to be opened, detained, or delayed.

Exception.

able with the Payment of the Port or Ports thereof, shall refuse or neglect to pay the same; and except such Letters or Packets as shall be returned for want of true Directions, and where the Party to whom the same is or are directed cannot be found; and that every Person and Persons offending in Manner aforesaid, or who shall imbezil any such Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets, shall, for every such Offence, forfeit the Sum of Twenty Pounds; the said Penalties for any such Offence committed in *England, Wales, or Berwick upon Tweed*, to be recovered by Action, Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any of Her Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*; and for any such Offence committed in that Part of *Great Britain* called *Scotland*, to be recovered in the Court of Sessions or Exchequer there; such Penalties respectively to be recovered by such Person or Persons as will inform or sue for the same, together with Full Costs of Suit; and over and above such Penalty as aforesaid, every such Person or Persons so offending as aforesaid, shall be for ever incapable of having, using, exercising, or enjoying any Office, Trust, or Employment

ployment in or relating to the Post Office, or any Branch thereof.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no Person or Persons shall, after the said First Day of June, One thousand seven hundred and eleven, be capable of having, using, or exercising, the Office or Offices of Postmaster General, or any Part thereof, or any other Employment relating to the Post Office, or any Branch thereof, or be any way concerned in receiving, sorting, or delivering of Letters or Packets, unless such Person or Persons shall first have taken the following Oath before some One Justice of the Peace for the County or Place where such Person resides; which said Oath such Justice of Peace is hereby authorized to administer in the following Words:

Postmaster,  
&c. to be  
sworn.

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

The Oath.



*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 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 Port or Ports 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 imbezil any such Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets, as aforesaid.*

One Third of the Surplus, over and above 111,461 l. per Ann. and 700 l. per Week, disposable by Parliament.

**And it is further enacted and declared** by the Authority aforesaid, That from the said First Day of June, in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and eleven, One Third Part of the Surplus of the yearly Produce arising by the said Letter or Post Office, or Duties upon Postage of Letters and Packets by this Act granted, over and above the Sum of One hundred and eleven thousand four hundred sixty



sixty one Pounds, Seventeen Shillings, and Ten Pence, which was the Amount of the Gross Receipt of the Duties rising by virtue of the said former Acts of Parliament (which are now repealed) for One Year ended the Nine and twentieth Day of *September*, in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and ten, and over and above the said Sum of Seven hundred Pounds *per Week*, shall be, and is by this Act reserved to the Disposal of Parliament, for the Use of the Publick, and shall not be divertible or diverted to any other Use, Intent, or Purpose, other than according to such Disposal.

**AND** to the Intent the Inheritance of such Part of the said Duties and Revenue arising in and by the said General Letter Office or Post Office, which is hereby vested in Her Majesty, Her Heirs, and Successors, undeterminable as aforesaid, may be preserved in the Crown, for the future Benefit thereof; **be it further enacted and declared** by the Authority aforesaid, That the same, or any Part thereof, shall not hereafter be alienable, chargeable, or grantable by Her Majesty, Her Heirs, or Successors, for any Estate, Term,

This Revenue  
not alienable,  
&c.

D

or

or Time whatsoever, to endure longer than the Life of Her Majesty, or of such King or Queen as shall make such Alienation, Charge, or Grant respectively; and that all Gifts, Grants, Alienations, and Assurances whatsoever to be had, or made of, and Charges upon the said Duties or Revenue, or any Part thereof, contrary to the Provision of this Act, shall be null and void, without any Inquisition, *Scire facias*, or other Proceeding to determine or make void the same.

No Officer of  
the Post Office  
to intermeddle  
in Elections.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That no Postmaster or Postmaster General, or his or their Deputy or Deputies, or any Person employed by or under him or them, in the receiving, collecting, or managing the Revenue of the Post Office, or any Part thereof, shall, by Word, Message, or Writing, or in any other Manner whatsoever, endeavour to persuade any Elector to give, or dissuade any Elector from giving his Vote for the Choice of any Person to be a Knight of the Shire, Citizen, Burgefs, or Baron of any County, City, Borough, or Cinque Port, to serve in Parliament; and every Officer or other Person of-

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fending

fending therein, shall forfeit the Sum of One hundred Pounds, One Moiety thereof to the Informer, the other Moiety to the Poor of the Parish where such Offence shall be committed, to be recovered by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any of Her Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, or in the Court of Exchequer in *Scotland*, for the said Offences committed in *England* and *Scotland* respectively, wherein no Effoin, Protection, or Wager of Law, or any more than One Imparlance shall be allowed; and every Person convicted on any such Suit of the said Offence, shall thereby become disabled and incapable of ever bearing or executing any Office or Place of Trust whatsoever under Her Majesty, Her Heirs, or Successors.

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Anno sexto

**GEORGGII Regis.**

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

[So much thereof as relates to the *Post  
Office.*]

**A**ND whereas by an Act made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her said late Majesty Queen Anne, intituled, *An Act for establishing a General Post Office for all Her Majesty's Dominions, and for settling a Weekly Sum out of the Revenues thereof for the Service of the War, and other Her Majesty's Occasions*; the Postmaster General is authorized to demand, have, receive, and

Bills of Exchange wrote on the same Piece of Paper with a Letter, to be rated as so many distinct Letters.

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take,

take, for Single Letters, or Pieces of Paper, to and from the General Post Office in *London*, to and from any Parts or Places of *Great-Britain*, the Kingdom of *Ireland*, or other His Majesty's Dominions, certain Rates in the same Act mentioned, for the Port of every Single Letter or Piece of Paper: **And whereas** Bills of Exchange are frequently sent wrote on one and the same Piece of Paper with a Letter, and also several Letters to several and distinct Persons are sent wrote upon one and the same Piece of Paper; **be it declared** by the Authority aforesaid, That it was and is the Intent and Meaning of the same Act, that every such Bill, and every such Letter, should be rated, taxed, and paid for as so many several and distinct Letters, according to the Rates within the same Act mentioned; **and be it enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That the same shall be accordingly rated, taxed, and paid for as so many several and distinct Letters, according to the Rates within the same Act mentioned.

**And whereas** by the same Act, it is, amongst other Things, provided, That all Merchants Accounts, not exceeding



ceeding One Sheet of Paper, and all Merchants  
Bills of Exchange, Invoices, and Bills Accounts,  
of Lading, are, and shall be thereby Bills of Ex-  
understood to be allowed without Rate change, In-  
in the Price of the Letter: **And** voices, &c.  
**whereas** some Doubts have been made wrote on One  
touching the said Clause and Proviso; Sheet of Pa-  
**be it therefore enacted and de-** per, to extend  
**clared** by the Authority aforesaid, only to Let-  
That it was and is the Intent and ters sent to  
Meaning of the Act last mentioned, Foreign Parts.  
and of these Presents, that the Proviso  
and Allowance shall extend to such  
Merchants Accounts, Bills of Ex-  
change, Invoices, and Bills of Lading  
only, as shall be sent to or from the  
said General Post Office in *London*, to  
or from any Parts or Places beyond the  
Seas, not within His Majesty's Domi-  
nions; and that all other Merchants  
Accounts, Bills of Exchange, Invoices,  
and Bills of Lading, shall be rated,  
taxed, and paid for as so many several  
Letters, according to the Rates in the  
same Act mentioned, and the true In-  
tent and Meaning of these Presents.

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Anno quarto

GEORGE II. Regis.

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*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.*

**W**hereas upon the first Estab- Preamble.  
lishment of the Office  
called the *Penny-Post Office*,  
the Carriage or Conveyance of the  
Letters by that Post was confined to  
the Cities of *London and Westminster*,  
the Borough of *Southwark*, and  
the respective Suburbs thereof; **AND**  
whereas upon the Application of the  
Inhabitants of several Towns and Places  
D 5 within

*Anno Regni quarto Georgii II. Regis.*

within the Compass of Ten Miles round the City of *London*, and upon their voluntary Offer to allow and pay to the Messengers, or Persons carrying or transmitting such Letters, in consideration of their being obliged to travel with an Horse to Places at that Distance, One Penny upon the Delivery of every Letter directed to any Person at any Place out of the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, and Borough of *Southwark*, and the respective Suburbs thereof, over and above the Penny paid upon putting every such Letter into the Penny-Post Office in *London*, the Carriage and Conveyance of Letters and Packets by the said Post, commonly called the *Penny Post*, was extended Ten Miles round the City of *London*, and One Penny hath been constantly allowed to, and taken by such Messengers, on the Delivery of every Letter directed to any Person at any Place out of the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, the Borough of *Southwark*, and the respective Suburbs thereof, over and above the Penny paid upon putting such Letter into the Penny-Post Office in *London*; and whereas,

by

by reason of the Provisions contained in an Act of Parliament made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her late Majesty Queen *Anne* [intituled, *An Act for establishing a General Post Office for all Her Majesty's Dominions, and for settling a weekly Sum out of the Revenues thereof for the Service of the War, and other Her Majesty's Occasions*] some Doubts have lately arisen, whether the Messengers, or Persons carrying or transmitting such Letters, could lawfully receive and take the said Allowance of One Penny, upon the Delivery of every Letter, directed or delivered to or for any Person, at any Place out of the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, the Borough of *Southwark*, and the respective Suburbs thereof, over and above the Penny paid upon putting such Letter into the Penny Post Office in *London*; ~~For~~ obviating and taking away all such Doubts, ~~be it~~ **declared and enacted** by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the

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same,

Penny Post-  
men carrying  
Letters out of  
*London, West-  
minster, or  
Southwark,*  
may demand  
1d. at Deli-  
very.

same, That nothing in the said Act of the Ninth Year of Her said late Majesty's Reign, shall or ought to be construed to extend to restrain or hinder any such Messenger or Person carrying or transmitting Letters by the said Post, commonly called the *Peny Post*, from demanding or taking for every Letter originally sent by the *Peny Post*, and not first passing by the General Post, and from thence transmitted by the *Peny Post*, which hath been, or shall be delivered to or for any Person, at any Place out of the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, the Borough of *Southwark*, and the respective Suburbs thereof, One Penny over and above the Penny paid upon putting every such Letter into the *Peny Post Office*, and that no such Messenger, or other Person, shall incur, or shall be deemed, adjudged, or taken to have incurred, or to incur, any Penalty or Forfeiture whatsoever, for demanding and taking for any such Letter so delivered, or to be delivered, as aforesaid, One Penny, over and above the Penny paid upon putting such Letter into the *Peny Post Office*,



Office, or for detaining or delaying any such Letter, until such One Penny for any such Letter so delivered, or to be delivered, as aforesaid, was or shall be paid ; any thing in the said Act, or in any other Law or Statute to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

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Anno

Anno vicesimo sexto

GEORGE II. Regis.

*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.*

[ So much thereof as relates to the Post Office. ]

**A**ND whereas by an Act made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her late Majesty Queen Anne, intituled, *An Act for establishing a General Post Office for all Her Majesty's Dominions, and for settling a Weekly Sum out of the Revenues thereof* Act 9 Anne.

*of for the Service of the War, and other Her Majesty's Occasions; the Postmaster-General, and his Deputy and Deputies, is and are authorized to demand, have, receive, and take, for the Portage and Conveyance of every Single Letter or Piece of Paper sent to and from the General Post Office in London, to and from any Parts or Places in Great Britain, or the Kingdom of Ireland, certain Rates in the said Act mentioned: **AND whereas** One or more Writ or Writs, or other Proceedings at Law, are frequently sent inclosed in a Letter, or wrote upon one and the same Piece of Paper with a Letter; **be it declared and enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That every such Writ, and every such Proceeding at Law, shall be rated, taxed, and paid for as a several and distinct Letter, according to the Rates mentioned in the said Act.*

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

***AND whereas** Patterns of Cloth, Silk, Stuff, and small Samples of other Sorts of Goods and other Things, not being Paper, are frequently inclosed in a Single Letter or Piece of Paper; **be it declared and enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That for every Single Letter or Cover containing*  
One

One or more Paper or Papers with Letters in-  
Patterns, or containing One or more closing several  
Pattern or Patterns of Cloth, Silk, or Patterns not  
Stuff, or One or more Sample or exceeding  
Samples of any other Sort of Goods, 1 Ounce  
or One or more Piece or Pieces of Weight, to  
any other Sort of Thing inclosed pay only as a  
therein, or affixed thereto, though not Double Let-  
Paper, if the same together do not ter.  
weigh an Ounce Weight, the Rates  
payable by the said Act for a Double  
Letter shall be paid, and no more.

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Anno

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Anno quarto

GEORGE III. Regis.

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C A P. 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.*

**W**HEREAS, under Co- Preamble.  
lour of the Privilege of send-  
ing and receiving Post Let-  
ters by Members of Parliament, free  
from the Duty of Postage, many great  
and notorious Frauds have been and  
still are frequently practised, as well in  
derogation of the Honor of Parliament,  
as to the Detriment of the Public Re-  
venue; divers Persons having presumed  
to counterfeit the Hand, and otherwise  
fraudulently



*Anno Regni quarto Georgii III. Regis.*  
fraudulently to make use of the Names  
of Members of Parliament, upon Letters  
and Packets to be sent by the Post,  
in order to avoid the Payment of the  
Duty of Postage: **And whereas** the  
Allowance of sending and receiving  
Letters and Packets free from the Duty  
of Postage, heretofore granted to, or  
customarily exercised by, certain Persons  
not being Members of Parliament,  
in respect of their Offices, has not been  
sufficiently confined to such Letters and  
Packets only as relate to the Business of  
their respective Offices, and may therefore,  
if continued without further Restrictions  
and Limitations, be liable to great Abuse:  
In order therefore to put the more effectual  
Stop to these and the like Frauds and Abuses,  
and at the same Time to ascertain, for the better  
Guidance and Direction of His Majesty's  
Post Master General, and the Officers to be  
employed under him, in the Performance of  
their Duty, by what Persons only, and under  
what Regulations or Restrictions, the Privilege  
or

or Allowance of sending and receiving Letters and Packets free from the Duty of Postage shall thenceforth be enjoyed and exercised, May it please Your Majesty that it may be **enacted; and be it enacted** by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That from and after the First Day of *May*, One thousand seven hundred and sixty four, so long as the Revenue arising in the General Letter Office or Post Office, or Office of Post Master General, shall continue to be carried to, and made Part of the Aggregate Fund, no Letters or Packets sent by the Post, to or from any Place whatsoever, shall be exempted from paying the Duty of Postage, according to the Rates established by the several Acts of Parliament now in Force; other than and except such Letters and Packets as are herein after excepted, and in such Manner, and under

From and after 1 *May*, 1764, while the Revenue of the Post Office shall continue to be carried to the Aggregate Fund,

no Letters or Packets shall be exempted from Postage, but such as shall be sent from or to the King; and such, not exceeding two Ounces in Weight, as shall be sent during the Session of Parliament, or within 40 Days before or after Summons or Prorogation, and be signed on the Outside by a Member of either House, and the Whole of the Super-  
 scription to be of such Member's Writing; or, directed to a Member, at his usual Residence, or Place where he shall then be, or at the House, &c. of Parliament:

under such Restrictions, as are herein after declared and enacted concerning the same; that is to say, Except all such Letters and Packets as shall be sent from or to the King's most Excellent Majesty; all Letters and Packets, not exceeding the Weight of Two Ounces, sent from and to any Places (within the Kingdoms of *Great Britain or Ireland*) during the Sitting of any Session of Parliament, or within Forty Days before or Forty Days after any Summons or Prorogation of the same, which shall be signed, on the Outside thereof, by any Member of either of the Two Houses of Parliament of *Great Britain*, and whereof the Whole Super-  
 scription shall be of the Hand Writing of such Member, or which shall be directed to any Member of either House of the Parliament of *Great Britain*, at any of the Places of his usual Residence, or at the Time of the Delivery thereof, or at the House of Parliament, or the Lobby of the House of Parliament or

which

which he is a Member ; all Letters and Packets, not exceeding the Weight of Two Ounces, sent from and to any Places within the Kingdom of *Ireland*, during the Sitting of any Session of Parliament of *Ireland*, or within Forty Days before or Forty Days after any Summons or Prorogation thereof, which shall be signed on the Outside thereof, by any Member of either of the Two Houses of the Parliament of *Ireland*, and whereof the Whole Superscription shall be of the Hand Writing of such Member, or which being sent, during such Time as aforesaid, from any Part of *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, to any Part of *Ireland*, shall be directed to any Member of either House of the Parliament of *Ireland*, at any of the Places of his usual Residence, or at the Place where he shall actually be at the Time of the Delivery thereof, or at the House of Parliament, or the Lobby of the House of Parliament of which he is a Member ;

And in like Manner, Letters and Packets sent from and to Places in *Ireland*, during the Sessions there, or within 40 Days before or after Summons or Prorogation signed and directed as aforesaid ;

Also all Letters and Packets to the Lord High Treasurer, or Commissioners, and Secretaries to the Treasury ; Lord High Admiral, Commissioners and Secretaries to the Admiralty ; Principal Secretaries of State, and their Under Secretaries ;

all Letters and Packets directed to the Lord



Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, or their Secretary; Secretary at War, or his Deputy; Lieutenant General, or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland*; or their Chief Secretary, or Secretary for the Provinces of *Ulster* and *Munster*; their Secretary residing in *Great Britain*; the Under Secretary, and First Clerk, in the Office in *Ireland* of the Chief Secretary, and the First Clerk in the Office of the Secretary for *Ulster* and *Munster*, the Postmaster General, or Deputy for *Scotland*, *Ireland*, and *America*;

Lord High Treasurer, or Commissioners of the Treasury, or the Secretaries to the Treasury; to the Lord High Admiral, or Commissioners of the Admiralty, or the Secretaries of the Admiralty; to His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, or their Under Secretaries; to the Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, or their Secretary; to His Majesty's Secretary at War, or the Deputy Secretary at War; or to 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 that Kingdom, his or their Secretary residing always in *Great Britain*, the Under Secretary and First Clerk in the Office in *Ireland* of the said Chief Secretary, the First Clerk in the Office in *Ireland* of the said Secretary for the Provinces of *Ulster* and *Munster*; or to His Majesty's Postmaster General, or to the Deputy of the Postmaster General, for  
tha



that Part of *Great Britain* called *Scotland*, for the Kingdom of *Ireland*, or for His Majesty's Dominions in *America* respectively; or to the Secretary of such Postmaster General, or Deputy of the Postmaster General, or to the Farmer of the Bye and Cross Road Letters, or to any of the Surveyors of the Post Office, all for the time being; and all Letters and Packets sent from any of the said Officers for the time being, which shall be signed, on the Outside thereof, by such Officer, and whereof the Whole Supercription shall likewise be of the Hand Writing of such Officer; and also except all Letters and Packets sent from the Treasury, the Admiralty Office, the Office of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, the Plantation Office, the War Office, or from the General Post Office at *London*, or from any of the Chief Offices at *Edinburgh*, at *Dublin*, or in *America*, and which shall appear, by an Indorsement made thereupon by some Person properly authorized as

E

herein

the Secretary, or Deputy of the Postmaster General; Farmer of the Bye and Cross Road Letters; Surveyors of the Post Office; and Letters and Packets sent from any of the said Offices, signed by them on the Outside, and the Whole Supercription of their Writing; and Letters and Packets from the Treasury, Admiralty Office, Office of the Secretaries of State, Plantation Office, War Office, General Post Office at *London*, Chief Offices at *Edinburgh*, *Dublin*, and *America*, indorsed for the King's Service,

and sealed with  
the Seal of  
Office,  
or of the Prin-  
cipal Officer in  
the Depart-  
ment.

herein after mentioned to make the  
same, to be upon His Majesty's Ser-  
vice, and shall be sealed with the Seal  
of the Office, or with the Seal of the  
Principal Officer, in the Office or De-  
partment from which they are sent.

**And**, for more effectually prevent-  
ing all such Frauds and Abuses as  
might otherwise be practised under co-  
lour of the Allowance hereby granted  
and continued, of sending Letters and  
Packets from the several Offices and  
Officers herein before mentioned free  
from the Duty of Postage; **be it fur-  
ther enacted** by the Authority afore-  
said, That it shall and may be lawful  
for the Lord High Treasurer, or Com-  
missioners of the Treasury, the Lord  
High Admiral, or Commissioners of the  
Admiralty, His Majesty's Principal Se-  
cretaries of State, the Commissioners for  
Trade and Plantations, His Majesty's Se-  
cretary at War, His Majesty's Postmaster  
General, and the Deputies of the Post-  
master General herein before mention-  
ed, all for the time being, to authorize  
and

Commission-  
ers of the  
Treasury,  
and Admiral-  
ty,

the Secretaries  
of State,

Commission-  
ers for Trade  
and Planta-  
tions,

Secretary at  
War,

Postmaster  
General,

and his Depu-  
ties,

and direct certain Persons in each of their Offices or Departments respectively, a List of whose Names shall be from time to time transmitted, by the Principal Officer or Officers 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 such Office or Officer respectively; all which Persons are hereby strictly forbid so to indorse and seal any Letter or Packet whatsoever, unless such only concerning which they shall receive the special Direction of their superior Officer, or which they shall themselves know to concern the Business of their respective Offices; and if any Person employed in any of the said Offices, shall knowingly make and subscribe such Indorsement, or procure the same to be made upon any Letter or Packet which does

impowered to authorize certain Persons in their respective Offices, of whom Lists to be transmitted to the General Post Office, *London*, to indorse the Letters and Packets upon the King's Service,

and seal the same with the Seal of Office, &c.

None to be so indorsed and sealed,

but by Direction of their superior Officer,

or which concerns the Business of the Office,

on Forfeiture  
of 5 *l.* for the  
First Offence,

to be recover-  
ed and applied  
as by Act 9  
*Annæ* is direct-  
ed ;

and for the Se-  
cond Offence,  
the Offender  
to be dismissed.

Persons ap-  
pointed to  
make such In-  
dorsements,  
not to exceed  
2 in any Office,

Admiralty and  
War Offices  
excepted ;  
and in the Ad-  
miralty not to  
exceed 8 in  
Time of Peace,  
and 12 in  
Time of War ;  
and in the War  
Office, not to  
exceed 6 in  
Time of Peace,

not really concern the Business of the  
Office in respect of which he is autho-  
rized to make the same, he shall, for  
the First Offence, forfeit and pay the  
Sum of Five Pounds, to be recovered  
and applied in such Manner as, by the  
Act of the Ninth Year of the Reign  
of Queen *Anne* for establishing a Ge-  
neral Post Office, is directed, with re-  
spect to the Penalties inflicted by the  
said Act ; and, for the Second Of-  
fence, shall be dismissed from his  
Office.

**Provided always,** That the Num-  
ber of Persons so to be appointed, in  
each of the Offices above mentioned  
to make and subscribe such Indorse-  
ment as aforesaid, shall not exceed Two  
in any One Office or Department  
except only in the Admiralty Office  
and the War Office ; and that the  
Number so to be appointed in the Ad-  
miralty Office, shall not exceed Eight  
in Time of Peace, or Twelve in Time  
of War ; and that the Number so  
to be appointed in the War Office sha-



not exceed Six in Time of Peace, or Ten in Time of War. and in Time of War.

**Provided** also, and be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in case any Person intitled to send Letters or Packets free of the Duty of Postage, being, by bodily Infirmary, disabled from writing the Whole Superscription of such Letters or Packets, shall choose to authorize and appoint some One Person, on his Behalf, and in his Stead, to sign his Name upon, and write the Superscription of, such Letters and Packets, and shall cause Notice thereof in Writing, under his Hand and Seal, to be transmitted to His Majesty's Postmaster General, all Letters and Packets, so signed and superscribed by the Person so authorized and appointed, shall be allowed to pass free of the Duty of Postage, and shall, in all Respects, be proceeded with, as if the Whole Superscription had been of the Hand Writing of the Person by whom such Authority was given as aforesaid.

Where any privileged Person, disabled from writing the Whole Superscription,

shall authorize some Person to sign his Name upon, and write the Superscription,

and give Notice thereof under his Hand and Seal to the Postmaster General,

Letters and Packets, so signed and superscribed, shall go free.



Printed Votes,  
and Proceed-  
ings in Parlia-  
ment,

and News Pa-  
pers, sent with-  
out Covers,

or in Covers  
open at the  
Sides,

and signed on  
the Outside by  
a Member,

or directed to  
a Member, ac-  
cording to No-  
tice given by  
him to the  
Postmaster  
General, or his  
Deputy at  
*Edinburgh* or  
*Dublin*,

are to go free.

**Provided** always, and it is  
**hereby further enacted**, That no-  
thing herein contained shall extend to  
charge with the Duty of Postage, any  
printed Votes, or Proceedings in Par-  
liament, or printed News Papers, be-  
ing sent without Covers, or in Covers  
open at the Sides, which shall be fig-  
ed, on the Outside thereof, by the  
Hand of any Member of Parliament,  
in such Manner as hath been hereto-  
fore practised, or which shall be di-  
rected to any Member of Parliament,  
at any Place whereof he shall have  
given Notice in Writing to the Post-  
master General, or to his Deputy at  
*Edinburgh* or *Dublin* respectively, but  
that all such Votes, Proceedings, and  
News Papers, so sent and signed or di-  
rected as aforesaid, shall be received  
free of the Duty of Postage; any thing  
in this or any former Act to the con-  
trary notwithstanding.

**And** forasmuch as it hath been usual  
for the Clerks in the Offices of His  
Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State,  
and

and also for certain Officers in the Office of His Majesty's Postmaster General, to frank printed Votes, and Proceedings in Parliament, and printed News Papers, to be sent by the Post; **be it therefore enacted** by the Authority aforeaid, That it shall and may be lawful for such Clerks and Officers as aforeaid, being thereunto licensed by His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, or His Majesty's Postmaster General respectively, to continue to frank such printed Votes, and Proceedings in Parliament, and printed News Papers, in such Manner as they have heretofore been accustomed to frank the same; provided that such printed Votes, Proceedings, and News Papers, shall be sent without Covers, or in Covers open at the Sides.

Clerks in the Office of the Secretaries of State, and Post Office, being duly licensed,

may continue to frank the Votes, and Proceedings in Parliament, and News Papers, as heretofore; sending the same without Covers, or in Covers open at the Sides.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeaid, That it shall and may be lawful for His Majesty's Postmaster General, or any of the Officers employed under him, to examine and search

Postmaster General, and Officers under him, may search any Packet sent without a Cover, or in a Cover open at the Sides;

and if they shall find any other Paper or Thing inclosed therein,

or there shall be any Writing, other than the Superscription upon the printed Paper, or Cover, the Whole of such Packet is to be charged with the Postage.

If any Person shall, after 1 June, 1764, counterfeit the Writing of any Person in the Superscription of any Letter or Packet, to avoid the Postage,

search any Packet sent without a Cover, or in a Cover open at the Sides, in order to discover whether any other Paper or Thing whatsoever be inclosed or concealed in or with such printed Paper, as is hereby permitted to be sent free of Postage without a Cover, or in a Cover open at the Sides; and in case any such other Paper or Thing whatsoever shall be found to be inclosed or concealed in or with such printed Paper as aforesaid, or in case there shall be any Writing, other than the Superscription upon such printed Paper, or upon the Cover thereof, the Whole of such Packet shall be charged with the Duty of Postage, according to the Rates established by the several Acts of Parliament now in Force for that Purpose.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Person shall, after the First Day of June, One thousand seven hundred and sixty four, counterfeit the Hand Writing of any Person whatsoever, in the Superscription

scription of any Letter or Packet to be sent by the Post, in order to avoid the Payment of the Duty of Postage, every Person, so offending, shall be deemed guilty of Felony, and shall be transported for Seven Years.

he shall be adjudged of Felony, and be transported for 7 Years.

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Anno quinto

GEORGE III. Regis.

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C A P. 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..*

Most Gracious Sovereign,

**W**HEREAS the Security Preamble.  
and Improvement of Corre-  
spondence, throughout Your  
Majesty's Dominions, is a Matter of  
great Concernment, and highly necessa-  
ry for the Preservation and Extension of  
Trade and Commerce: **And whereas**  
by an Act made in the Ninth Year of  
the Reign of Her late Majesty Queen  
*Anne*, several Rates are settled for the  
E 6. Port.



*Anno Regni quinto Georgii III. Regis.*

Port and Conveyance of Letters and Packets passing to and from the several Parts of the *British* Dominions, in *Europe* and *America*: **And whereas** by the Increase of Trade and Commerce since the passing of the said Act, and by the vast Accession of Territory gained by the late Treaty of Peace, several Communications are opened, and new Posts have been or may be established to and from the several Parts of Your Majesty's Dominions in *America*, for which the Rates of Postage cannot, under the present Law, be properly ascertained: **And whereas** the present Rates of Postage may in some Parts be reduced, and the Revenue nevertheless may hereafter be improved, by means of a more extensive Circulation; We Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Commons of *Great Britain* in Parliament assembled, do most humbly beseech Your Majesty that it may be **enacted**; **and be it enacted** by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same,

same, That so much of the said Act made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her said late Majesty Queen Anne, intituled, *An Act for establishing a General Post Office for all Her Majesty's Dominions, and for settling a Weekly Sum out of the Revenues thereof for the Service of the War; and other Her Majesty's Occasions*, as establishes certain Rates or Sums for the Port or Conveyance of Letters and Packets passing between London and the *British* Dominions in America, and between any Places within the said Dominions, shall from and after the Tenth Day of *October*, One thousand seven hundred and sixty five, be, and is hereby, repealed.

AND, to the end that more easy and equal Rates of Postage may be settled and established, and the Benefit of Posts be in Time extended to every Part of the *British* Dominions in America, be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the said Tenth Day of *October*, One thousand seven hundred and sixty five, it shall and may be lawful to and for His Majesty's Post Master General for the time being, and his Deputy and Deputies by him thereunto sufficiently authorized,

Repeal of so much of the Act of 9 Anne, as establishes the Rates of Postage of Letters between London and the *British* Dominions in America, and Places within the said Dominions :

And from and after 10 Oct. 1765, instead of the Rates thereby established, those following are to take Place.

rized, to and for the Use of His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, to demand, have, receive, and take, for the Port and Conveyance of all and every the Letters, Packets, and other Things, that shall be carried or conveyed to or from *London*, from or to any of the *British* Dominions in *America*, and to or from any Part of the said Dominions, from or to any other Part thereof, according to the several and respective Rates and Sums hereafter mentioned; the same being rated either by the Letter, or by the Ounce; that is to say,

Rates of Postage from *London* to any Port within the *British* Dominions in *America*, and from any such Port to *London*;

For all Letters and Packets passing from *London* to any Port within the *British* Dominions in *America*, and from any such Port unto *London*, for every Single Letter One Shilling; for every Double Letter Two Shillings; for every Treble Letter Three Shillings; and for every Ounce Four Shillings; and so in Proportion for every Packet of Deeds, Writs, or other Things.

and from any Port in the said Dominions to any o-

For all Letters and Packets conveyed by Sea from any Port in the *British* Dominions in *America*, to any other

other Port within the said Dominions, ther Port therein, by Sea.  
for every Single Letter Four Pence;  
for every Double Letter Eight Pence;  
for every Treble Letter One Shilling;  
and for every Ounce One Shilling and Four Pence; and so in Proportion for every Packet of Deeds, Writs, or other Things,

For the Inland Conveyance of all Letters and Packets to or from any Chief Post Office established, or to be established, within the *British* Dominions in *America*, from or to any other Part of the said Dominions, not exceeding Sixty *British* Miles distant from such Chief Offices respectively; or from the Office where such Letters or Packets, not passing through any such Chief Office, may be put in; for every Single Letter Four Pence; for every Double Letter Eight Pence; for every Treble Letter One Shilling; and for every Ounce One Shilling and Four Pence; and, being Rates of Inland Postage in *America*, for any Distance not exceeding 60 Miles;  
upwards of Sixty such Miles, and not exceeding One hundred such Miles, for upwards of 60, and not exceeding 100 Miles;  
for every Single Letter Six Pence; for every Double Letter One Shilling; for every Treble Letter One Shilling and Six Pence; and for every Ounce Two Shillings;



for upwards of  
100, and not  
exceeding 200  
Miles;

and for up-  
wards of 200,  
and not ex-  
ceeding 100  
Miles further,  
&c.

Shillings; and, being upwards of One hundred such Miles, and not exceeding Two hundred such Miles, for every Single Letter Eight Pence; for every Double Letter One Shilling and Four Pence; for every Treble Letter Two Shillings; and for every Ounce Two Shillings and Eight Pence; and for every Distance not exceeding One hundred such Miles beyond such Two hundred Miles, and for every such further Distance, for every Single Letter Two Pence; for every Double Letter Four Pence; for every Treble Letter Six Pence; and for every Ounce Eight Pence; and so in Proportion, according to the said several and respective Rates and Distances, for every Packet of Deeds, Writs, or other Things.

Recital of  
Clauses in Act  
9 *Annæ*.

**And whereas** by certain Clauses in the said Act, made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her said late Majesty Queen *Anne*, it is enacted, That all Letters and Packets, that, by any Master of any Ship or Vessel, or any of his Company, or any Passengers therein, should or might be brought to any Port Town, or which should ar-  
rive



ive or touch at any Port belonging to any Port Town within any Her Majesty's Dominions, or any the Members thereof, or which should be on Board any Ship or Vessel which should or did touch or stay at any such Port Town (other than such Letters as in the said Act are excepted) should, by such Master, Passenger, or other Person or Persons, be forthwith delivered unto the Deputy or Deputies of such Post Master General for the time being by him appointed for such Place or Port Town, and to be, by such Deputy or Deputies, sent Post unto the said General Post Office, to be delivered according to the several and respective Directions of the same; upon Pain of forfeiting the Sum of Five Pounds of *British* Money for every several Offence against the Tenor of the said Act: **And whereas** the said Provision, in the said above recited Clause, hath been found ineffectual for the Purposes intended; **be it therefore further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the Tenth Day of *October*, One thousand seven hundred and sixty five, no Ship or Vessel shall be permitted to break

From and after 10 Oct.

1765, no Vessel to be admitted to make Entry, or break Bulk, till the Letters on Board are delivered to the Post Office;

except in such Cases where they are to be delivered to the Superintendent of the Quarentine;

break Bulk, or to make any Entry in any Port in the *British* Dominions, until all Letters and Packets brought by any Master of any such Ship or Vessel, or by any of his Company, or any Passenger on Board the same, to any Port in the said Dominions where Posts are or hereafter may be established, and from whence such Letters and Packets can or may be dispatched by Post, shall be delivered to the Deputy or Deputies, or Agents of the said Post Master General for the time being, to be by him or them forwarded, according to their respective Directions, in the same Course that other Letters are sent from such respective Ports; except such Letters, Commissions, and other Matters and Things, as are excepted in the said Act made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her late Majesty Queen *Anne*; and also, except all such Letters and Packets as shall or may be brought in any Ship or Vessel liable to the Performance of Quarentine; all which Letters or Packets last-mentioned shall be delivered, by the Person or Persons having Possession thereof, to the Person or Persons appointed to superintend

th

the Quarentine, that all proper Precautions may be by him or them taken before the Delivery thereof; and when due Care has been had therein, the said Letters or Packets shall be by him or them dispatched, in the usual and accustomed Manner, by the Post; and all Masters, Mariners, Passengers, and other Person or Persons, neglecting or refusing to deliver the Letters or Packets brought by them as aforesaid, shall, for every such Neglect or Refusal respectively, forfeit the Sum of Twenty Pounds; to be sued for and recovered by Action of Debt, Bill, Complaint, or Information, in any Court of Record within the Kingdom, Colony, Plantation, or Place, where the Offence shall be committed; and no Essoin, Privilege, Protection, or Wager of Law, shall be admitted; One Moiety of the said Penalty to His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, and the other Moiety thereof to such Person or Persons as shall or will inform against such Offender or Offenders, and sue for the said Penalties and Forfeitures; and for every Recovery such Person or Persons, so informing and prosecuting for the said Penalties

to be dispatched by him to the Post Office.

Persons refusing to deliver up such Letters, forfeit 20*l.*

One Moiety to the King, the other to the Prosecutor;

with Full Costs.

Penalties and Forfeitures, shall recover and have also taxed and paid their Full Costs of Suit; any thing in the said Act, made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her Majesty Queen Anne, to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

*1d. extra  
charged on all  
Ship Letters  
not brought  
by the Packet  
Boats.*

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Deputy or Deputies to demand, have, receive, and take, for every such Letter and Packet so delivered from any Ship or Vessel, other than Packet Boats, to such Deputy or Deputies at the Ports in His Majesty's Dominions, 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 Deputy and Deputies, the Rate or Sum of One Penny, over and above what may now be received for the same.

*From and after 10 Oct.*

*1765, the present Rates of Postage by the General Post,*

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the Tenth Day of *October*, One thousand seven hundred and sixty five, the Rates now payable for the Postage of Letters and Packets, sent or conveyed by the General Post, not exceeding

One



One Post Stage in *Great Britain* and not exceeding 1 Post Stage in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, and not exceeding 2 in *England*, are to cease,  
*Ireland*, and not exceeding Two Post Stages in that Part of *Great Britain* called *England*, do cease and determine; and that from and after the said Tenth Day of *October*, One thousand seven hundred and sixty five, it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Post Master General, and his Deputy and Deputies by him thereunto sufficiently authorized, to and for the Use of His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, to demand, have, receive, and take, for the Port and Conveyance of all such Letters and Packets which he shall convey, carry, or send Post, within the Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, according to the several Rates and Sums hereafter - mentioned (the same being rated either by the Letter or by the Ounce) that is to say, and the following Rates are to take Place;

For the Port or Conveyance of every Single Letter, so conveyed or carried by the Post as aforesaid, not exceeding One whole Post Stage from the Office where such Letter may be put in, within the Kingdoms aforesaid, the Sum of One Penny; for every Double Letter Two Pence; for every Treble Letter *viz.* Rates for Postage not exceeding 1 Post Stage;



Letter Three Pence; and for every Ounce Four Pence; and so in Proportion for every Packet of Deeds, Writs, or other Things.

above 1 and  
not exceeding  
2 Post Stages.

And for the Port and Conveyance of every Single Letter, so conveyed or carried by the Post as aforesaid above One Post Stage, and not exceeding Two Post Stages, from the Office where such Letter may be put in, within that Part of *Great Britain* called *England*, the Sum of Two Pence; for every Double Letter Four Pence; for every Treble Letter Six Pence; and for every Ounce Eight Pence; and so in Proportion for every Packet of Deeds, Writs, or other Things.

But these Regulations are not to extend to *The Penny Post*.

**Provided** always, and be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That nothing herein before contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to alter, or in any wise to affect, the Rates or Sums to be paid for Letters or Packets passing or re-passing by the Carriage called *The Penny Post*.

**And whereas**, for the more ready and extensive Conveyance of Letters and Packets between that Part of *Great Britain*

Britain called *England*, and *Ireland*, and for the Conveniency of Trade and Commerce between the said Kingdoms, it may be convenient and expedient to improve the Communication for the Conveyance of such Letters and Packets by the Post through *Carlisle*, *Dumfries*, and *Port Patrick*, or some other convenient Port in *Scotland*; and through *Donaghadee*, or some other convenient Port in *Ireland*; be it further declared and enacted by the Authority aforesaid,

That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Post Master General, and his Deputy or Deputies by him thereunto sufficiently authorized, to demand, have, receive, and take, for the Post and Conveyance of all Letters and Packets, passing and repassing by the Post between *England* and *Ireland*, through *Carlisle*, *Dumfries*, *Port Patrick*, and *Donaghadee*, or other convenient Ports in *Scotland* and *Ireland*, the same Rates or Sums for *English* Postage, according to the Number of Miles or Stages such Letters and Packets are carried by the Post in *England*, as also the same Rates or Sums for *Scotch* Postage, according to the Number of Miles or Stages such Letters and Packets are carried

Rates of Postage between *England* and *Ireland*, thro' *Carlisle*, *Dumfries*, *Port Patrick*, and *Donaghadee*, or other convenient Ports.

*Anno Regni quinto Georgii III. Regis.*  
 carried by the Post in *Scotland*, and moreover the same Rates or Sums for Packet Postage between *Port Patrick* and *Donaghadee*, or other convenient Ports in *Scotland* and *Ireland*, as likewise the same Rates or Sums for *Irish* Postage, according to the Number of Miles or Stages such Letters are carried by the Post in *Ireland*, as are respectively settled, established, and ascertained, by the said Act made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her said late Majesty Queen *Anne*, or by this present Act.

Repeal of so much of the Act of *Anne*, as directs the Postage between *Port Patrick* and *Donaghadee*, to be paid where the Letters are delivered.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That so much of the said Act, made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her late Majesty Queen *Anne*, as directs that the Rates or Sums to be paid for the Conveyance of Letters, to be sent by Packet Boats, between *Port Patrick* and *Donaghadee*, shall be paid at the Place where such Letter or Letters are delivered, in order to be sent by such Packet Boats, shall, from and after the said Tenth Day of *October*, One thousand seven hundred and sixty five be, and is hereby, repealed.

And

**AND**, to the End that all Letters or Packets may be charged with Postage, according to the rated Distance they are respectively carried by the Post, and for preventing all Disputes touching the same, **be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for such Person and Persons as the Post Master General for the time being shall appoint, to measure, or cause to be measured, by the Wheel, all the Post Roads which are now settled and established, or which shall hereafter be settled and established, in any Part of the Kingdoms of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, and other the *British* Dominions.

To prevent Disputes. Post Roads may be measured ;

**Provided always**, That such Person or Persons, who shall be so appointed as aforesaid to measure the said Distances, and every of them, shall be sworn to perform the same according to the best of their Skill and Judgement ; which Oath shall and may be administered by any Justice of the Peace, who is hereby authorized and required to administer the same, and to make Certificates thereof in Writing, to be entered, without Fee or Charge, in the Three Chief Post Offices in *Great Britain*

and a Return to be made thereof upon Oath ;

and entered in the Three Chief Post Offices in *Great Britain* and *Ireland* ; and the Chief Offices in *America*.



Fair Surveys  
to be made  
out, and de-  
posited in the  
respective  
Offices here  
mentioned,

signed by the  
Persons mak-  
ing the same,  
and attested  
upon Oath,

*Britain and Ireland*; and in the Chief Post Offices established, or to be established, in *America*; and moreover, that such Person or Persons so to be appointed by such Post Master as aforesaid, shall, and they are hereby required to cause fair Surveys or Books to be made out; One of each whereof shall be left with His Majesty's Post Master General in *London*, another of each to be left at the Chief Post Office in *Edinburgh* with the Post Master General's Deputy there, another of each to be left at the Chief Post Office at *Dublin* with the Post Master General's Deputy there, and another of each of such Surveys or Books shall be left at each of the Chief Post Offices established, or to be established, in *America*, with the respective Deputies of the Post Master General there, to remain in the said Post Offices; each of which said Surveys or Books shall be signed by the Person or Persons making the same, who shall and are hereby respectively required to make Oath of the Truth of such Surveys; which Oath or Oaths shall and may be administered by any Justice of the Peace, who is hereby authorized and required to administer the same;

and



and a Certificate of his or their having and certified  
sworn to the Truth thereof shall be by the Post  
signed by the Post Master General for Master Gene-  
the time being, or by his Deputy or ral or his De-  
Deputies, in such Chief Post Offices in puties.

*Great Britain and Ireland*, and in the  
*British Dominions in America*; which  
Books and Surveys shall determine the  
Distances on all the said Post Roads :

And in case of any Suspicion of Error On Suspicion  
or wrong Admeasurement, it shall and of Error, new  
may be lawful for the said Post Master Surveys may  
General to cause new Surveys to be be made out,

made; and the last Surveys which shall  
be made, and shall be verified and at-  
tested as above directed, shall, in all  
Courts of Justice, be Evidence of the

Distances on such Post Roads; and all according to  
Rates granted by former Act or Acts, which Postage  
or by this present Act, for the Port or is to be charg-  
ed.

Conveyance of Letters and Packets,  
shall be paid and taken according to  
such Surveys.

And be it further enacted by the Power given  
Authority aforesaid, That it shall and to settle *Penny*  
may be lawful to and for the Post *Post Offices*  
Master General for the time being, where con-  
and his Deputy and Deputies by him venient.  
thereunto sufficiently authorized, to  
settle and establish an Office, to be

*Anno Regni quinto Georgii III. Regis.*  
 called *The Penny Post Office*, in any City or Town, and the Suburbs thereof, and Places adjacent, within the Kingdoms of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, and the *British* Dominions in *America*, where such Post shall, by the Post Master General, be adjudged necessary and convenient; and to demand, have, receive, and take, the same Rates and Sums for the Postage and Conveyance of all Letters and Packets, conveyed by such Penny Post, as are or may be taken for the Carriage of Letters and Packets, sent or conveyed by the Carriage called *The Penny Post*, established and settled within the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, and Borough of *Southwark*, and Parts adjacent, according to the Extent and Meaning of the said Act made in the Ninth Year of Her said late Majesty Queen *Anne*, and of an Act made in the Fourth Year of His late Majesty King *George* the Second, and of this present Act.

Where such Offices are established, no Person may collect the Letters without being duly licensed.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That when such Penny Post Office or Offices shall be settled and established in such Cities, Towns, Suburbs, or Places adjacent, within the Kingdoms of *Great Britain*  
 and

and *Ireland*, and the *British* Dominions in *America*, as aforesaid, no Person or Persons whatsoever shall make any Collection of Letters or Packets in or near such City, Town, Suburbs, or Places, where such Penny Post Office or Offices shall be established, without Licence or Leave of the Post Master General for the time being; upon Pain of incurring the Forfeitures and Penalties to be forfeited and paid by Persons collecting, receiving, carrying, recarrying, and delivering Letters, contrary to the said Act made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her said late Majesty Queen *Anne*, to be recovered in Manner as by the said Act is directed, and with Full Costs of Suit.

And be it further enacted and declared by the Authority aforesaid, That all Letters and Packets whatsoever, which shall or may be brought by the Inland or Foreign Post, to the General Post Office in *London*, directed to any Person or Persons at any Place or Places beyond the Delivery of the Inland or Foreign Departments of the General Post Office respectively, and within the Delivery of the said Office

Letters, &c.  
brought by  
the Inland or  
Foreign Post  
to the *London*  
Office, and di-  
rected beyond  
the Depart-  
ment of the  
General Post,  
but within the  
Delivery of  
the *Penny Post*,

may be sent  
by the *Penny  
Post*, and  
charged ac-  
cordingly.

*Anno Regni quinto Georgii III. Regis.*

called *The Penny Post Office*, shall be conveyed and delivered by the said Penny Post Office; and that it shall and may be lawful for any Messenger or Person, carrying or transmitting such Letters or Packets, to demand and take for the Carriage and Delivery of the same, One Penny, and no more, over and above the Rates of Postage which shall have become due, for the Port or Conveyance of such Letters or Packets to the General Post Office.

From and af-  
ter 5 July,  
1765, no  
Packet ex-  
ceeding 4 oz.  
(except those  
sent by the  
General Post,  
&c.) may be  
sent by the  
*Penny Post*.

**AND** ~~whereas~~ the Weight of Letters and Packets, sent or conveyed by the Carriage called *The Penny Post*, hath not yet been ascertained by any Law or Statute: **AND** ~~whereas~~ many heavy and bulky Packets and Parcels are now sent and conveyed by such Carriage, which, by their Bulk and Weight, greatly retard the speedy Delivery thereof; **be it therefore enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the Fifth Day of July, One thousand seven hundred and sixty five, no Letter, Packet, or Parcel whatsoever, shall be forwarded, sent, or conveyed, by any Carriage called *The Penny Post* already established, or  
hereafter



hereafter to be established, if the Weight of such Letter, Packet, or Parcel, shall exceed the Weight of 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 said Carriage called *The Penny Post*, into the said General Post Office.

**And whereas** by the said Act, made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her said late Majesty Queen *Anne*, certain Rates are established for all Letters passing from *London* through the *Spanish Netherlands*, or the *United Provinces*, to *Hamburg* (Post-paid to *Antwerp* or *Amsterdam*) and from *Hamburg* through the *Spanish Netherlands*, or the *United Provinces*, unto *London*; **be it enacted**, That so much of the said Act made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her said late Majesty Queen *Anne*, as establishes the Rates last above mentioned, shall, from and after the Fifth Day of *July*, One thousand seven hundred and sixty five, be, and the same is hereby repealed; and the said Rates shall from thenceforth cease and determine: And from and



From 5 July, 1765, the same Rates of Postage are to take Place between *London and Hamburgh*, as between *London and Germany*, after the said Fifth Day of July, it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Post Master General, and his Deputy or Deputies by him thereunto sufficiently authorized, to and for the Use of His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, to demand, have, receive, and take, for the Port and Conveyance of all Letters and Packets, sent or conveyed by the Post from *London to Hamburgh*, or from *Hamburgh to London*, the same Rates or Sums of Money which, by the said Act made in the said Ninth Year of the Reign of Her said late Majesty Queen *Anne*, are settled and appointed to be taken for all Letters and Packets passing by the Post from *London* to all other Parts of *Germany*.

The Postage of Letters to be sent out of *Great Britain*, may, if deemed necessary, be demanded upon their being put into the Office.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Post Master General, and his Deputy and Deputies, if such Post Master General shall deem it necessary and expedient, to cause the Rates or Sums for the Postage of all Letters and Packets which are to be sent by the Post out of the Kingdom of *Great Britain*,

*Britain*, to be paid upon their being put into any Post Office within the said Kingdom.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Deputy, Clerk, Agent, Letter Carrier, or other Officer whatsoever, appointed, or to be hereafter appointed and employed in the Business of the Post Office, shall, from and after the Tenth Day of *October*, One thousand seven hundred and sixty five, secrete, embezzle, or destroy, any Letter, Packet, Bag, or Mail of Letters, which he, she, or they, shall and may be respectively entrusted with, or which shall have come to his, her, or their Hands or Possession, by virtue of their respective Employments in the said 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 Victualling 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 *Ameri-*

Penalty of any Officer of the Post Office secreting or embezzling any Letter with any Bank Bill or Note, &c. therein,

or taking out  
any such Note  
or Bill;

is Felony.

Penalty of  
robbing Mails,

*can* Provincial Bill of Credit; or shall steal and take, out of any Letter or Packet that shall come to his, her, or their Hands or Possession, by virtue of their respective Employments, any such 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 Victualling Bill, Seaman's Ticket, State Lottery Ticket, Goldsmith's Note for the Payment of Money, or other Bond or Warrant, or Promissory Note for the Payment of Money, or *American* Provincial Bill of Credit, with Intent to secrete, embezzle, or destroy the same; every such Offender or Offenders, being thereof convicted in due Form of Law, shall be deemed guilty of Felony, and shall suffer Death as a Felon. N. B. *This Clause is amended by Stat. 7 Geo. III. Cap. 50. Sect. 1. which see hereafter.*

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the said Tenth Day of *October*, One thousand seven hundred and sixty five, if any Person or Persons whatsoever shall rob any of His Majesty's Mails

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, or any 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 or Offenders, being thereof convicted as aforesaid, shall nevertheless respectively is Felony, be deemed guilty of Felony, and shall suffer Death as a Felon. N. B. *This Clause is amended by Stat. 7 Geo. III. Cap. 50. Sect. 2. which see hereafter.*

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Deputy, Clerk, Agent, Letter Carrier or other Servant, appointed, authorized, and intrusted, to take in Letters or Packets, and receive the Postage thereof, shall, after the said Tenth Day of *October*, imbezzle, or apply to his, her, or their own Use, any Money or Monies by him, her, or them, received with such Letters or Packets, for the Postage thereof; or shall burn or otherwise

Penalty of any Officer, &c. imbezzling or misapplying the Postage Money received by him,

or destroying any Letter or Packet,



or advancing  
the Rates,

and not ac-  
counting for  
the same;

is Felony.

otherwise destroy any Letter or Letters; Packet or Packets, by him, her, or them, so taken in or received; or who, by virtue of their respective Offices, shall advance the Rates upon Letters or Packets sent by the Post, and shall not duly account for the Money by him, her, or them, received for such advanced Postage; every such Offender or Offenders, being thereof convicted as aforesaid, shall be deemed guilty of Felony. N. B. *This Clause is amended by Stat. 7 Geo. III. Cap. 50. Sect. 3. which see hereafter.*

Post Boy quit-  
ting or desert-  
ing the Mail,

or suffering  
any Person  
(except the  
Guard) to ride  
on the Horse  
or Carriage,

or loitering on  
the Road, &c.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Post Boy or Rider, having taken any of His Majesty's Mails, or Bags of Letters or Packets, under his Care, in order to convey the same to the next Post Town or Stage, shall, after the said Tenth Day of *October*, quit or desert the same before his Arrival at such Post Town or Stage, or shall suffer any other Person or Persons (the Person or Persons employed to guard such Mail or Bags of Letters and Packets only excepted) to ride on the Horse or Carriage along with the said Mails or Bags of Letters and Packets; or shall



shall loiter on the Road, and wilfully mispend his Time, so as to retard the Arrival of the said Mails or Bags of Letters at the next Post Town or Stage ; or shall not, in all possible Cases, convey such Mails or Bags of Letters after the Rate of Six *English* Miles an Hour at the least ; every such Offender, for every such Offence, being thereof convicted, either by voluntary Confession of the Party, or by the Oath or Oaths of One or more credible Witnefs or Witnesses, before any One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace (which Oath and Oaths the said Justice or Justices is and are hereby respectively impowered and required to administer) 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.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the said Tenth Day of *October*, if any Post Boy or Post Boys, Rider or Riders, shall, by himself or themselves, or in Combination with others, unlawfully collect or receive Letters or Packets, or convey, or cause Letters and

to be committed to hard Labour ;

and unlawfully collecting, conveying, or delivering Letters or Packets,

he forfeits 10 s.  
for every Let-  
ter, &c.

and if not  
paid forth-  
with, he is to  
be committed  
to hard La-  
bour.

Clauses, &c.  
in the Act of  
9 *Annæ*, or in  
any other Act  
touching the  
*General or*  
*Penny Post*  
*Office,*

and Packets to be unlawfully conveyed, and shall thereof be convicted, either by the voluntary Confession of the Party, or by the Oath of One or more credible Witness or Witnesses, before any One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace (which Oath and Oaths the said Justice and Justices is and are hereby respectively impowered and required to administer) every such Offender or Offenders shall, for every 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, it shall and may be lawful for such Justice and Justices to commit such Offender or Offenders to the House of Correction, there to remain at hard Labour for any Space not exceeding Two Months, nor less than One Month.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every the Clauses, Provisoos, Powers, Privileges, Advantages, Disabilities, Penalties, Forfeitures, and Methods for the Recovery of the same Matters and Things, contained in the said Act made

made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her said late Majesty Queen *Anne*, or in any other Act or Acts whatsoever, touching the General Post Office, or the Carriage called *The Penny Post Office*, and not herein and hereby expressly altered or repealed, shall be applied and extended, and shall be construed to apply and extend, to this present Act, as fully and effectually, to all Intents and Purposes, as if the same had been particularly repeated and re-enacted in the Body of this present Act.

not hereby altered or repealed, extended to this Act.

And be it further enacted and declared, That all Rates or Sums of Money established or appointed by this Act, and also all Sums of Money imposed as Forfeitures or Penalties, and all Sums of Money required to be paid, and all other Monies herein mentioned, shall be deemed and taken to be Sterling Money of *Great Britain*, and shall be collected, taken, recovered, and paid, to the Amount of the Value which such Nominal Sums bear in *Great Britain*.

Rates, and pecuniary Penalties, to be deemed Sterling Money.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all the Monies arising by the Rates aforesaid,

Monies arising by this Act, to be applied as the present Rates of Postage.

said, except the Monies which shall be necessary to defray such Expences as shall be incurred in the Collection and Management of the same, and all other Expences attending the said Office, and the due Execution of the Acts relating thereto, shall be appropriated and applied to such and the same Uses, to which the present Rates of Postage are respectively now by Law appropriated and made applicable.

All necessary Charges, &c. in the Receipt and Management of Rates, to be allowed as usual.

**Provided** always, and be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all Charges, Out-goings, and Disbursements, necessary for the Receipt and Management of the said Rates, and the Rates granted by former Acts, and all other Expences attending the said Office, and the due Execution of the several Acts relating thereto, be allowed and paid, in like Manner as the same have heretofore been allowed, authorized, and paid, at any Time since the Commencement of the Rates granted by the said Act made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Queen *Anne*; any thing in this Act, or in an Act passed in the First Year of His Majesty's Reign, intituled, *An*



*Act for the Support of His Majesty's Household, and of the Honour and Dignity of the Crown of Great Britain, to the contrary notwithstanding.*

**And whereas** by an Act made in Clause in Act the Fourth Year of the Reign of His 4 Geo. III. present Majesty, intituled, *An Act for preventing Frauds and Abuses; in relation to the sending and receiving of Letters and Packets free from the Duty of Postage,* it is enacted, That from and after the First Day of May, One thousand seven hundred and sixty four, so long as the Revenue arising in the General Letter Office or Post Office, or Office of Post Master General, shall continue to be made Part of the Aggregate Fund, no Letters or Packets sent by the Post, to or from any Place whatsoever, shall be exempted from paying the Duty of Postage, except such Letters and Packets as are therein particularly excepted: **And whereas** the Privilege of sending and receiving Letters and Packets, free from the Duty of Postage, is not by the said Act extended to the Pay Master General of His Majesty's Forces for the time being, or to the Clerk of the Parliaments, or to the Clerk of the House of

of



Pay Master  
General,

Clerks of the  
Parliaments,  
and Clerk of  
the House of  
Commons,  
impowered to  
send and re-  
ceive Letters  
free of Post-  
age.

Limitation of  
Actions.

of Commons of *Great Britain*, for the time being, who, by virtue of their respective Offices and Employments, necessarily send and receive many Letters relating to the Publick Concerns of these Kingdoms; **be it therefore enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the passing of this Act, the said Pay Master General of His Majesty's Forces for the time being shall and may send and receive Letters, free from the Duty of Postage, in the same Manner, and under such Restrictions, as other Officers mentioned in the said Act are thereby permitted, in respect of their Offices to send and receive; and that the said Clerk of the Parliaments, and Clerk of the House of Commons of *Great Britain* for the time being, shall and may respectively, from and after the passing of this Act, send and receive Letters, free from the Duty of Postage, in the same Manner, and under such Restrictions, as any Member of either of the Two Houses of Parliament of *Great Britain* now send and receive the same, in pursuance of the said Act.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Ac-

tion

tion or Suit shall be commenced against any Person or Persons for any thing done in pursuance of this Act, the same shall be commenced within Six Months after the Fact committed, and not afterwards ; and the Defendant or Defendants in such Action or Suit shall and may plead the General Issue, and give this Act, and the Special Matter, in Evidence ; and that the same was done in pursuance, and by the Authority of this Act : And if it shall appear to be done, or that such Action or Suit shall be commenced after the Time before limited for bringing the same, that then the Jury shall find for the Defendant or Defendants ; and upon a Verdict for the Defendant, or if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall be nonsuited, or discontinue his, her, or their Action or Suit, after the Defendant or Defendants shall have appeared ; or if upon Demurrer, Judgement shall be given against the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, the Defendant or Defendants shall and may recover Treble Costs, and have the like Remedy for the same, as any Defendant or Defendants hath or have in any other Cases by Law.

*General Issue.**Treble Costs.*

Anno septimo

GEORGE III. Regis.

*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.*

**W**HEREAS it is of the utmost Importance to the Trade and Commerce of these Kingdoms, that all Letters, Packets, Bank Notes, Bills of Exchange, and other Things, may be sent and conveyed by the Post with the greatest Safety and Security ; and it having been found necessary, that some further Regulations and Provisions should be made for that Purpose ; **May** it please Your Majesty that it may be enacted, and be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice

Preamble.

Officers, or  
others em-  
ployed in any  
Business re-  
lating to the  
Post Office,

who shall se-  
crete, embez-  
zle, or destroy,  
any Letter or  
Packet, &c.  
with which  
they shall be  
intrusted, or  
which shall  
come to their  
Hands or Pos-  
session, con-  
taining any  
Bank or other  
Note, for Pay-  
ment of Mo-  
ney;

vice and Consent of the Lords Spi-  
ritual and Temporal, and Commons,  
in this present Parliament assembled,  
and by the Authority of the same,  
That if any Deputy, Clerk, Agent,  
Letter-carrier, Post-boy, or Rider, or  
any other Officer or Person whatso-  
ever, employed, or to be hereafter em-  
ployed, in receiving, stamping, sort-  
ing, charging, carrying, conveying, or  
delivering, Letters or Packets, or in  
any other Business relating to the Post  
Office, shall, from and after the Fifth  
Day of *November*, One thousand seven  
hundred and sixty seven, secrete, em-  
bezzle, or destroy, any Letter or Let-  
ters, Packet or Packets, Bag or Mail  
of Letters, which he, she, or they,  
shall and may be respectively intrusted  
with, or which shall have come to  
his, her, or their Hands or Possession,  
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 Com-  
pany, Society, or Corporation, Navy  
or Victualling or Transport Bill, Ord-  
nance Debenture, Seaman's Ticket,  
State Lottery Ticket or Certificate,  
Bank

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, her, or their Hands or Possession, any such 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 Victualling 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,

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



being convicted,  
ed, shall suffer  
Death, with-  
out Benefit of  
Clergy.

Persons who  
shall rob the  
Mail of any  
Letters,

or shall steal  
Letters from  
any Mail or  
Bag, or from  
any Post  
House, or  
Office,

pany, 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; every such Offender or Offenders, being thereof convicted in due Form of Law, shall be deemed guilty of Felony, and shall suffer Death as a Felon, without Benefit of Clergy.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the said First Day of *November*, One thousand seven hundred and sixty seven, if any Person or Persons whatsoever shall rob any Mail or Mails, in which Letters are sent or conveyed by the Post, of any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets, Bag or Mail of Letters; or shall steal and take from or out of any such Mail or Mails, or from or out of any Bag or Bags of Letters, sent or conveyed by the Post, or from or out of any Post Office, or House or Place for the Receipt or Delivery of Letters or Packets sent or to be sent by the

the Post, any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets ; although such Robbery, Stealing, or Taking, 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, or any 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, Stealing, or Taking ; yet such Offender or Offenders, being thereof convicted as aforesaid, shall nevertheless respectively be deemed guilty of Felony, and shall suffer Death as a Felon, without Benefit of Clergy.

being convicted, shall suffer Death, without Benefit of Clergy.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Deputy, Clerk, Agent, Letter-carrier, Officer, or other Person whatsoever, employed or hereafter to be employed, in any Business relating to the Post Office, shall take and receive into his, her, or their Hands or Possession any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets, to be forwarded by the Post, and receive any Sum or Sums of Money therewith for the Postage thereof, shall,

Officers, or others, employed in any Business relating to the Post Office, who shall burn or destroy any Letter to be sent by Post, for which they have received the Postage ;

or who shall advance the Postage on any Post Letter without duly accounting for the Money; are deemed guilty of Felony.

after the said First Day of *November*, One thousand seven hundred and sixty seven, burn or otherwise destroy any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets, by him, her, or them, so taken in or received; or if any such Deputy, Clerk, Agent, Letter-carrier, Officer, or other Person whatsoever, so employed, or hereafter to be so employed, shall advance the Rate or Rates of Postage upon any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets, sent by the Post, and shall secrete, and not duly account for, the Money by him, her, or them, received for such advanced Postage; every such Offender or Offenders, being thereof convicted as aforesaid, shall be deemed guilty of Felony.

A Packet Boat to be established between *Whitehaven*

**And whereas** it hath been found necessary, for the Convenience and Improvement of Trade and Commerce, and for the more safe and speedy Conveyance of Letters and Packets between *Great Britain* and the *Isle of Man*, to establish a Packet-Boat between the Port of *Whitehaven* in the County of *Cumberland*, and the Port of *Douglas* in the said *Isle of Man*: **be it enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the Fifth Day

Day of *July*, One thousand seven hundred and sixty seven, it shall and may be lawful to and for His Majesty's Postmaster General, and his Deputy and Deputies by him thereunto sufficiently authorized, to and for the Use of His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, to demand, have, receive, and take, for the Post and Conveyance of all and every the Letters and Packets that shall be carried or conveyed by Packet Boats to or from the Port of *Whitehaven* aforesaid, or any other convenient Port in the Kingdom of *Great Britain*, from or to the Port of *Douglas* aforesaid, or any other convenient Port in the said *Isle of Man* (over and above all other Rates payable for such Letters or Packets,) according to the Rates and Sums hereafter mentioned (the same being rated either by the Letter, or by the Ounce) that is to say,

and the Port of *Douglas* in the *Isle of Man*, for the Conveyance of Letters.

Rates of Postage to be paid thereupon.

For every Single Letter, Two Pence. The Rates.

For every Double Letter, Four Pence.

For every Treble Letter, Six Pence.

And for every Ounce, Eight Pence.

And so in Proportion for every Packet of Deeds, Writs, and other Things.



Convenient  
Post Offices,  
and Post  
Roads, to be  
established  
within the  
said Island.

Inland Port of  
Letters there,  
to be charged  
after the Rate  
of Postage in  
*England*.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the said Fifth Day of *July*, One thousand seven hundred and sixty seven, it shall and may be lawful to and for His Majesty's Post-master General to establish Post Offices and Post Roads within the said *Isle of Man*, wherever it shall appear to him to be necessary and convenient for the Benefit of Trade and Correspondence so to do; and that it shall and may be lawful for such Post-master General, and his Deputy and Deputies by him thereunto sufficiently authorized, to and for the Use of His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, to demand, have, receive, and take, for the Inland Port or Conveyance of all Letters and Packets sent or conveyed 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 or conveyed by the Post, as now are respectively settled, established, and ascertained, to be paid for the Inland Port or Conveyance of Letters and Packets within that Part of *Great Britain* called *England*.



And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the said Fifth Day of July, One thousand seven hundred and sixty seven, all and every the Clauses, Provisions, Powers, Privileges, Penalties, &c. Clauses, Provisions, Powers, Privileges, Penalties, &c.

and every the Clauses, Provisions, Powers, Privileges, Advantages, Disabilities, Penalties, and Methods for the Recovery of the same, and all other Matters and Things contained in an Act made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her late Majesty Queen Anne, intituled, *An Act for establishing a General Post Office for all Her Majesty's Dominions, and for settling a Weekly Sum out of the Revenues thereof for the Service of the War, and other Her Majesty's Occasions*, (and not repealed or altered by any subsequent Law;) as also in an Act made in the Sixth Year of the Reign of His Majesty King George the First, intituled, *An Act for preventing Frauds and Abuses in the Publick Revenues of Excise, Customs, Stamp Duties, Post Office, and House Money*, so far as the said Act relates to the Post Office; as also in an Act made in the Twenty sixth Year of the Reign of His Majesty King George the Second, intituled, *An Act for the more effectual preventing the*

not repealed or altered by any subsequent Law;

and in Act 6 Geo. I.

and in Act 26 Geo. II.

fraudu-

*fraudulent Removal of Tobacco by Land or Water, and for the Ease of the fair Trader; and for ascertaining the Rates payable for the Postage of certain Letters; and for amending and explaining the Laws relating to the Sale of Spirituous Liquors by Retail; so far as the said Act relates to the Post Office; as also in an Act made in the Fourth Year of the Reign of His present most gracious Majesty, intituled, An Act for preventing Frauds and Abuses in relation to the sending and receiving Letters and Packets free from the Duty of Postage; as also in an Act made in the Fifth Year of His present Majesty, intituled, 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; and also in this present Act, or in any other Act relating to the Post Office, shall extend, and be deemed and construed to extend, to the said Isle of Man, and to all His Majesty's Subjects within the said Isle, as fully and effectually in every Respect, as if the said Isle, and His Majesty's Subjects therein,*

so far as the  
same relate to  
the Post Office;

also in Act  
4 Geo. III.

and Act  
5 Geo. III.

and this pre-  
sent, or other  
Act relating  
to the Post  
Office,

extended to  
the Isle of Man.

therein, had been exprefsly included in the faid feveral Acts, or in any of them.

**And be it enacted** by the Authority aforefaid, That all the Monies arifing by the Rates aforefaid, except the Monies which fhall be neceffary to defray fuch Expences as fhall be incurred in the Collection and Management of the fame, and all other Expences attending the faid Office, and the due Execution of the Acts relating thereto, fhall be appropriated and applied to fuch and the fame Ufes to which the prefent Rates of Postage are refpectively now by Law appropriated and made applicable.

Monies arifing by the Postage there, after all Charges deducted,

to be applied as the prefent Rates of Postage.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforefaid, That if any Action or Suit fhall be commenced againft any Perfon or Perfons for any thing done in purfuanee of this Act, the fame fhall be commenced within Six Months after the Fact committed, and not afterwards; and the Defendant or Defendants in fuch Action or Suit fhall and may plead the General Issue, and give this Act, and the Special Matter, in Evidence, and that the fame was done in purfuanee and by the Autho-

Limitation of Actions.

General Issue.

city of this Act; and if it shall appear so to be done, or that such Action or Suit shall be commenced after the Time before limited for bringing the same, that then the Jury shall find for the Defendant or Defendants; and upon a Verdict for the Defendant, or if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall be nonsuited, or discontinue his, her, or their Action or Suit after the Defendant or Defendants shall have appeared; or if, upon Demurrer, Judgement shall be given against the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, the Defendant or Defendants shall and

**Treble Costs.** may recover Treble Costs, and have the like Remedy for the same as any Defendant or Defendants hath or have in any other Cases by Law.

A N

A B S T R A C T

O F

Several Clauses now in FORCE,

Relating to the

P O S T - O F F I C E,

Taken from various Acts of Parliament.

**B**Y Stat. 13 and 14 *Car.* 2. *Cap.* 11. *Seſſ.* 22.  
it is enacted, That no Ship, Veſſel, or  
Boat, ordinarily employed for the Carriage  
of Packets or Letters, ſhall (unleſs allowed by  
the Perſons employed to manage His Maſteſty's  
Cuſtoms) import or export any Goods or  
Merchandize; into or out of the Parts beyond  
the Seas, upon the Penalty of One hundred  
Pounds to be paid by the Maſter of the Veſſel,  
with the Loſs of his Place; and all Goods and  
Merchandize



Merchandize that shall be found on Board any such Ship, Vessel, or Boat, shall be forfeited.

By Stat. 1 Geo. 1. Cap. 1. Sec. 3. intituled, "An Act for the better Support of His Majesty's Household, and of the Honour and Dignity of the Crown of *Great Britain*," it is enacted, That the Hereditary Rates and Duties of Excise upon Beer, Ale, and other Liquors, with the Subsidy of Tonnage and Poundage, and other Duties upon Wines, Goods, and Merchandizes granted to His Majesty for Life; and the Revenue of the General Letter Office, or Post Office, or Office of Postmaster General, and other small Branches of His Majesty's Revenue therein expressed, shall be for the Support of His Majesty's Household, and of the Honour and Dignity of His Crown; the said Hereditary Duties, and Duties of Excise, granted for His Majesty's Life as aforesaid, and said Revenues of the Post Office, shall respectively be liable to the respective Incumbrances and Charges thereafter in said Act specified concerning the same.

By Sect. 5. it is enacted, That nothing in this Act shall extend to hinder or obstruct the Payment of the Weekly Sum of Seven hundred Pounds into the Receipt of Exchequer, or the Application thereof to the Uses intended by the Acts of Ninth of Queen *Anne* concerning the same, or to make void the Provision for reserv-  
ing

ing a Third Part of the Surplus Money to be disposed by Parliament for the Use of the Public.

By **Stat.** 1 *Geo.* 1. *Cap.* 12. *Sec.* 1. Resolved, That there be granted to His Majesty for Life, an additional Revenue of One hundred and twenty thousand Pounds *per Ann.* which, together with the Net Produce of the Branches settled for Uses of His Majesty's Civil Government, by the late Act, may make up the clear Yearly Sum of Seven hundred thousand Pounds for the Service of His Majesty's Household and Family, and other His necessary Expences and Occasions.

By *Seçt.* 25. enacted, That if the Revenues settled for the Service of His Majesty's Household, and of the Honour and Dignity of His Crown, by the late Act of the First year of His Majesty's Reign, intituled, "An Act for the  
" better Support of His Majesty's Household, and  
" of the Honour and Dignity of the Crown of *Great Britain,*" together with the said additional Revenue of One hundred and twenty thousand Pounds *per Ann.* intended by this Act to be supplied as aforesaid, shall, from *Michaelmas* 1715, at any Time during His Majesty's Life, produce, in clear Money more than the Yearly Sum of Seven hundred thousand Pounds ; that then the Overplus of such Produce shall be Part of the General or Aggregate Fund, by this Act intended

intended to be established; and that all Grants and Dispositions whatsoever hereafter to be made by His Majesty of such Overplus, or any Part thereof, from time to time, without Authority of Parliament, shall be utterly void and of none Effect.

By *Sec. 26.* enacted, That if the Revenues settled for the Service of His Majesty's Household, &c. by the said Act, and the said additional Revenue of One hundred and twenty thousand Pounds *per Ann.* taken together, shall, at the End of any Year during His Majesty's Life, appear to have produced less than Seven hundred thousand Pounds; then, and as often as any such Deficiency shall happen, the same shall be provided for, answered, and made good, by and out of the next Aids to be granted by Parliament.

By *Stat. 3 Geo. 1. Cap. 7.* (amongst other Things) the Weekly Payment of Seven hundred Pounds out of the Post Office Revenue, into the Exchequer, limited by the Act of Ninth of Queen *Anne* to Thirty two Years, is made perpetual; and all the Clauses and Powers contained in the said Act are also made perpetual.

By *Stat. 7 Geo. I. Cap. 27. Sec. 19.* enacted, That it shall be lawful for His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, by Warrant under the Great Seal, Privy Seal, or Royal Sign Manual, to

to cause a Deduction to be made, not exceeding Six Pence in the Pound, out of all Monies which, from and after the first Day of *August* 1721, shall be paid, for or upon all Pensions and Annuities charged upon any of the hereditary or temporary Duties, and upon all Salaries, Fees, and Wages, payable for or in respect of Offices of Profit granted by, or derived from, the Crown, and upon all other Payments from the Crown whatsoever, or any Arrearages of them; the Pay of Commission and Non-commission Officers and private Men serving in the Navy or Army, only excepted.

By *Stat. 12 Geo. 1. Cap. 2. Sec. 1.* enacted, That it shall be lawful for His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, to continue the Deductions of Six Pence in the Pound, which, by the last Act, His Majesty was impowered to make upon all Pensions and Annuities charged on the Civil List Revenues, and upon all Salaries, Fees, and Wages, for the Purposes in the said Act mentioned.

By *Sec. 26.* of the same *Stat.* it is enacted, That the Monies arising from the said Deductions of Six Pence in the Pound shall be appropriated for discharging the Annuities of Three Pounds *per Cent.* in the said Act mentioned, till redeemed; and if the Deductions prove deficient, the same shall be made good out of the Hereditary Revenues.

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By **Stat.** 1 *Geo.* 2. *Cap.* 1 *Sec.* 4. it is enacted, That the Hereditary Excise, and other Duties of Excise on Beer, Ale, and other Liquors, granted to His Majesty for Life, and the further Subsidy of Tonnage and Poundage, and other Duties upon Wines, Goods, and Merchandizes, and the Yearly Sum of One hundred and twenty thousand Pounds thereby granted to His Majesty for Life, and the Revenue of the General Letter Office, or Post Office, or Office of Postmaster General, and the small Branches of His Majesty's Revenues therein mentioned, and all Revenues which were settled for the Support of the late King's Household, and the Honour and Dignity of the Crown, shall be for the Support of His Majesty's Household, &c. but chargeable with the Payments or Incumbrances directed to be set apart out of the said Revenues by any former Act.

By *Sec.* 5. of the same **Stat.** it is enacted, That if the Produce of the Revenues thereby granted (above all Incumbrances) shall at any Time be so deficient, that within One Year, reckoning from *Midsummer* 1727, the same shall not be sufficient to satisfy the Yearly Sum of Eight hundred thousand Pounds, such Deficiency shall be made good out of the next Aids to be granted in Parliament.

By **Stat.** 10 *Geo.* 2. *Cap.* 29. *Sec.* 1. it shall be lawful for His Majesty, by Letters Patent or Indenture,



denture, under the Great Seal, to grant unto her Royal Highness the Princess of *Wales*, or to such other Person as His Majesty shall think fit, and their Heirs, in Trust for the said Princess, an Annuity of Fifty thousand Pounds, to commence from the Decease of the Prince of *Wales*, and continue for the Life of the said Princess, to be paid at the Four usual Feasts, in case she shall survive the Prince; and the said Yearly Sum of Fifty thousand Pounds shall be issued out of the Revenues therein specified; *viz.* Forty thousand Pounds out of the Revenues of the Post Office; the Weekly Sum of Seven hundred Pounds mentioned in the Act of the Ninth of Queen *Anne*, *Cap.* 10. and any other Monies by that Act appointed to be reserved for the Use of the Public, always excepted.

By *Sec.* 2. of the same **Stat.** The Yearly Sum of Ten thousand Pounds (Remainder of the said Yearly Sum of Fifty thousand Pounds) shall be charged upon the Hereditary Duties of Excise granted by 12 *Car.* 2. *Cap.* 24. and the Duties of Excise granted to His Majesty for Life by an Act 1 *Geo.* 2. *Cap.* 1. during the Continuance thereof, shall likewise be chargeable as an additional Security for said Yearly Sum of Ten thousand Pounds.

By *Sec.* 4. it is enacted, That if the Revenue of the Post Office shall be insufficient to answer the quarterly Payment, the Comptroller of the Office

Office shall, without Fee, make a Certificate of the Sum deficient, and deliver the same to the Princess or her Order ; upon producing which, the Treasury shall satisfy such Deficiency out of any Overplus Monies of the Duties of Excise, or out of other Monies arising by any Hereditary Branches of Revenue, with Preference to all other Payments hereafter charged thereon : And if the Duties of Excise applicable to the said Yearly Payment of Ten thousand Pounds, shall not answer such quarterly Payment, the Comptroller of Excise shall, without Fee, deliver a Certificate of such Deficiency to the Princess or her Order, and the Treasury shall satisfy the same out of the Overplus Monies of the Post Office Revenues, or other Branches of the Hereditary Revenue.

By *Sec. 5.* it is enacted, That the said Yearly Sum of Fifty thousand Pounds, shall be Tax free, and shall be paid from the said Revenues without any Fee or Charges ; and the Acquittance of the Princess, her Trustees, or Receiver General, shall be a sufficient Discharge : Upon Non-payment, the Princess may prosecute the Commissioners, &c. and recover the same by Judgements and Executions.

By *Sec. 6.* it is enacted, That all the Powers and Clauses contained in His Majesty's said Letters Patent or Indenture shall be effectual in Law, notwithstanding any thing contained in  
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the Act of the First of Queen *Anne*, for the better Support of her Majesty's Household, &c. or in the Act of the Ninth of Queen *Anne* for establishing the Post Office.

By Stat. 12 Geo. 2. Cap. 15. Sec. 1. it shall be lawful for His Majesty, by Letters Patent, or Indenture under the Great Seal, to grant to His Royal Highness the Duke of *Cumberland*, and his Heirs, an Annuity of Fifteen thousand Pounds, to commence from His Majesty's Demise, and be payable on the Four Quarter Days, the First Payment to be made on the Quarter Day next after His Majesty's Demise, with such Powers for his Royal Highness, and his Heirs, to make Jointures on Wives and Provision for Children, as His Majesty shall think fit.

By Sec. 2. of the same Stat. it shall be lawful for His Majesty by Letters Patent or Indenture, under the Great Seal, to grant unto their Royal Highnesses the Princesses *Amelia*, *Caroline*, *Mary*, and *Louisa*, and the Survivors and Survivor of them, or to any other Person in Trust for them (subject to the Contingencies and Determination thereafter mentioned) one other Annuity of Twenty four thousand Pounds, to commence and be payable in manner aforesaid; the former Annuity of Fifteen thousand Pounds to be charged on the Post Office Revenues, except such Part thereof as is appropriated

to the Use of the Public ; and the latter, on the Duties of Excise granted by the Act of Twelfth of *Car.* 2.

By *Sec. 4.* it is enacted, That if the Revenue of the Post Office shall, at the End of any Quarter, be insufficient to answer the Payment, then the Comptroller of the Office, without Fee, to deliver a Certificate of the Deficiency, which the Treasury are to satisfy out of any Overplus of the Excise Duties, or out of some other Monies arising by any Hereditary Branches of the Revenue appointed for the Uses of the Civil Government : And if the Duties of Excise shall, at the End of any Quarter, be insufficient for that Purpose, the Comptroller of the Excise shall, without Fee, deliver a Certificate in Writing of the Deficiency ; on the producing of which, the Treasury are to cause the same to be satisfied out of any Overplus of the Post Office Revenues, or out of some other Monies arising by the aforesaid Hereditary Branches of the Revenue.

By *Sec. 5.* it is enacted, That the said Annuities of Fifteen thousand Pounds and Twenty four thousand Pounds, shall be paid by the Commissioners, Treasurers or Receivers of the Revenues, on which they are charged, without Fee ; and the Receipts of their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Princesses, or of any Persons by them authorized, shall be a sufficient Discharge  
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the same to be Tax free : And if the Officers of the Exchequer, and the said Commissioners, &c. shall not pay the Annuities, their Royal Highnesses may sue them by Action of Debt, and may recover Judgements, and sue out Executions thereupon for so much as shall have been in their Hands at the Time of Demand.

By *Sec. 6.* it is enacted, That His Majesty's Letters Patent for the Payment of the said Annuities, shall be effectual in the Law, notwithstanding any Restriction of the Acts of the First and Ninth of Queen *Anne*, or any Defect in the said Letters Patent; saving to all Persons (other than the King's Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, and such Person or Persons as may stand seized in Trust for His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors) all such Interest as they have in the said Revenues.

By *Sec. 7.* it is enacted, That the said Annuity of Fifteen thousand Pounds, shall not be aliened or incumbered by his Royal Highness, or the Heirs of his Body, for any longer Time than the Life of the Alienor, or so as to prevent the same from descending to the Heirs in Tail, other than according to the Power limited by such Letters Patent.

By *Sec. 8.* it is enacted, That upon the Death of any One of the Princesses, or upon her Marriage, and the Payment, of a Portion not less than Forty thousand Pounds, her Title to  
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the Annuity of Twenty four thousand Pounds shall cease, and go to the Three others; and upon the Death or Marriage of any other, and the Payment of a Portion as aforesaid, her Right to the Annuity shall cease, and Two Thirds of it shall accrue to the other Two Princesses; and upon the Death or Marriage of either of them, with a Portion as aforesaid, her Right to the Annuity shall cease; and the other shall be intitled to Twelve thousand Pounds *per Ann.* to cease on her Death or Marriage as aforesaid.

By Stat. 20 Geo. 2. for granting to His Majesty several Rates and Duties upon Coaches, &c. it is declared, That the said Act shall not extend to charge with the Duty of Forty Shillings *per Ann.* by the said Act imposed upon Chaises and Chairs with Two Wheels, any Post Chaise that now is, or hereafter shall be kept for Hire by His Majesty's Postmaster General, or by any Deputy Postmaster in Great Britain, authorized by him to keep such Post Chaises: Provided that all Post Chaises so to be kept by such Postmaster General, or Deputy Postmasters, for Hire, shall, within Thirty Days after the letting out of such Chaises for Hire be entred at the Office of Exise next to the Place where such Persons shall inhabit; and shall (besides His Majesty's Arms to be painted upon every such Post Chaise) have such Figure

or Mark of Distinction fixed thereupon, as shall be appointed by the Commissioners of Excise for that Purpose.

*N.B. At the Time this Act was made, Four Wheeled Post Chaises were not in Use; but since they were set up, no Persons travel in Two Wheeled Ones; so that the Benefit intended to the Postmasters by the above Act is intirely lost; the Commissioners of Excise insisting upon their paying the Four Pounds Duty for all their Four Wheeled Post Chaises.*

By Stat. 22 Geo. 2. Cap. 25. Sec. 1. reciting the Stat. of Ninth of Queen Anne, for establishing the Post Office, it is enacted, That the said Act shall not restrain the Letting out for Hire Chaises or Calashes, or the furnishing Horses for drawing the same, at any Stage upon any Post Road; but all Persons may let out for Hire, as well upon the Post Roads as elsewhere, Chaises duly licensed, with Horses to draw the same, and may furnish and exchange Horses for that Purpose.

By Sec. 2. of the same Stat. it is enacted, That all Persons who let out Chaises or Calashes with Horses for Hire, may also let out Horses and Furniture for horseing Servants and others, accompanying Persons who travel in such Chaises or Calashes, and may change such Horses

Horses and Furniture in manner before mentioned.

By *Sec. 3.* it is provided, That this Act shall not extend to stay or defeat any Judgement or Verdict obtained by virtue of the recited Act of Ninth of Queen *Anne*, on or before 25 *March*, 1749, or the Proceedings thereon.

By *Stat. 31 Geo. 2. Cap. 23. Sec. 1.* enacted, That from the 5 *April*, 1758, there shall be Yearly paid unto His Majesty the Sum of One Shilling, over and above all other Duties already payable, for every Twenty Shillings of the Yearly Value or Amount of all Salaries, Fees, and Perquisites of Offices, and Employments of Profit; and the like Sum of One Shilling, for every Twenty Shillings, of all Pensions and other Gratuities payable out of any Revenue belonging to His Majesty exceeding One hundred Pounds *per Ann.*

By *Sec. 2.* enacted, That for the better raising the said Duty, Deduction shall be made thereof out of the Salaries, Wages, or Fees of Office and Employments payable by the Crown, and also out of any Pension or Gratuity payable out of any Revenue belonging to His Majesty, exceeding the Value of One hundred Pounds *per Ann*; the Deductions so made by the Officers of the Exchequer in *England*, to remain there for the Purposes thereafter mentioned; and such Deductions as shall be made by any other Person

Persons by whom the Salaries and Pensions are Payable in *England*, shall be by them paid into the Exchequer at *Westminster*.

By *Sec. 3.* enacted, That the Duty payable, in respect of the Perquisites of Offices within *England, Wales, and Berwick upon Tweed*, is to be computed according to the annual Value at which the same stand rated in the last Assessment to the Land Tax : And they are to be deemed to have been therein rated at so much only, as the entire Sum exceeds the Amount of the Salary, Wages, or Fees payable in respect of such Office.

By *Sec. 4.* enacted, That the Commissioners of the Land Tax for the several Counties, Cities, Towns, Boroughs, &c. within *England, Wales, and Berwick upon Tweed*, are appointed Commissioners for putting so much of this Act in Execution as relates to the Duty charged upon the Perquisites of Offices.

By *Sec. 7.* this Act shall not charge her Royal Highness the Princess Dowager of *Wales*, or his Royal Highness the Prince of *Wales*, with the above mentioned Duty, in respect of any Sums of Money or Annuities granted by His Majesty to them, or the Officers or Servants attending their Persons ; but their Royal Highnesses, their Treasurers, and Receivers General, shall be free from all Taxes and Public Charges whatsoever. Nor shall it charge



charge his Royal Highness the Duke of *Cumberland*, or her Royal Highness the Princess Royal, or her Royal Highness the Princess *Amelia*, or the Officers or Servants attending their Persons, for any Annuities granted to them by His Majesty.

By *Sec. 23.* enacted, That where any Person shall have or exercise two or more Offices or Employments, the Salary and Perquisites whereof, together, exceed One hundred Pounds *per Ann.* such Person shall be rated and pay One Shilling in the Pound for the Profits thereof, notwithstanding the Salary and Perquisites of no One of them are of that Value.

By *Sec. 24.* Nothing in this Act is to extend to the Pay of Commission or Non-Commission Officers or private Men, serving in the Navy or Army.

By *Stat. 32 Geo. 2. Cap. 33. Sec. 1.* reciting the last Act, it is enacted, That all Sums which, on 5 *July* 1759, and afterwards, shall become due, and be deducted, by virtue of the said Act in respect of the Salaries, Fees, Wages, Pensions, and Gratuities, payable by the Crown, or out of any Revenue belonging to His Majesty in *England, Wales, or Berwick upon Tweed*, shall, by the Officers and Persons deducting the same, be paid into the Hands of a Receiver to be for that Purpose appointed by His Majesty: And  
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the several Commissioners and Persons making the Deductions are, at the Request of such Receivers, to deliver them a true Account of all the Salaries, Fees, Wages, annual Pensions, and Gratuities, by them respectively payable ; and of the Names of the Persons intitled to receive the same.

By *Sec. 2.* enacted, That all Sums which have been, or ought to have been, deducted under the said Act, in respect of Salaries, Fees, Wages, Pensions and Gratuities, shall be accounted for to such Receivers, and the Accounts audited and passed by them, and not by the Auditors of the Imprests, or the Auditors of the Exchequer.

By *Sec. 3.* enacted, That if any Dispute shall arise whether the Fees or Wages of any Office or Employment, or whether any Pension or Gratuity, be chargeable under the said Act of 31 *Geo. 2.* or under this Act, or touching the Sum which ought to be deducted thereout, such Disputes shall be heard by the Barons of the Exchequer in *England* or *Scotland* respectively, where the Office or Employment in Question is exercised, or the Pension or Gratuity is payable.

*Sec. 5.* sets forth, That the Manner prescribed by **Stat.** 31 *Geo. 2. Cap. 23. Sec. 3.* for rating the Profits of Offices and Employments, arising from Perquisites, hath not been found sufficient, and consequently the said Offices have not contributed in equal Proportion, with those whereof

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the Profits arise from Salaries, Fees and Wages payable by the Crown: Therefore enacted, That the Commissioners of the Land Tax shall fix, according to their best Judgement and Discretion, the Sum Total of the Perquisites arising from each Office within their Districts, distinct from the Salary, Fees, and Wages, thereunto belonging, independently of any former Valuation of the same to the Land Tax; and shall rate all Offices and Employments, whereof the Perquisites shall exceed One hundred Pounds a Year, at One Shilling for every Twenty Shillings arising thereby.

By *Sec. 6.* enacted, That the Receivers in all Public Offices, transmit to the Commissioners of the Land Tax, an Account of all Offices and Employments, where the Fees, Wages, and Salaries, do not exceed One hundred Pounds a Year; and if the Commissioners find the Perquisites with the Salary, certified by such Receivers, to exceed together One hundred Pounds a Year, they are then to rate such Office and Employment, and cause the Duty of One Shilling in the Pound to be levied thereon.

By *Sec. 7.* in all future Assessments to the Land Tax, the said Offices and Employments shall not be assessed at any higher Rates than they were assessed towards the Land Tax of 31 *Geo. 2.*

By *Sec. 8.* by the Word Perquisites is meant, such Profits of Offices and Employments as arise from

from Fees established by Custom or Authority, and payable either by the Crown or Subject, for Business done in the Course of executing such Offices and Employments.

No Military Officers to be charged with the said Duty.

Nor any Pension, Annuity, &c. charged upon any of His Majesty's Revenues, that have been by his Predecessors, or by Act of Parliament granted in Fee or Fee-tail, or till redeemed by Payment of any Sum mentioned in any Grant or Act of Parliament.

Nor any Offices or Employments in either of the Two Universities.

By **Stat.** 1 *Geo.* 3. *Sec.* 1. reciting, amongst other Things, the Act of 1 *Geo.* 1. whereby the Revenue arising by the Duties of Excise, General Letter Office, and the small Branches of His Majesty's Revenues; were declared to be for the Support of His Majesty's Household and of the Honour and Dignity of the Crown, it is enacted, That from His late Majesty's Decease, and during the Life of His present Majesty, the Rates and Duties therein mentioned shall be paid in the same Manner, and with such Allowances and Exemptions, as directed in the said Acts, or any Law in Force relating to the Excise; and all Laws shall be in Force for levying and recovering the said Duties.

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By *Sec. 3.* The Revenue of the General Post Office, &c. and all other Branches and Revenues which, on the Twentieth of *October* 1760, stood settled towards the Support of the late King's Household (except all Annuities charged on the said Revenues) shall for His present Majesty's Life be carried to, and made Part of, the Aggregate Fund established by Act of 1 *Geo. 1.* and be applied to the Uses to which the same is or shall be applicable. Nevertheless, the Hereditary Duties, Duties of Excise, and said Revenues of the General Post Office, shall be liable to the several Annual, Weekly, or other Payments charged thereon, by any former Act, in Manner and for the same Uses, as the same were subject to at the Time of His late Majesty's Demise.

By *Sec. 6.* His Majesty is impowered to grant a Sum not exceeding Five thousand Pounds *per Ann.* to the Lord Chancellor or Lord Keeper, to be paid by the Receivers of the Revenues of the General Post Office, out of the said Revenues, according to the Tenor of such Grant; which Payment is to be considered as Part of, and to be deducted from, the annual Sum by this Act granted to His Majesty for the Support of his Civil Government.



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9. A N N Æ..

**A**N *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.*

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6 GEORGII

## 6 G E O R G I I I.

*An Act for preventing Frauds and Abuses in the Publick Revenues of Excise, Customs, Stamp Duties Post Office, and House Money. [So much thereof as relates to the Post Office.]* Page 77.

## 4 G E O R G I I I I.

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## 26 G E O R G I I I I.

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*explaining the Laws relating to the Sale of Spirituous Liquors by Retail. [So much thereof as relates to the Post Office.]* Page 87.

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## 5 G E O R G I I III.

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