ANNO TRICESIMO QUINTO

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. LIII.

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

[5th *May* 1795.]

Preamble.

WHEREAS it is expedient further to regulate the ſending and receiving Letters and Packets free from the Duty of Poſtage; be it therefore 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 paſſing of this Act, no Letter or Packet whatſoever, ſent by the Poſt from any Place within the Kingdom of *Great Britain*, directed by or to any Member of either of the Two Houſes of Parliament of *Great Britain*, ſhall be exempted from the Payment of the Duty of Poſtage, according to the Rates by Law eſtabliſhed, if ſuch Letter or Packet ſhall exceed One Ounce in Weight.

No Letter to or from any Member of either Houſe of Parliament exceeding One Ounce exempt from Poſtage;

II. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That no Letter or Packet, directed by any Member of either of the ſaid Two Houſes

nor any Letter, unleſs the Member di-

Recting it be within 20 Miles of the Poſt Town, on the Day, or Day before, it is put into the Office.

Houſes of Parliament, ſhall, from and after the paſſing of this Act, be exempted from the Payment of the Duty of Poſtage, unleſs the Member whoſe Name ſhall be indorſed thereon, purſuant to the Laws now in force, ſhall actually be in the Poſt Town into the Poſt Office of which every ſuch Letter or Packet ſhall be put, or within the Limits of the Delivery of Letters for ſuch Poſt Town, or within Twenty Miles of ſuch Poſt Town, on the Day, or on the Day before the Day, on which ſuch Letter or Packet ſhall be put into the Poſt Office.

No Member to ſend more than 10, or receive more than 15 Letters free, daily.

III. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That no Member of either of the ſaid Two Houſes of Parliament ſhall be entitled or allowed to ſend by the Poſt, free from the Duty of Poſtage, ſuperſcribed or directed by him, more than Ten Letters in any One Day; nor ſhall be entitled or allowed to receive by the Poſt, free from the Duty of Poſtage, more than Fifteen Letters directed to him in any One Day.

How Poſtage ſhall be charged for Letters exceeding the limited Number.

IV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That whenever the Number of Letters or Packets, not weighing more than One Ounce each, ſent or received by any Member of either of the Two Houſes of Parliament in any One Day, ſhall exceed the Number exempted by this Act from the Duty of Poſtage, and the Rates of Poſtage on the ſaid Letters or Packets reſpectively, or any of them, ſhall differ; then ſuch of the ſaid Letters or Packets as would be chargeable with a higher Rate of Poſtage than the Remainder, ſhall be included in the Number ſo exempted, in preference to any which would be chargeable with a lower Rate of Poſtage; and the Remainder of ſuch Letters or Packets ſhall be chargeable with the ſeveral Rates of Poſtage reſpectively to which ſuch Letters or Packets would now by Law be chargeable if ſent or received by any Perſons not entitled to ſend or receive Letters or Packets free from the Duty of Poſtage.

Perſons authorized officially to ſend and receive Letters free, to continue to do ſo.

V. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the ſeveral Perſons who, by virtue of any Act or Acts of Parliament, are authorized, in Right of their reſpective Offices and Employments, to ſend and receive Letters free from Poſtage, and their Succeſſors in ſuch Offices and Employments, ſhall and may, during their Continuance in ſuch Offices and Employments reſpectively, ſend and receive Letters and Packets, free from the Duty of Poſtage, in the ſame Manner, and under ſuch Reſtrictions, as they now ſend and receive the ſame.

Votes, Proceedings in Parliament, and Newſpapers, may be ſent in open Covers, &c.

VI. Provided always, and it is hereby further enacted, That nothing herein contained ſhall extend to charge with the Duty of Poſtage, any printed Votes or Proceedings in Parliament, or printed Newſpapers, being ſent without Covers, or in Covers open at the Sides, which ſhall be ſigned on the Outſide thereof by the Hand of any Member of Parliament, in ſuch Manner as hath been heretofore practiſed, or which ſhall be directed to any Member of Parliament, at any Place whereof he ſhall have given Notice in Writing to the Poſtmaſter General, or to his Deputy; but that all ſuch Votes, Proceedings, and Newſpapers, ſo ſent, and ſigned or directed as aforeſaid, ſhall be received free of the Duty of Poſtage; any Thing in this, or any former Act, to the contrary notwithſtanding.

VII. And

Single Letters from Non-commiſſioned Officers, Seamen, and Privates, liable to 1 *d.* Poſtage only, under certain Reſtrictions;

VII. And whereas it is expedient that the Non-commiſſioned Officers, Seamen, and Privates, employed in His Majeſty's Navy, Army, Militia, Fencible Regiments, Artillery, and Marines, ſhould, whilſt on Service, be permitted to ſend and receive ſingle Letters by the Poſt, on their own private Concerns, at a low Rate of Poſtage; be it therefore further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That, from and after the paſſing of this Act, no ſingle Letter ſent by the Poſt from any Non-commiſſioned Officer, Seaman, or Private, employed in His Majeſty's Navy, Army, Militia, Fencible Regiments, Artillery, or Marines, ſhall, whilſt ſuch Non-commiſſioned Officer, Seaman, or Private reſpectively, ſhall be employed on His Majeſty's Service, and not otherwiſe, be charged or chargeable, by virtue of any Act of Parliament now in force, with an higher Rate of Poſtage than the Sum of One Penny for the Conveyance of each ſuch Letter; ſuch Rate of Poſtage of One Penny for each ſuch Letter to be paid at the Time of putting the ſame into the Poſt Office of the Town or Place from whence ſuch Letter is intended to be ſent by the Poſt: Provided nevertheleſs, that no Letter or Letters ſent by the Poſt, from any Non-commiſſioned Officer, Seaman, or Private, employed in His Majeſty's Navy, Army, Militia, Fencible Regiments, Artillery, or Marines, ſhall be exempted from the Payment of the Rate of Poſtage chargeable upon Letters according to the Laws now in force, unleſs there ſhall be written upon every ſuch Letter, in the Hand Writing of, and ſigned by the Commanding Officer for the Time being of the Ship or Veſſel, or of the Corps, Regiment, or Detachment, to which ſuch Non-commiſſioned Officer, Seaman, or Private, employed in His Majeſty's Service, ſhall reſpectively belong, the Name of ſuch Commanding Officer, and of the Ship, Veſſel, Corps, Regiment, or Detachment, commanded by him.

as alſo Letters to them.

VIII. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That, from and after the paſſing of this Act, no ſingle Letter ſent by the Poſt, directed to any Non-commiſſioned Officer, Seaman, or Private, employed in His Majeſty's Navy, Army, Militia, Fencible Regiments, Artillery, or Marines, upon his own private Concerns only, whilſt ſuch reſpective Non-commiſſioned Officer, Seaman, or Private, ſhall be employed on His Majeſty's Service, and not otherwiſe, ſhall be charged or chargeable by virtue of any Act of Parliament now in force, with an higher Rate of Poſtage than the Sum of One Penny for each ſuch Letter; which Sum of One Penny ſhall be paid at the Time of the Delivery thereof: Provided nevertheleſs, that no ſuch Letter ſhall be exempted from the Rate of Poſtage chargeable upon Letters according to the Laws now in force, unleſs every ſuch Letter ſhall be directed to ſuch Non-commiſſioned Officer, Seaman, or Private, employed in His Majeſty's Service, ſpecifying the Ship, Veſſel, Regiment, Troop, Corps, Company, or Detachment, to which he may belong; and provided alſo, that it ſhall not be lawful for the Deputy Poſtmaſter of the Town or Place to which ſuch Letter ſhall be ſent to be delivered, to deliver ſuch Letter to any Perſon except to the Non-commiſſioned Officer, Seaman, or Private, to whom ſuch Letter ſhall be directed, or to any Perſon appointed to receive the ſame by the Commanding Officer of the Ship, Veſſel, Regiment, Troop, Corps, Company, or Detachment, to which the Non-commiſſioned Officer, Seaman, or Private, to whom ſuch Letter ſhall be directed, ſhall belong.

26 Geo. II, Cap. 33.

IX. And whereas, by an Act, paſſed in the Twenty-ſixth Year of the Reign of His late Majeſty King *George* the Second, intituled, *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 Poſtage of certain Letters; and for amending and explaining the Laws relating to the Sale of Spirituous Liquors by Retail*; it was declared and enacted, that, for every ſingle Letter or Cover, containing One or more Paper or Papers, with Patterns, or containing One or more Pattern or Patterns of Cloth, Silk, or Stuff, or One or more Sample or Samples of any other Sort of Goods, or One or more Piece or Pieces of any other Sort of Thing incloſed therein, or affixed thereto, though not Paper, if the ſame together did not weigh an Ounce, the Rates payable for a Double Letter ſhould be paid, and no more: And whereas it may be expedient to permit Patterns of Cloth, Silk, Stuff, and other Goods, and ſmall Samples of other Sorts of Things, to be tranſmitted by the Poſt at a more eaſy Rate of Poſtage; Be it therefore enacted, That, from and after the paſſing of this Act, every Packet or Cover containing therein, or having affixed thereto, One or more Paper or Papers with Patterns, or One or more Pattern or Patterns of Cloth, Silk, Stuff, or other Goods, or One or more Sample or Samples of any other Sort of Thing, not exceeding together One Ounce in Weight, ſhall be chargeable and charged with no higher Rate of Poſtage than as a ſingle Letter, ſo as every ſuch Packet or Cover ſhall be ſent open at the Sides, and without any Letter or Writing in, upon, or with ſuch Packet or Cover, other than the Name or Names of the Perſon or Perſons ſending the ſame, and the Place or Places of his or their Abode, and the Prices of the Articles contained therein, or affixed thereto.

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

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FINIS.