ANNO SEPTIMO & OCTAVO

GEORGII IV. REGIS.

****

C A P. XXI.

An Act to amend the Laws relating to the Duties of Postage in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*.

[28th *May* 1827.]

WHEREAS by the Laws now in force imposing certain Rates of Postage in *Great Britain* and *Ireland* respectively, Letters conveyed by the Post from Places in *Great Britain* to Places in *Ireland*, or from Places in *Ireland* to Places in *Great Britain*, are, by reason of the separate Rates payable in each of those Parts of the United Kingdom, charged to a higher Amount upon the whole than Letters conveyed the same Distances in *Great Britain* would be charged: And whereas it is expedient that such Difference of Charge, affecting exclusively the Correspondence between *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, should no longer exist: 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 Fifth Day of *July* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven, in lieu

From July 5, 1827, the Duties of

Postage on Letters between Great Britain and Ireland shall be levied according to Schedule (A.)

of all Duties of Postage granted and made payable under any Act or Acts in force in *Great Britain* and *Ireland* respectively, upon Letters so conveyed from either of these Parts of the United Kingdom to the other, there shall be levied and paid the like Rates of Postage, according to the Distances which such Letters are conveyed, as would be payable on the Conveyance of Letters from Place to Place in *Great Britain*, in addition to the separate Rates of Packet Postage now payable, and also to the several Rates of Duty payable under the Acts for building the *Menai* and *Conway* Bridges respectively; the whole being according to the Schedule (A.) to this Act annexed.

All former Packet Postage between Great Britain and Ireland repealed.

II. And be it further enacted, That from and after the Fifth Day of *July* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven, no other Packet Postage shall in any Case be demanded or paid or payable for Letters or Packets between *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, other than such as is specified and set forth in the Schedule (A.) to this Act annexed; and that from and after the said Fifth Day of *July* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven, all Rates or Duties of Packet Postage between *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, under any Act or Acts passed at any Time before the passing of this Act, shall cease and determine, and shall be and are hereby repealed, and shall no longer be paid or payable; any thing in any Act or Acts to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding.

III. And whereas certain Rates of Postage upon Letters and Packets conveyed by the Post to and from Places within *Ireland* were granted by an Act of the Fifty-fourth Year of His late
54 G. 3. c. 119. Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act to repeal certain Duties upon Letters and Packets sent by the Post within* Ireland, *and to grant other Duties in lieu thereof;* and such Rates of Postage were made payable in *Irish* Currency; And whereas by an Act passed in the Sixth Year of His present Majesty's Reign,
6 G. 4. c. 79. intituled *An Act to provide for the Assimilation of the Currency and Monies of Account throughout the United Kingdom of* Great Britain *and* Ireland, certain Provisions are made for the Payment of Sums under the Amount of Twelve-pence of the Currency of *Ireland*, by an equivalent Number of *British* Pence, Halfpence, and Farthings, some of which are not generally in Circulation in *Ireland*; and in order to avoid the Inconvenience of collecting the Rates of Postage in *Ireland* according to the Directions of the said last-recited Act, it is expedient that such Rates of Postage should be in future charged and collected in the Currency of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*; be it therefore enacted,

Duties of Postage in Ireland to be paid in British Currency, according to Schedule (B.)

That the several Rates of Postage upon Letters and Packets sent and conveyed to and from Places within *Ireland*, which by the said herein-before recited Act of the Fifty-fourth Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty are made payable, according to the several Amounts thereof, in *Irish* Currency, shall, from and after the said Fifth Day of *July*, be charged, levied, collected, and paid and payable, according to the several Amounts thereof, in the

Currency

Currency and lawful Money of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, according to the Schedule (B.) to this Act annexed.

Parliamentary Proceedings sent by Packet to the Colonies shall be charged 1½*d.* per Ounce.

IV. And be it further enacted, That from and after the Fifth Day of *July* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven, it shall be lawful for His Majesty's Postmaster General, and his Deputy and Deputies, to and for the Use of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, to demand and receive for the Conveyance of printed Votes and Proceedings in Parliament, by Packet Boats, from *Great Britain* and *Ireland* to any of His Majesty's Colonies and Possessions beyond the Seas, after the Rate of One Penny Halfpenny, and no more, for every Ounce Weight thereof, and so in proportion, in lieu of any Sum payable under any Act or Acts in force immediately before the passing of this Act, any thing in any Act or Acts to the contrary notwithstanding; the same to be paid when the said printed Votes and Proceedings shall be put into the Post Office; provided every such printed Vote and Proceeding shall be without a Cover, or in a Cover open at the Sides; and that there be no Writing thereon other than the Superscription; and that there be no other Paper or Thing inclosed or concealed therein.

Colonial Legislative Proceedings may be sent to Great Britain and Ireland, by Packet Boats, at the Rate of 1½*d.* per Ounce.

V. And be it further enacted, That from and after the Fifth Day of *July* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven, it shall and may be lawful for His Majesty's Postmaster General, and his Deputy and Deputies, in His Majesty's Colonies and Possessions beyond the Seas, to receive any Votes, Proceedings, or other Public Papers, printed by Order or under the Authority of the Legislative Assemblies of any such Colonies or Possessions, for Conveyance by Packet Boats to *Great Britain* and *Ireland*; and for His Majesty's Postmaster General, and his Deputy or Deputies, in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, to and for the Use of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, to demand and receive for the Conveyance of every such Vote, Proceeding, or other printed Paper, after the Rate of One Penny Halfpenny for every Ounce Weight thereof, and so in proportion; to be paid on Delivery thereof to the Person or Persons to whom the same shall be addressed in *Great Britain* or *Ireland*; provided every such Paper shall be without a Cover, or in a Cover open at the Sides; and that there be no Writing thereon other than the Superscription; and that there be no other Paper or Thing inclosed or concealed therein.

Newspapers brought into Great Britain and Ireland by Merchant Ships, from Abroad, shall be charged 3*d.* each.

VI. And whereas Newspapers printed within His Majesty's Colonies and Possessions beyond the Seas, brought into *Great Britain* and *Ireland* by Ships other than Packets, and sent to the Post Office of the Port or Place at which the Letters brought by such Ships are landed, are now liable to the same Rates and Duties of Postage as Letters; and it is expedient that the Law in this respect should be amended: Be it therefore enacted, That from and after the Fifth Day of *July* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-

twenty-seven, it shall be lawful for His Majesty's Postmaster General in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, and for his Deputy and Deputies, for the Use of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, to demand and receive, for the Conveyance of every such Paper by any Ship other than a Packet, and delivered by the Commander of any such Ship at any Post Office with the Ship's Letters, the Sum of Three-pence, on the Delivery thereof to the Person or Persons to whom the same shall be addressed; provided every such Paper be sent without a Cover, or in a Cover open at the Sides; and that there be no Writing thereon other than the Superscription; and that there be no other Paper or Thing inclosed or concealed therein.

Pamphlets, &c. may be conveyed to the Colonies by the Packets.

VII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for His Majesty's Postmaster General, and his Deputy or Deputies, to receive at the Port of *Falmouth* any Pamphlet, Magazine, Review, or other periodical Publication, for Conveyance by Packet Boat to any of His Majesty's Colonies or Plantations; and to demand, have, receive, and take for the Conveyance of every such Pamphlet, Magazine, Review, or Publication, not exceeding Six Ounces in Weight, the Sum of One Shilling, and the further Sum of Three-pence per Ounce for any Weight beyond the Weight of Six Ounces; every Fraction of an Ounce to be charged as One Ounce: Provided always, that every such Pamphlet, Magazine, Review, and Publication be sent without a Cover, or in a Cover open at the Sides; and that there be no Writing thereon other than the Superscription; and that there be no other Paper or Thing inclosed or concealed therein.

Letters to and from Howth and Dunmore, carried in the General Mail to or from Dublin or Waterford, shall not be charged with any increased Postage.

VIII. And whereas Letters from or to any Place in *Great Britain*, sent to or directed from *Howth* near *Dublin*, or *Dunmore* near *Waterford*, are contained in the Mails landed at or dispatched from *Dublin* and *Waterford* respectively, and are carried in such Mail to and from *Dublin* and *Waterford*, from and to *Howth* and *Dunmore*, and are by such means subject to increased Postage, although no Benefit is derived from such Conveyance; be it therefore enacted, That from and after the Fifth Day of *July* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven, Letters and Packets from or to any Place in *Great Britain*, directed to or sent from *Howth* or *Dunmore*, or within the Delivery and Vicinity thereof respectively, shall not be chargeable with or subject or liable to any Increase of Postage in respect of being so carried to or from *Dublin* or *Waterford*, nor to any other or greater Amount of Postage than according to the actual Distance between *Howth* and *Dunmore* respectively and the Town or Place in *Great Britain* from or to which they shall be sent, according to the Rates specified in Table (A.) annexed to this Act.

Postage on Letters to or from Ireland paid in Great

IX. And be it further enacted, That from and after the Fifth Day of *July* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven, it shall and may be lawful for the Postmaster General of *Great Britain*,

Britain, and he is hereby authorized and empowered, to apply to the Revenue of the Post Office of *Great Britain* the Amount of all Rates of Postage received in *Great Britain* upon Letters sent from or to *Ireland*; and that in like Manner it shall be lawful for the Postmaster General of *Ireland*, and he is hereby authorized and empowered, to apply to the Revenue of the Post Office of *Ireland* the Amount of all Rates of Postage received in *Ireland* upon Letters and Packets sent from or to *Great Britain*; and that all Sums so received shall be paid and applied as the Revenue of Postage arising in *Great Britain* or *Ireland* respectively; any thing in any Act or Acts, or any Law, Usage, or Custom, to the contrary notwithstanding.

Britain, shall be applied to the Revenues of the Post Office there, and vice versâ in Ireland.

X. And be it further enacted, That from and after the Fifth Day of *July* One thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven, so much of an Act made in the Parliament of *Great Britain* in the Twenty-fourth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act for establishing certain Regulations concerning the Portage and Conveyance of Letters and Packets by the Post between* Great Britain *and* Ireland, whereby it is enacted, that there shall be allowed in account from the General Letter Office or Post Office in *Great Britain* to the Revenue of the Post Office in *Ireland*, a Sum not exceeding Four thousand Pounds *per Annum*; and also an Act made in the Fifty-fifth Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty, intituled *An Act to increase the Allowance to the Post Office in* Ireland *in respect of Packet Boats to* Great Britain, shall be and the same are hereby repealed.

So much of 24 G. 3. Sess. 1. c. 6. and 55 G. 3. c. 145. as respects Allowances to the Post Office in Ireland, repealed.

XI. And be it further enacted, That the Monies to arise by the several Rates and Duties made payable by this Act, except the Monies which shall be necessary to defray such Expence as shall be incurred in the Management and Collection of the same, shall be paid into the Receipt of the Exchequer at *Westminster* and *Dublin*, and shall be carried to and made Part of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*.

Monies arising by the Postage Rates under this Act to be carried to the Consolidated Fund.

XII. And be it further enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act, every printed Newspaper or other printed Paper liable to the Stamp Duty, and for the Conveyance of which any Duty of Postage is chargeable under any Act or Acts in force in *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, shall and may in all Cases be put into the Post Office or Receiving Office of or for the Town or Place in *Great Britain* or *Ireland* in or at which such Newspaper shall be published, on any Day within Seven Days next after the Day on which the same shall be published, the Day of Publication to be ascertained by the Date of such Paper, any thing in any Act to the contrary notwithstanding; and in case any such Paper shall be put into any Post Office at any Time after the Expiration of such Seven Days, such Paper shall be charged with a Rate of Postage equal to that of a Single Letter sent by the Post from the Place where such

Newspapers shall be sent by Post within Seven Days after Day of Publication.

Paper was published to the Place to which such Paper shall be addressed.

Letters with Merchants Accounts, &c., and Letters to more than One Person, on the same Paper, shall be charged only as single Letters.

XIII. And whereas, by the Laws in force, Merchants Accounts, Bills of Exchange, Invoices, Bills of Lading, and Proceedings at Law, written on one and the same Piece of Paper with a Letter, and also several Letters to several and distinct Persons, written upon one and the same Piece of Paper, are liable to be rated, taxed, and paid for as so many several and distinct Letters; and it is expedient that the Laws in this respect should be altered: Be it therefore enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act, all Merchants Accounts, Bills of Exchange, Stamped Receipts, Invoices, Bills of Lading, and Proceedings at Law, written on one and the same Piece of Paper with a Letter, shall be allowed and taken without Rate in the Price of the Letter; and that any Piece or Sheet of Paper upon which Letters to several and distinct Persons shall be written shall not be charged or chargeable with any higher Rate of Postage in *Great Britain* or *Ireland* than if One Letter only were written upon such Sheet or Piece of Paper; any thing in any Act or Acts to the contrary notwithstanding.

For preventing the Detention of Letters on board Ships arriving in Great Britain from Foreign Parts.

XIV. And for the more effectually preventing the Detention of Letters on board Ships and Vessels coming to *Great Britain* and *Ireland* from Parts beyond the Seas, and the Injury and Inconvenience resulting to Merchants and others therefrom; be it enacted, That it shall be lawful to and for any Person or Persons, thereunto duly authorized and appointed by the Postmaster General of *Great Britain* or by the Postmaster General of *Ireland*, to demand and receive from the Master, Commander, or other Person having the Charge of any Ship or Vessel arriving at or off any Port in *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, all such Letters and Packets on board the same as are not exempted by Law; and the Master or Commander, or other Person having the Charge of any such Ship or Vessel, is hereby required forthwith to deliver such Letters and Packets to the Person or Persons authorized to demand and receive the same; and it shall be lawful for the Master, Commander, or other Person having the Charge of such Ship or Vessel, to retain on board any Letters or Packets exceeding the Weight of Three Ounces, until his Arrival at the regular Port or Place of Discharge of such Vessel, any thing in any Act or Acts to the contrary notwithstanding; and in case any Letter or Packet not exceeding the Weight of Three Ounces, not being exempted by Law, shall be found on board any such Ship or Vessel, or in the Possession of the Master or Commander, or of any of the Passengers or Crew, at any Time after the Time when Letters shall have been demanded or delivered as aforesaid, every and any Penalty payable by Law in respect of Letters found in the Possession of the Master of any Ship or Vessel after delivering his Letters at the Post Office of any Port at which he may touch prior to his arriving at the Port where the Ship or Vessel is to report, or in the Possession of any of the Crew, or in the Possession or Baggage of any Passenger

on board, shall attach and be payable in respect of every Letter or Packet, not exceeding the Weight of Three Ounces, which shall be so found after such Demand and Delivery as is required by this Act; and every such Penalty shall be paid and payable by the Person or Persons in whose Possession or Baggage any such Letter or Packet shall be discovered, and may be sued for, recovered, and applied in such Manner as is directed with respect to such Penalties by any Act or Acts in force in *Great Britain* or *Ireland* relating to the Duties of Postage.

Letters to Officers of the Army, &c. not to be charged more on account of such Officers being removed.

XV. And be it further enacted, That whenever it shall happen that any Letter shall be addressed to any Commissioned Officer of the Army, Navy, or Ordnance, or any of the Departments belonging thereto respectively, at any Place where such Officer shall have been employed on actual Service, and that before the Delivery of such Letter such Officer shall have removed from such Place in the Execution of his Duty in the Public Service, such Letter shall not be charged with any Postage for the Conveyance of the same to any Place at which such Letter may be ultimately delivered, above or beyond the Rate of Postage payable for the same on Delivery at the Place to which such Letter was originally directed.

Powers of Acts relating to the Post Office extended to this Act.

XVI. And be it further enacted, That all the Powers, Provisions, Privileges, Advantages, Disabilities, Penalties, Forfeitures, and Distribution thereof, and all Clauses and other Matters and Things contained in any Act or Acts in force at the Time of the passing of this Act, relating to the Post Office, or any Rates or Duties payable on the Port or Conveyance of Letters or Packets in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, and not repealed or altered by this Act, shall, so far as the same are applicable, continue in force, and be applied and extended, and shall be construed to apply and extend to this present Act, and to the Rates and Duties hereby made payable, 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 Act.

Such Parts of 55 G. 3. c. 103. as except Great Britain, repealed.

XVII. Provided always, and be it enacted, That so much and such Parts of an Act made in the Fifty-fifth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty, intituled *An Act to regulate the Postage of Ship Letters to and from* Ireland, as except or refer to *Great Britain*, shall be and the same are hereby repealed.

Penalties of 10*l.* under 53 G. 3. c. 58. relating to Irish Postage, declared in force.

XVIII. And whereas by an Act made in the Fifty-third Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Third, among other Things, for making further Regulations for securing the Duties on Letters and Packets sent by the Post in *Ireland*, certain Penalties or Forfeitures of Ten Pounds are imposed for certain Offences against the said Act: And whereas Doubts have arisen whether the said Penalties continue in force, and are recoverable according to the Directions of the said Act: Be it therefore declared

declared and enacted, That the said Act, and the said Penalties thereby inflicted, are and shall remain and continue in force; and that such Penalties of Ten Pounds shall and may be recovered, on Conviction of the Offender, in manner by the said recited Act directed; any thing in any Act or Acts to the contrary notwithstanding.

Act may be altered.

XIX. And be it further enacted, That this Act may be amended, altered, or repealed by any Act or Acts to be passed in this present Session of Parliament.

SCHE-

SCHEDULE (A.)

RATES of POSTAGE to be taken in the Currency of the United Kingdom for the Port and Conveyance of Letters and Packets by the Post from any Place in *Great Britain* to any Place in *Ireland*, or from any Place in *Ireland* to any Place in *Great Britain*.

DISTANCE.	Single Letter.	Double Letter.	Treble Letter, or other, under an Ounce Weight.	For every Ounce Weight, and for every Packet not exceeding an Ounce in Weight.
	s. *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*
If the Distance of such Places shall not exceed 15 Miles, British Measure - -	0 4	0 8	1 0	1 4
If such Distance shall exceed 15, and shall not exceed 20 such Miles - - -	0 5	0 10	1 3	1 8
- - - - - 20 - - - 30 - - - - -	0 6	1 0	1 6	2 0
- - - - - 30 - - - 50 - - - - -	0 7	1 2	1 9	2 4
- - - - - 50 - - - 80 - - - - -	0 8	1 4	2 0	2 8
- - - - - 80 - - - 120 - - - - -	0 9	1 6	2 3	3 0
- - - - - 120 - - - 170 - - - - -	0 10	1 8	2 6	3 4
- - - - - 170 - - - 230 - - - - -	0 11	1 10	2 9	3 8
- - - - - 230 - - - 300 - - - - -	1 0	2 0	3 0	4 0
- - - - - 300 - - - 400 - - - - -	1 1	2 2	3 3	4 4
- - - - - 400 - - - 500 - - - - -	1 2	2 4	3 6	4 8
- - - - - 500 - - - 600 - - - - -	1 3	2 6	3 9	5 0
- - - - - 600 - - - 700 - - - - -	1 4	2 8	4 0	5 4
- - - - - 700 - - - - - - - - -	1 5	2 10	4 3	5 8
Letters and Packets conveyed by Packet Boats between the Ports of Portpatrick and Donaghadee, a Packet Postage over and above all other Rates - - -	0 4	0 8	1 0	1 4
Letters and Packets conveyed by Packet Boats from or to Holyhead or Milford Haven, to or from any Port in Ireland, a Packet Postage over and above all other Rates -	0 2	0 4	0 6	0 8
Letters and Packets conveyed by Packet Boats to or from Liverpool, from or to Dublin, or any other Port in Ireland, a Packet Postage over and above all other Rates	0 8	1 4	2 0	2 8
Provided that no Letter sent by way of Liverpool shall be chargeable with a higher Rate of Postage than if it were sent by way of Holyhead.				
Letters and Packets to and from any Part of Great Britain or Ireland, by way of Dublin and Holyhead, in addition to all other Rates (Menai Bridge) - -	0 1	0 2	0 3	0 4
Letters and Packets to and from any Part of Great Britain or Ireland, by way of Conway and Chester, in addition to all other Rates (Conway Bridge) - -	0 1	0 2	0 3	0 4
And so in proportion in all the aforesaid Cases for any other Letter or Packet of greater Weight than an Ounce.				

SCHEDULE (B.)

RATES of POSTAGE to be taken in the Currency of the United Kingdom for the Port and Conveyance of Letters by the Post to and from Places within *Ireland*, instead of the Rates in *Irish* Currency under 54 Geo. 3. c. 119.

For every Single Letter or Piece of Paper, from the Office in Ireland where such Letter or Piece of Paper shall be put in:	s.	d.
To any Distance within Ireland not exceeding 7 Miles, Irish Measure	0	2
To any Distance exceeding 7 Miles, and not exceeding 15 Miles	0	3
- - - - - 15 - - - - 25 - - -	0	4
- - - - - 25 - - - - 35 - - -	0	5
- - - - - 35 - - - - 45 - - -	0	6
- - - - - 45 - - - - 55 - - -	0	7
- - - - - 55 - - - - 65 - - -	0	8
- - - - - 65 - - - - 95 - - -	0	9
- - - - - 95 - - - - 120 - - -	0	10
- - - - - 120 - - - - 150 - - -	0	11
- - - - - 150 - - - - 200 - - -	1	0
- - - - - 200 - - - - 250 - - -	1	1
- - - - - 250 - - - - 300 - - -	1	2
For every Distance of 100 Miles, Irish Measure, above 300 Miles, a further Sum of	0	1

And for the Port and Conveyance of any Double Letter, Double the said Sums respectively; and for every Treble Letter, Treble the said Sums respectively; and so in proportion for any greater Weight than One Ounce, reckoning every Quarter of an Ounce equal to a Single Letter.

LONDON: Printed by GEORGE EYRE and ANDREW STRAHAN, Printers to the King's most Excellent Majesty. 1827.