

Jamaica Post Office Notices 1844

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<http://www.gbps.org.uk/information/sources/treasury-warrants/warrants/TW-1844-01-05.pdf>

TREASURY WARRANT.

WHEREAS .by an. Act, passed in the fifth year Of the reign of His late Majesty King George the Third, 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," the Postmaster-General, for the time-being, and his deputies were authorized to demand, receive, and take for the conveyance of letters, packets, and other things carried or conveyed by. the post between any of the British, dominions in America, or between any parts of the said dominions, the several and respective rates and sums therein mentioned:

And whereas by an Act, passed in the third and fourth-years of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled "An Act for the regulation of the duties of postage," it is enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Commissioners. of Her Majesty's Treasury, from time to time and at any time after the passing of that Act, by warrant under their hands, to alter and fix any of the rates of British postage or inland postage, payable by law on the transmission by the post of foreign or colonial letters or newspapers, or of any other printed papers, and to subject the same to rates of postage according to the weight thereof, and a Scale of weight to be contained in such warrant; and, from time to time, by warrant as aforesaid, to alter or repeal any such altered rates, and make and establish .any new or other rates in lieu thereof; and, by warrant as aforesaid, to appoint at what time the rates that might he payable were to be paid.

Now we, the undersigned (being three of the Commissioners of, Her Majesty's Treasury), do, in exercise of the power or authority in us for such purpose vested in and by the said last-recited Act, and of all other powers, enabling us in this behalf by this-warrant under our hands, order and direct, all letters transmitted by the post within British North America, or within the British West Indies, or between British North America or the British West Indies, and any place or places out of the same, respectively, shall, in lieu of the present mode of charging by the number of inclosures, be charged by weight, according to the following scale; and that the several numbers of rates of postage, hereinafter set forth, shall be charged and paid on and for the inland conveyance of such letters (that is to say):

On every letter not exceeding half an ounce in Weight, *one* rate of postage.

On every letter exceeding half an ounce, and not exceeding one ounce in weight, two rates of postage.

On every letter exceeding one ounce, and not exceeding two ounces in weight, four rates of postage.

On every letter exceeding two ounces, and not exceeding three ounces in weight, six rates of' postage.'

On every letter exceeding three- ounces, and not exceeding four ounces- in weight, eight rates of postage.

And for every ounce in weight above the weight of four ounces, there shall be charged and taken two additional rates of postage; and every fraction of an ounce above the weight of four ounces shall be charged as one additional ounce.

And we direct, that the following rates of inland, postage shall be charged and paid on letters transmitted by the post within British North America and within the British West Indies, respectively, in lieu of the rates of postage heretofore chargeable on such letters (that is to say) :

On all letters not exceeding half an ounce in weight, transmitted by the post within British North America, or within the British West Indies.

If the distance Which such letters shall be conveyed by the post in British North America, or in the British West Indies, shall not exceed sixty British miles, a rate of four pence.

If exceeding sixty such miles, and not exceeding one hundred such miles, a rate of six pence.

If exceeding one hundred such miles, and not exceeding two hundred such miles, a rate of eight pence.

And for every distance not exceeding one hundred, such miles beyond such two hundred miles, and for every' such further distance, a rate of two pence.

And on every letter transmitted as aforesaid,- exceeding half an ounce in weight, there shall be charged and taken progressive and additional rates of postage, according to the scale of weight and number of rates hereinbefore contained, estimating and charging each additional rate at the sum any such letter would be charged with under this warrant, if not exceeding half an ounce in weight.

And we further direct, that the distances, according to which such letter's as aforesaid shall be rated with inland postage, shall extend to and include the distance which such letters may be carried on any rivers or lakes, as well as the distance which such letters may be carried by land; and that in case the places between which any such letters shall be conveyed shall be in British North America, and also in the British West Indies, separate and distinct inland rates of postage shall be charged and taken for the distance such letters shall be conveyed in British North America and the British West Indies, respectively.

And we further direct, that the Postmaster General may, in his discretion, cause the inland postage of any letters posted in British North America (for the distance the same shall be conveyed within such provinces), or posted in the British West Indies (for the distance such letters shall be conveyed within the same), to be paid on being put into the post office, or on being delivered to an officer of the post office to be forwarded by the post.

And we further direct, that on every letter not exceeding half an ounce in weight, conveyed by sea by any of Her Majesty's packet boats or by private ship, between any ports in British North America or in the British West Indies, or between any ports in British North America and the British West Indies (not in any such cases passing through the United Kingdom), there shall be charged and taken (in lieu of the rates heretofore chargeable. On such letters) a sea postage of four pence and on every letter so transmitted, exceeding half, an ounce in weight, there shall be charged and taken progressive and additional rates of postage according to the scale of weight and number of rates hereinbefore contained, estimating and charging each additional rate at the sum of four pence.

And we further direct, that the Postmaster- General may allow to the masters of any private ships, by way of gratuity, a sum not exceeding two-pence for each letter conveyed by them as last aforesaid, for and on behalf of the Post Office.

And we further direct, that the rates of postage chargeable on-such letters as last aforesaid, for the sea conveyance thereof, shall be charged in addition to the inland rates payable thereon as herein before mentioned.

And we further direct, that, in addition to any inland postage payable thereon, the sea postage on all letters posted in British North America or the British West Indies, addressed to any place in the United States of America, or any other foreign country (except France, and foreign countries via: France, transmitted through the United Kingdom), shall, until arrangements be made to the contrary, be paid on such letters being put into the post office, or on being delivered to an officer of the post office to be forwarded by the post.

And we further direct, that for preventing all disputes touching the distances within British North America and the British West Indies, for which any letters conveyed by the post are chargeable with postage under this present warrant, it shall be lawful for the Postmaster-General to cause all or any such distances to be surveyed and ascertained in manner provided by the said Act of the fifth year of the reign of King George the Third; and all inland rates imposed by this warrant, for the conveyance of letters within British North America and the British- West Indies, shall be charged and paid according to such surveys.

And whereas it may happen, that in British North America and the British West Indies there may, at one and the same time, exist two or more different and distinct routes or lines of communication by the post between towns or places, one of which routes may, in distance, be longer than the other, and, consequently, letters conveyed by the post by such route might, unless otherwise provided for, be chargeable with a higher rate of postage under this warrant than if conveyed by the post by the other or shorter of such routes; now we further direct, that, in order to prevent any inconveniences or differences arising in this respect, in all cases in which two or more different routes of conveyance by the post exist, or shall exist, between towns or places in British North America or the British West Indies, the rates of postage to be charged on letters conveyed by the post between any such towns or places shall be according to the distance by the shorter of such routes, although such letters may actually be conveyed by the longer route; and this direction shall apply, whether such shorter route shall be constantly or only occasionally used for the conveyance, of letters by the post.

And we further direct, that nothing in this warrant contained shall in anywise alter, prejudice, or affect the privilege which, under the said Act of the third and fourth years of the reign of Her present Majesty, seamen and soldiers, employed in Her Majesty's service, enjoy of sending and receiving by the post within British North America and the British West Indies, letters not exceeding half an ounce in weight, subject to the regulations and restrictions in the said Act contained in respect of such letters.

And we further direct, that on all letters, not exceeding half an ounce in weight, transmitted by the post (whether by packet boat or private ship) between any place in the United Kingdom and any place, in British North America, or the British West Indies wherever situated (letters posted or delivered at the port in British North America, or the British West Indies, at which the letters may be landed, or from which they may be dispatched excepted, and which letters are to be charged the rates of British postage only), there shall be paid; in addition to the rates of British postage payable on such letters under the said Act of the third and fourth years of Her present Majesty, an uniform colonial rate of two pence, whether such letters shall pass between British North America, or the British West Indies, and the United Kingdom direct, or via the United States; provided always, that if any such letters passing through the United States shall be charged with any foreign postage, such foreign postage shall be charged on such letters in addition to the British postage and the said colonial rate.

And on all such letters, if exceeding half an ounce in weight, there shall be charged and paid (in addition to any progressive and additional British rates which may be payable on such letters) progressive and additional colonial rates of postage according to the scale of weight and number of rates hereinbefore contained, each additional colonial rate being estimated at two pence.

And whereas, by the said Act, passed in the third and fourth years of the reign of, Her present Majesty, it is enacted, that- the Postmaster-General with the consent of the Commissioners of the Treasury, may allow colonial newspapers, to pass by the post between places within any of Her Majesty's colonies, or by packet boat or private ship, from one colony to another, whether through the United Kingdom or, not; and also allow foreign newspapers to pass through the United Kingdom either to Her Majesty's colonies, or from one foreign country to another foreign country by packet boat or private ship; and also allow British newspapers to be sent to the colonies through a foreign country, and Colonial newspapers to be sent through a foreign country to the United Kingdom, or through the United Kingdom to a foreign country, free of postage, or subject to such rates of postage and under all such regulations and restrictions as the Postmaster-General, with such consent as aforesaid, may think fit.

Now we, the undersigned, in further exercise of the several powers and authorities vested in us by the said Act, do hereby further direct;

That on every printed colonial newspaper not exceeding two ounces in weight, and on every printed supplement not exceeding two ounces in weight to a colonial newspaper sent by the post, between any places within British North America, or within the British West Indies, without passing through the United Kingdom, there shall be paid (in lieu of the rates heretofore chargeable thereon) one uniform inland rate of one halfpenny, without reference to the distance or number of miles the same may be conveyed; but this is not to alter or affect the provision contained in a Treasury warrant, bearing date the 31st day of August 1841, regulating the conveyance of colonial newspapers between the colonies by packet boat and private ship, which, are to continue in full force as if this present warrant had not been signed, and the said inland rate of one halfpenny is to be in addition to any rate payable on such newspapers under such warrant.

And that on every printed newspaper not exceeding two ounces in weight, whether colonial or of the United States, and, of every printed supplement not exceeding two ounces in weight, to any printed newspaper, whether colonial or of the United States, passing between any places in British North America, or the British West Indies, and any port or place in the United States, without passing through the United Kingdom, there shall be paid (in lieu of the rates heretofore chargeable thereon) one uniform inland rate of one penny, in addition to any foreign rate to which such newspaper or supplement, if sent from or through the United States, may be liable; and also in addition to any sea postage which may be chargeable thereon; but so that any such newspaper or supplement to a newspaper, if of the United States, shall, in order to be entitled to pass by the post at such reduced inland rate of one penny, be posted within the United States, and if not so posted, the same shall (in lieu of such, reduced uniform inland rate of one penny) be liable to the like rates of postage as would have been, chargeable thereon if the same had been a letter so conveyed by the post.

And that on every such printed newspaper and printed supplement to a newspaper as aforesaid, exceeding two ounces in weight, there shall be charged and taken the like rates of postage as are hereinafter directed to be charged and taken on printed pamphlets and publications sent by the post; provided, (always, that the aforesaid limitations in weight, shall not apply to or affect newspapers or supplements. to newspapers, sent by the post between, British. North America, or the British. West Indies, and the United Kingdom.

And we further direct, that every printed supplement, or additional sheet to any newspaper, shall, for the purpose of charging the postage under this warrant, be deemed a distinct newspaper.

And, we. further direct, that on every printed newspaper and printed supplement brought into British North America, or into the British West Indies, by private ship, without having previously passed through any post-office subordinate to the Postmaster-General, and which shall be delivered, at the post office of the port or place of such, vessel's arrival, there shall be charged and paid, in addition to any other rates of postage payable thereon, a sea postage of. one penny; and we. direct, that the Postmaster-General may allow the sum of one. penny on every such newspaper or supplement to the master of the vessel delivering the same at such post office by way of gratuity.

And we further direct, that no colonial inland, rate of postage shall be chargeable on any printed votes and proceedings of the Imperial Parliament, brought by packet boat or private ship into British North America or the British West Indies, or on any printed, votes or. proceedings of any Colonial; Legislature of British North America, or the British. West Indies, sent by packet, boat or private ship to the United Kingdom, and charged with the rates fixed on such, votes and, proceedings, respectively, by the said Act of, the third and fourth years of Her present Majesty, or by a certain warrant under the hands of three of, the Commissioners. of! Her Majesty's Treasury, bearing, date the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September 1840, or, by any other Act or, warrant which may from time to time be in force.

And no colonial rate of postage shall be chargeable on British or colonial printed newspapers, or printed supplements to such newspapers, posted or delivered within British North America or the British West Indies, and sent to or received by the post direct from the United Kingdom, provided that the newspapers and supplements sent from the United Kingdom be forwarded in conformity with the regulations and conditions prescribed by the said last-mentioned Act.

And we further direct, that on all printed votes and proceedings of any Colonial Legislature of British North America and of the British West Indies, forwarded by the post by sea or land, or by any lakes or rivers, or partly by land and partly by water, between British North America and the British West Indies, or between places within British North America or within the British West Indies, without in any such cases passing through the United Kingdom, there shall be charged and paid the rates of postage following (that is to say): If not exceeding four ounces in weight, a rate of one penny; if exceeding four ounces, and not exceeding eight ounces in weight, a rate of two pence; if exceeding eight ounces, and not exceeding twelve ounces in weight, a rate of threepence; if exceeding twelve ounces, and not exceeding sixteen ounces in weight, a rate of four pence; and for every additional four ounces in weight, above the weight of sixteen ounces, there shall be charged and paid an additional rate of one penny; and any lesser weight than four ounces shall be charged as four ounces.

Provided always, and we direct, that no printed votes or proceedings of any Colonial Legislature of British North America, exceeding six pounds in weight, or of the British West Indies, exceeding sixteen ounces in weight, shall be forwarded by the post in any one packet or cover.

And we further direct, that on all printed pamphlets and publications printed in British North America, or in the British West Indies, or in the United States, and forwarded by the post between the United States and British North America or the British West Indies, or between any places within British North America, or within the British West Indies, or between any place in British North America and any place in the British West Indies (without, in any such cases, passing through the United Kingdom), there shall be charged and paid an inland, colonial rate of one penny for every ounce weight thereof (in addition to any rate payable for the sea conveyance thereof), and any lesser weight than an ounce shall be charged as one ounce; but so that any such pamphlets or publications, if printed in the United States, shall, in order to be entitled to pass by the post at such reduced inland rate, be posted within the United States, and if not so posted, the same shall be liable to the like rates, of postage as would have been chargeable thereon if the same had been a letter so conveyed by the post.

And that on all printed pamphlets and publications printed within the United Kingdom, or British North America, or the British West Indies, and forwarded (whether by the post or not) between the United Kingdom and British North America or the British West Indies, there shall be charged and paid for the conveyance of the same by the post within British North America or the British West Indies, from which the same shall be sent, or to which the same shall be addressed (in addition to any British postage that may be payable for the same if conveyed by the post to or from or within the United Kingdom), a rate of one penny for every ounce weight thereof; and any lesser weight than an ounce shall be charged as one ounce.

And we further direct, that no such pamphlet or publication exceeding the weight of sixteen ounces shall be forwarded by the post.

And we further direct, that any privilege of franking letters or newspapers, or printed votes, and proceedings of any Colonial Legislature, or pamphlets, publications, or other printed papers, or of sending them by the post under an immemorial privilege, of any Deputy Postmaster-General or Deputy Postmaster in British North America, or in the island of Jamaica, shall cease and determine.

And we further- direct, that all such printed newspapers and printed supplements, votes, and: proceedings of any Colonial Legislature, pamphlets, and publications as aforesaid, shall be posted, forwarded, conveyed, and delivered under and subject to all such orders, directions, and regulations, and. under and subject to all such conditions, limitations, and restrictions as to the form, size, dimensions, enclosures, or otherwise, as the Postmaster-General, with the consent of the Commissioners, of Her Majesty's Treasury, shall, from time to time, direct and that it shall be lawful for the Postmaster-General, if he shall see fit, to delay the transmission of any such, newspapers, supplements,, votes,. legislative proceedings, pamphlets, and publications, for any space or time not exceeding twenty-four hours, or, at his option, one post from the time at which, the same would otherwise have, been, forwarded.

And we further direct, that no printed newspaper or printed supplement votes, or proceedings of any Colonial Legislature, pamphlets or publications, shall be conveyed, by the post within or to or from British North America, or the British. West Indies, under the regulations of this present warrant, unless the same shall be sent without a cover, or in. a. cover open at the sides, and that (except as hereinafter provided) there be no word of communication printed on the paper after its, publication, or, upon the cover thereof, nor any writing or marks upon it, or upon the cover of it,, except the name and address of the person to whom sent, nor any paper or thing enclosed in or with the same.

Provided always, that it shall be lawful for the Postmaster-General, if he shall see fit, to allow any printed words, writing, or marks, other, than, the directions to be put on any such newspaper, supplement, votes, legislative proceedings, pamphlets, or publications, or on the cover thereof.

And we further direct, that in all cases in which, a question shall arise, whether a printed paper, is entitled to the privilege of a newspaper, or other, printed paper hereby privileged, so far, as respects the transmission of the same by the post under this warrant, the question shall be referred to the determination of the Postmaster-General, whose decision, with the concurrence of the Lords of the Treasury, shall be final.

And we further direct, that the several and respective rates of postage chargeable under this warrant shall be charged in sterling money.

And we further direct, that nothing contained in this warrant shall be deemed or construed to annul, prejudice, or affect any of the exemptions and privileges granted by the said Act of the third and fourth years of Her present Majesty, or by an Act, made and passed in the first year of Her present Majesty, intituled "An Act for the management of the Post Office;" or any of the rates fixed by a Treasury warrant, bearing date the ninth day of May one thousand eight hundred and forty-three, on letters passing between France, or other foreign countries via France, and British North America, through the United Kingdom; and all such exemptions, privileges, and rates shall remain in full force.

And we further direct, that this present warrant shall be in force only in places in British North America and the British West Indies, where the Postmaster-General has already established, or shall hereafter establish, posts; and that the term "British North America," in this warrant, shall include the provinces of Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward's Island, and Newfoundland, and their respective dependencies; and that the term "British West Indies," in this warrant, shall include the Bermudas, the Bahamas, and other British islands commonly called the West Indies, as also the colonies of British Guiana and Honduras, and their respective dependencies; and that the several other terms and expressions used in this warrant shall be construed to have the like meaning, in all respects, as they would have had if inserted in the said Act of the third and fourth years of Her present Majesty.

And we further direct, that this warrant shall come into operation on the 5th day of January 1844.

Provided lastly, and we hereby declare and direct, that it shall be lawful for the Commissioners for the time being of Her Majesty's Treasury, or any three of them, by warrant under their hands, at any time hereafter to alter or repeal any of the rates hereby altered, or the regulations hereby made, and to make and establish any new or other rates or regulations in lieu thereof, and from time to time to appoint at what time the rates that may be payable are to be paid.

Whitehall, Treasury Chambers, the 11th day of October 1843.

HENRY GOULBURN.

JOHN YOUNG.

HENRY BARING.