

ANNO QUADRAGESIMO OCTAVO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

CAP. CXVI.

An Act for granting to His Majeſty Rates of Poſtage on the Conveyance of Letters and Packets to and from the Iſland of *Madeira*, and to and from the *Portugueſe* Territories on the Continent of *South America*. [30th *June* 1808.]

WHEREAS it may be expedient for the Benefit of Commerce and Correſpondence to eſtabliſh One or more Packet Boats between the Port of *Falmouth*, in the County of *Cornwall*, or ſuch other Port in this Kingdom, as His Majeſty's Poſt-maſter General ſhall appoint, and the Iſland of *Madeira* and *Brazil*, or other of the Territories and Poſſeſſions of the Crown of *Portugal* on the Continent of South *America*, in lieu of the Packet Boats lately employed between *Great Britain* and the Kingdom of *Portugal*: 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 Eſtabliſhment of Packet Boats between this Kingdom and the Iſland of *Madeira*, and between any of the *Portugueſe* Territories on the Continent of South *America*, it ſhall and may be lawful for His Majeſty's Poſt-maſter General and his Deputy and Deputies by him thereunto authorized, 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 and Packets that ſhall be carried or conveyed by Packet Boats from or to the Port of *Falmouth* aforeſaid, or from or to any other convenient Port in the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, to or from the Iſland of *Madeira*, and to or from *Brazil*, or any of the Territories and Poſſeſſions of the Crown of *Portugal*, on the Continent of South *America*, over and above

A Poſtage according to the following Rates may be taken for Letters and Packets conveyed by Packet Boats from or to any Port in the Kingdom to or from Madeira, Brazil, &c.

above all other Rates payable for Conveyance of such Letters and Packets within the said United Kingdom, a Packet Postage according to the Rates and Sums in Sterling Money herein-after mentioned; that is to say,

Rates.

For the Port and Conveyance of every Single Letter to or from the Island of *Madeira*, the Sum of One Shilling and Sixpence:

For every Double Letter Three Shillings:

For every Treble Letter Four Shillings and Sixpence:

And for every Ounce Six Shillings; and so in Proportion for every Packet of greater Weight than an Ounce:

And for the Port and Conveyance of every Single Letter to or from *Brazil*, or any other the Territories and Possessions of the Crown of *Portugal* on the Continent of South *America*, the Sum of Two Shillings and Five-pence:

For every Double Letter Four Shillings and Ten-pence:

For every Treble Letter Seven Shillings and Three-pence:

And for every Ounce Nine Shillings and Eight-pence; and so in Proportion for every Packet of greater Weight than an Ounce.

Powers of all other Acts relating to the Post Office shall extend to this Act.

II. And be it further enacted, That from and after the Establishment of Packet Boats for the Purposes aforesaid, all and every the Clauses, Provisions, Powers, Privileges, Advantages, Disabilities, Penalties, and Methods for Recovery of the same, and all other Matters and Things contained in any Act or Acts of Parliament relating to the Post Office, shall extend and be deemed and construed to extend to Letters and Packets to be conveyed between the said United Kingdom and the Island of *Madeira*, and other the said Territories and Possessions of the Crown of *Portugal*.

Money arising by the Rates to be carried to the Consolidated Fund.

III. And be it further enacted, That the Monies to arise by the Rates and Duties aforesaid, except the Monies which shall be necessary to defray such Expences as shall be incurred in the Management and Collection of the same, shall be paid into the Receipt of the Exchequer at *Westminster*, and be carried to and made Part of the Consolidated Fund of *Great Britain*.

Persons sued may plead the General Issue.

VI. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall at any Time or Times be sued, molested, or prosecuted for any Thing by him, her, or them done or executed in pursuance of this Act, or of any Clause, Matter, or Thing herein contained, such Person and Persons shall and may plead the General Issue, and give the special Matter in Evidence for his, her, or their Defence; and if upon the Trial a Verdict shall pass for the Defendant or Defendants, or the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall become nonsuited, then such Defendant or Defendants shall have Treble Costs awarded to him, her, or them against such Plaintiff or Plaintiffs.

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