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# A BILL

To consolidate and amend the Laws relating to the Post Office.

[THE POSTMASTER GENERAL;—29 November, 1866.]

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**W**HEREAS it is expedient to consolidate and amend the Laws Preamble.  
relating to the Post Office Be it therefore enacted by the  
Queen's Most Excellent Majesty by and with the advice and consent of  
the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of New South Wales  
5 in Parliament assembled and by the authority of the same as follows:—

1. The Acts contained in the first Schedule hereto are hereby Repeal of Acts.  
repealed except as to any things done appointments orders regulations  
and contracts made offences committed penalties incurred or proceedings  
instituted previously to the commencement of this Act All securities  
10 given before the commencement of this Act for the fidelity of any  
postmaster or other officer or servant of the Post Office and for the due  
accounting for and payment by them respectively of moneys shall be as  
valid and effectual and of as full force and virtue as if this Act had not  
been passed.

15 2. The Governor with the advice of the Executive Council shall Governor may  
appoint and remove  
Postmaster General  
&c. &c.  
appoint a Postmaster General and may appoint or depute to such  
Postmaster General the power to appoint and remove such officers clerks  
and servants as may be required for the General Post Office Estab-  
lishment at Sydney And such Postmaster General may appoint such  
20 and so many postmasters clerks and servants for the various post towns  
and places out of Sydney as shall be approved by the Governor with  
the like advice.

3. The Governor with the advice aforesaid may from time to time Regulations to be  
made.  
make and alter regulations for the establishment and management of  
25 post offices and the receipt despatch carriage and delivery of letters  
packets and newspapers and for the conduct and guidance of all post-  
masters and other officers and servants of the Post Office.

Declaration to be made by Postmaster General postmasters letter-carriers &c.

4. The Postmaster General and every other postmaster letter-carrier or other person appointed under this Act or duly authorized to have access to a Post Office shall before the exercise by him of the duties of his office take and subscribe a declaration for the due execution of such duties before a Justice of the Peace (which declaration every such Justice is hereby authorized and required to administer) in the form set forth in the third Schedule to this Act. 5

Interpretation of terms.

5. All letters packets and newspapers posted at any post office for delivery at such post office or at any place within the limits of the city or town in which such post office is situated shall be deemed to be town letters packets or newspapers and all letters packets or newspapers posted at any post office in New South Wales to be transmitted by post between separate post towns or places within the said Colony shall be deemed to be country letters packets and newspapers and all letters packets and newspapers received from any place beyond the limits of New South Wales or received at any post office for delivery beyond the limits of New South Wales shall be deemed foreign letters packets and newspapers. 10 15

Every parcel sent by post if not a packet or newspaper to be deemed a letter.

6. Every parcel whatsoever by whatever name called or however made up which shall be sent by post or put and received into any post office for transmission or delivery by the post shall if not a packet as defined from time to time by the Governor with the advice of the Executive Council or a newspaper be deemed a letter. 20

Packets defined. 7 Wm. IV. and 1 Vict. c. 34 ss. 23 30.

7. The Governor with the advice aforesaid may from time to time by order published in the *Government Gazette* direct what packets may be sent by post as town country and foreign packets within the meaning of this Act and upon what terms and conditions the same may be sent and until any such order shall be made the following and no others may be sent by post as town country and foreign packets within the meaning of this Act (that is to say)— 30

- (1.) Bankers' packets (in covers open at the ends or sides) containing notes orders cheques or pass-books sent by or to any bank or banker.
- (2.) Packets (in covers open at the ends or sides) containing process of or proceedings or pleadings in any Court briefs cases and instructions for counsel and their opinions thereon respectively deeds affidavits policies of assurance letters of attorney depositions or recognizances. 35

(3.)

- 5 (3.) Packets (in covers open at the ends or sides) containing patterns or samples of merchandise not having a value of their own apart from their mere use as patterns or samples and either unenclosed or enclosed in transparent bags or in bags tied round the neck so as to be easily loosened and re-fastened.
- (4.) Packets (in covers open at the ends or sides) containing prices current and catalogues.
- 10 (5.) Packets (in covers open at the ends or sides) containing Acts of the New South Wales or Imperial Parliament or printed votes and proceedings of either house thereof respectively or returns or copies of returns made by or to any officer in the public service.
- 15 (6.) Packets (in covers open at the ends or sides) containing scrip pamphlets maps plans specifications music photographs on paper magazines reviews placards almanacs prospectuses paintings engravings printers' proofs writing paper music paper or periodical publications.
- 20 (7.) Packets (in covers open at the ends or sides) containing printed or plain books.
- (8.) And (as town and country packets) packets containing seeds in bags or papers tied so as to be easily loosened and re-fastened.
- 25 8. Every copy of a paper containing any public news or occurrences or any remarks or observations thereon or upon any political matter or containing only or principally advertisements and printed for sale or for gratuitous distribution may be sent by post as newspapers within the meaning of this Act if it shall be periodically published in parts or numbers at intervals not exceeding one month and every such part or number shall be deemed to be a separate newspaper within the meaning aforesaid. Newspapers defined.
- 35 9. Every newspaper shall be sent without a cover or in a cover open at both ends and there shall not be in or upon any such newspaper or the cover thereof any communication character figure letter or number (other than the words "newspaper only" or a line drawn through any report article or paragraph therein the printed title of such newspaper the printed names occupations and places of business of the printer publisher and vendor thereof the name occupation and address of the person to whom it is sent and the words aforesaid) nor shall anything be enclosed in or with or accompany such newspaper or cover otherwise such newspaper shall not be transmitted or delivered. How newspapers to be addressed.

*Governor to fix rates of postage.*

10. *Except where otherwise specially provided by this Act the Governor with the advice aforesaid may fix the rates sums of money and scale of weights to be demanded taken and acted on by the Postmaster General and postmasters respectively and their assistants for the receiving despatching conveying and delivering of letters packets and newspapers of every description and to reduce the same from time to time as to the said Governor with the like advice shall seem meet Provided that such rates sums of money and scale of weights shall not in any case exceed the rates and scale respectively set forth in the second Schedule hereto Provided also that every letter packet and newspaper sent by post from any place beyond the limits of New South Wales shall be transmitted and delivered free of charge within New South Wales except as hereinafter mentioned and except in cases where it is necessary to collect the postage under any arrangement to be made as hereinafter mentioned in which case the same and all fees or other dues upon such letter packet or newspaper shall and may be collected on and before the delivery thereof respectively.*

*Fees in addition to postage.*

11. *The Governor with the advice aforesaid may from time to time impose and alter fees to be paid upon letters packets and newspapers registered under this Act or posted after the time appointed by the Postmaster General for closing the mails and for the use of private boxes and private bags.*

*As to postage on letters re-directed.*

12. *On every letter packet or newspaper re-directed and again forwarded by the post except on letters packets and newspapers addressed to commissioned officers or warrant officers whether in the Army or Navy or midshipmen or mates of the Navy or other parties actually in Her Majesty's service otherwise specially exempted in this Act there shall be charged for the postage thereof from the place at which the same shall be re-directed to the place of ultimate delivery the same amount of postage in addition to the original charge as would be payable if the letters were originally posted at the place of re-direction.*

*Petitions to the Governor or either House of Parliament.*

13. *Members of the Executive Council the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly may receive by post exempt from postage petitions and addresses to Her Majesty and His Excellency the Governor as also petitions to the Executive Council the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly Provided that such petitions or addresses do not exceed thirty-two ounces in weight respectively and are without covers or in covers open at both ends.*

14. *Letters not exceeding one-half ounce in weight addressed to or forwarded by any seaman on actual service in Her Majesty's Navy by any serjeant corporal drummer trumpeter fifer or private soldier on actual*

*actual service in Her Majesty's regular forces militia fencible regiments or Royal Marines shall be charged the sum of one penny in lieu of the postage hereinbefore mentioned But no such letter shall be transmitted or delivered unless (in the case of a letter forwarded as last aforesaid) there shall be on the face thereof the name of the writer and his class or description in the vessel regiment corps or detachment to which he belongs and the signature of the officer having command of such vessel regiment corps or detachment nor unless (in case of a letter addressed as last aforesaid) there shall be specified on the superscription thereof the vessel regiment corps or detachment to which the person to whom it is addressed belongs But this section shall not apply to letters addressed to or forwarded by any commissioned or warrant officer whether in the Army or Navy or midshipman or mate in the Navy.*

15. The Postmaster General or other postmaster shall be at liberty to refuse receive or to transmit by post any letter or packet exceeding sixteen ounces in weight or of inconvenient form or dimensions or containing or reasonably suspected to contain any article likely to injure the other contents of the mail bags or the person of any officer or servant of the Post Office.

Proviso as to when they may be refused.

16. The Governor with the advice aforesaid shall cause or shall depute to the Postmaster General or to the Inspector of Stamps or to the Commissioner of Stamps the power to cause postage stamps indicating such amounts of postage as may be from time to time deemed necessary for the purposes of this Act to be made and sold to any person applying for the same.

Postage stamps to be made.

17. Every postmaster shall procure and keep on hand for sale without premium such quantities of postage stamps as the Postmaster General shall direct and shall sell the same to any person applying for them and the Postmaster General may for the convenience of the public grant a license to any person to sell postage stamps and such person who may obtain from the Postmaster General at any one time postage stamps to the value of five pounds shall be allowed thereon a commission and the Governor with the advice aforesaid may from time to time determine what rate of commission (to be paid in postage stamps only) shall be allowed to such licensed vendors and to postmasters if any on the sale thereof.

Postmaster to keep and sell stamps.

Postmaster General may grant licenses.

18. Except in the cases expressly herein mentioned in that behalf the postage upon every letter packet and newspaper and all fees if any upon such letter packet or newspaper shall be prepaid and such prepayments

Postage to be prepaid by stamps.

ments respectively shall be made by affixing thereon postage stamps not obliterated or defaced and in default thereof such letter packet or newspaper shall not be transmitted or delivered. Provided that postage on loose letters received from masters of vessels may be collected on delivery.

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By money in certain cases.

19. Notwithstanding the enactment lastly hereinbefore contained whenever it may happen that any postmaster shall not have any postage stamps of the requisite value for sale then and in such case the postage and fees if any upon any letter packet or newspaper may be prepaid in coin and shall be acknowledged by such postmaster on the face or 10 cover of such letter packet or newspaper.

Town and country letters insufficiently prepaid.

20. If any town or country letter bears postage stamps equal in value to its proper postage as a letter not exceeding one-half ounce in weight or if any town or country packet bears postage stamps equal in value to its proper postage as a packet not exceeding four ounces in 15 weight such letter or packet (as the case may be) shall notwithstanding the provisions hereinbefore contained be regularly transmitted and delivered but before such delivery in New South Wales there shall be paid double the amount of postage (if any) which shall have been omitted to be prepaid as hereinbefore directed and the sum to be so paid 20 shall be written on such letter packet or newspaper by the postmaster who transmits the same.

Postmasters to see that stamps are affixed.

21. Except in the cases expressly hereinbefore mentioned every postmaster shall see that every letter packet and newspaper bears either postage stamps or a proper acknowledgment for coin respectively equal 25 in value or amount to the postage due thereon.

Where to be affixed.

22. The postage stamps upon all letters packets and newspapers shall be impressed or affixed upon the face thereof respectively and near the address written thereon and no postmaster shall be bound to take any notice of stamps which shall be impressed or affixed elsewhere. 30

Postage need not be prepaid on letters or packets containing returns of births &c. transmitted by any minister of religion to appointed officer.

23. It shall not be necessary to prepay by stamp or otherwise the postage ordinarily prepaid upon letters or packets containing only returns of births baptisms marriages and deaths transmitted in compliance with the provisions of the law in that behalf by ministers of religion or other parties whose duty it is to transmit such returns to any 35 officer appointed to receive the same but the postage thereon shall be paid by the said officer on delivery of such letters or packets respectively provided that the same shall on the outside thereof be stated to contain such returns only and be signed by the minister or other party transmitting the same.

24.

24. Any person who shall send any letter packet or newspaper Registration.  
 by post shall be entitled to have the same registered at the post office at  
 which the same shall be posted upon payment of the proper fee for  
 registration but such registration shall not render the Crown or the  
 5 Department of the Post Office or any person liable for the loss of any  
 such letter packet or newspaper And all letters packets and newspapers  
 required to be registered shall be put into the post office and also be  
 delivered at or between such hours in the day and under such regulations  
 in every respect as the Postmaster General or other proper officer shall  
 10 from time to time appoint.

25. In any case where it shall come to the knowledge of any Letters with money  
&c. must be regis-  
tered.  
 postmaster or officer of the Post Office or where any postmaster or officer  
 of the Post Office has reasonable cause to believe that any town country  
 or foreign letter or packet not registered under this Act contains any  
 15 money or other valuable enclosure it shall be lawful for such postmaster  
 or officer to register such letter or packet and to charge it with the  
 proper fee for registration and such fee shall be paid by the person to  
 whom it is addressed before delivery unless such person shall before  
 such delivery open the letter in the presence of some postmaster or  
 20 officer of the Post Office and it shall be found not to contain money or  
 other valuable enclosure in which case such fee shall be remitted and  
 the sum to be so paid shall be written in a stamp impressed on such  
 letter or packet by the postmaster who registers the same.

26. Except in the cases expressly hereinafter mentioned no letter No letters &c. to be  
returned except in  
certain cases.  
 25 packet or newspaper whatever shall under any circumstances be destroyed  
 or returned to the writer or sender thereof without either the consent in  
 writing of the person to whom the same is addressed or the direction of  
 the Governor and no letter packet or newspaper shall be delivered to  
 any person not named in the address thereof without such consent or  
 30 direction as aforesaid.

27. It shall be lawful for any postmaster or other officer of the Letters &c. un-  
stamped refused &c.  
bearing obscene  
profane or libellous  
addresses or posted  
contrary to this Act  
to be sent to General  
Post Office forthwith.  
 Post Office and he is hereby required to transmit to the General Post  
 Office without delay every letter packet or newspaper without any postage  
 stamp thereon or with postage stamps which have been previously  
 35 obliterated or defaced (unless the postage thereon shall have been prepaid  
 in coin) and every town or country letter with postage stamps thereon of  
 less value than its proper postage as a letter not exceeding one-half  
 ounce in weight and every town or country packet with postage stamps  
 thereon of less value than its proper postage as a packet not exceeding  
 four

four ounces in weight and also every letter packet or newspaper posted or reasonably suspected to be posted or to contain any enclosure in fraud or violation of this Act or of any Act relating to the Customs or of any regulation or order made under the authority of this Act or with intent to evade payment of the postage properly chargeable on such letter 5 packet or newspaper or which the person to whom it is addressed shall refuse to receive or which bears a profane obscene or libellous address or signature or which (in case any postage upon the same respectively shall be payable) the person to whom it is addressed shall refuse to pay for.

Unclaimed and undelivered letters and packets to be kept for thirty days during which a list thereof to be exposed at the General Post Office.

28. All undelivered letters packets and newspapers which shall 10 have been received at any post office shall be kept thereat for a period of thirty days and at the expiration of such period of thirty days if not then claimed the same shall be forwarded to the General Post Office at Sydney and the Postmaster General shall forthwith cause the addresses of all such letters and packets (newspapers excepted) so forwarded to him to 15 be inserted in a list to be openly exposed at the General Post Office Sydney and in all the country post offices.

Postmaster General to publish in the *Government Gazette* a list of unclaimed letters.

29. The Postmaster General shall once in every month or oftener if he shall think fit cause a list to be published in the *New South Wales Government Gazette* of all detained and unclaimed letters and packets 20 (newspapers excepted) which shall have been received at the General Post Office at Sydney since the last preceding publication of the like kind and after a period of one month from the date of such publication such of the letters and packets mentioned therein as shall have been originally posted in New South Wales or after a period of three months if posted 25 in any other Australian Colony or in New Zealand or after a period of six months if originally posted elsewhere and shall not in the meantime have been claimed and delivered may be opened in manner hereinafter mentioned.

How dead letters &c. disposed of at General Post Office.

30. On the receipt at the General Post Office of any letter 30 packet or newspaper hereinbefore required to be transmitted to such office such letter or packet if it was originally posted in this Colony or if it has been posted or be reasonably suspected to have been posted or to contain any enclosure in fraud or violation of this Act or of any Act relating to the Customs or of any regulation or order made under the 35 authority of this Act may be opened in the said last-mentioned office in the manner hereinafter mentioned and every such letter and packet if it was originally posted elsewhere shall except as last aforesaid be returned to the proper authorities in the colony or country in which it was so posted



posted but every such newspaper wheresoever it was originally posted shall be opened in the same place and manner as letters and packets originally posted in New South Wales.

31. Every letter packet and newspaper which shall be opened Mode of opening.  
 5 under the provisions of this Act shall be opened by officers of the Post Office specially nominated for that purpose by the Postmaster General or other officer in immediate charge of the Post Office Department And every such officer shall before he shall enter upon his duties in this respect make and subscribe before the Postmaster General or a Justice  
 10 of the Peace a declaration in the form set forth in the fourth Schedule Schedule. to this Act and if any such officer shall act contrary to such declaration he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished accordingly.

32. Every letter and packet which shall be opened under the Opened letters and packets not containing anything how dealt with.  
 provisions of this Act (unless it contains any valuable or saleable  
 15 enclosure or shall have been posted or shall contain any enclosure in fraud or violation of this Act or of any Act relating to the Customs or of any regulation or order made under the authority of this Act or with intent to evade payment of the postage properly chargeable thereon) shall be returned to the writer or sender thereof if his name and address  
 20 can be ascertained by examination of such letter or packet but if he shall refuse to receive such letter or packet or if his name and address cannot be ascertained the same may be forthwith destroyed.

33. Every letter and packet which shall be opened under the Opened letters and packets containing anything how dealt with.  
 provisions of this Act (if it contains any valuable or saleable enclosure)  
 25 shall be safely kept and a list thereof together with a memorandum of such contents shall be made and preserved and the Postmaster General or officer in immediate charge of the Post Office Department shall (unless such contents shall have been posted or shall be in fraud or violation of this Act or of any Act relating to the Customs or of any  
 30 regulation or order made under the authority of this Act or with intent to evade payment of the postage properly chargeable or on the letter or packet containing them) cause notice of such letter or packet and of the said contents to be sent to the person to whom the same is addressed if he be known or otherwise to the writer thereof if he be known And  
 35 upon demand by the first-mentioned person if known and if unknown by the last-mentioned person if known the said letter or packet and its contents shall (unless as last aforesaid) be delivered to the party so making such demand but if neither of such parties can be found or shall make such demand within three months after the sending of such

notice or if the said contents shall have been posted or shall be in fraud or violation of this Act or of any Act relating to the Customs or of any regulation or order made under the authority of this Act or with intent to evade payment of the postage properly chargeable on the letter or packet containing them the said letter or packet shall be destroyed and its contents forfeited unless the Governor with the advice aforesaid shall direct the said contents to be restored to the writer or sender of the said letter or packet And if the contents aforesaid shall not be money or a security or order for money payable to bearer the same may be destroyed sold or converted into money in such manner as the Postmaster General or officer in immediate charge of the Post Office Department may direct and the proceeds shall form part of the Consolidated Revenue.

Opened newspapers  
how dealt with.

34. Every newspaper which shall be opened under the provisions of this Act may be forthwith sold destroyed or used for any public purpose unless before such sale destruction or use thereof the same shall be claimed and the postage (if any) due thereon shall be paid by the person to whom the same is addressed But if such newspaper shall have been posted or shall contain any enclosure in fraud or violation of this Act or of any Act relating to the Customs or of any regulation or order made under the authority of this Act or with intent to evade payment of the postage properly chargeable thereon the said newspaper shall be sold destroyed or used as aforesaid and anything which shall be enclosed in or with or which shall accompany such newspaper or the cover thereof shall be forfeited And if such enclosure or accompaniment shall not be money or a security or order for money payable to bearer the same may be destroyed sold or converted into money in such manner as the Postmaster General or officer in immediate charge of the Post Office Department may direct and the proceeds shall form part of the Consolidated Revenue.

Sender of opened  
letters &c. to pay  
postage.

35. The sender of any letter packet or newspaper which shall be opened under the provisions of this Act shall on demand pay the postage and fees respectively (if any) remaining due thereon and in case of refusal so to do shall on conviction thereof forfeit and pay the sum of *forty shillings*. And in any proceeding for the recovery of the said penalty the person from whom such letter or packet shall purport to have come shall be deemed to be the sender thereof unless the party proceeded against shall prove that such letter or packet was not sent by him And in such proceedings the Post Office tax upon any letter packet or newspaper shall in all cases be evidence that the sum so taxed is payable as and for the postage or fee upon such letter packet or newspaper.

36. The Governor with the advice aforesaid may from time to time (subject to the provisions of this Act) make arrangements with the Postmaster General in the United Kingdom or with the proper authorities of any British possession or foreign country for the following 5 purposes (that is to say)—

*Arrangements may be made for foreign mails.*

- (1.) For the establishment of a mail communication by steam not less than once a month between New South Wales and the United Kingdom and for payment of the expenses thereof.
- 10 (2.) For the transmission by land or sea of mails between New South Wales and the United Kingdom or British possession or foreign country as the case may be.
- (3.) For the appointment determining and collection of postage and fees or other dues upon letters packets and newspapers conveyed between New South Wales and such kingdom 15 possession or country.
- (4.) For the division and mutual accounting for and payment of the money collected under such arrangement.
- 20 (5.) For the purposes above mentioned in the case of letters packets and newspapers transmitted through New South Wales or the said kingdom possession or country to or from any part of the world.
- (6.) For the prepayment (in full or otherwise) of the postage due on any letters packets and newspapers.

25 37. The Postmaster General or any person from time to time authorized in that behalf by the Governor with the advice aforesaid may enter into contracts in writing on behalf of the Government for or in respect of the carriage of mails by land or sea for a lumped sum or for a sum depending on the number of letters packets or newspapers 30 and may impose such terms and conditions as to him shall seem fit as to the vehicles or vessels to be employed the times of departure and arrival and otherwise for securing the due regular and efficient performance of the service.

*Contracts for conveyance of mails.*

35 38. In all vessels by which mails shall be conveyed under any such contract as aforesaid there shall be provided a suitable locker or other secure place in which such mails and all letters packets and newspapers shall be locked up and carried apart from all other articles and things

*In all vessels conveying mails lockers to be provided.*

things And if such locker or place shall not be so provided or if such mails or any letter packet or newspaper shall be carried in any such vessel during the whole or any part of the voyage otherwise than in such locker or place the master or person in charge of such vessel shall on conviction thereof forfeit and pay a penalty not exceeding *fifty* 5 *pounds*.

Delivery of ship  
mails inwards.

39. All mails and every loose letter packet or newspaper which at the time of the arrival of any vessel within any port in New South Wales shall be on board thereof directed to any person in New South Wales or its dependencies shall be delivered on demand to any post-10 master or port officer of such port or to any person duly authorized in that behalf by writing under the hand of the Postmaster General or officer in immediate charge of the post office except letters concerning goods on board such vessel and to be delivered with such goods or containing any deed commission writ or affidavit or sent by way of 15 introduction only or concerning the bearer's private affairs And any person who shall knowingly or negligently detain or keep in his possession or shall neglect or refuse to deliver any mail bag mail box or mail parcel or any letter packet or newspaper (except as aforesaid) after such demand made as aforesaid shall on conviction thereof forfeit 20 and pay any sum not exceeding *one hundred pounds*.

Declaration by mas-  
ters of inward  
bound vessels.

40. The master or person in charge of any vessel arriving at any port in New South Wales shall as soon as practicable after such arrival sign in the presence of the postmaster or other officer appointed to receive the same at such port or the town or place nearest thereto a 25 declaration in the form set forth in the fifth Schedule to this Act and thereupon such postmaster or officer shall grant a certificate under his hand of the making thereof and until such certificate shall have been delivered to the proper officer of Customs at such port he shall not permit such vessel to report And any master or person in charge as 30 aforesaid who shall fail or refuse to make such declaration or who shall make a false declaration shall forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding *one hundred pounds*.

Schedule.

Mails to be taken in  
vessels outward  
bound and coast-  
wise.

41. If any master or person in charge of any vessel about to depart from any port in New South Wales to any port or place within 35 or beyond the same shall (after being thereto required by any officer of the Post Office or by any port officer or by any person duly authorized in that behalf by such writing as aforesaid) refuse or neglect to receive on board such vessel any mail bag mail box or mail parcel or to give a receipt

receipt for the same being thereto required by the person tendering or delivering such bag box or parcel or shall refuse or neglect carefully to deposit such bag box or parcel in some secure and dry place on board of such vessel or to convey the same upon her then intended  
 5 voyage such master or person shall for every such offence forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding *one hundred pounds*.

42. And every such master or person in charge of any vessel about Gratuity to masters. to depart as aforesaid who shall receive on board thereof any such mail bag mail box or mail parcel for the purpose of conveying the same  
 10 according to the direction thereof shall be entitled immediately to demand and receive for the carriage thereof the sum of one penny for every foreign letter and packet contained therein or the sum of one half-penny for every country letter and packet contained therein such master or person giving a receipt for the amount so received by him and such  
 15 receipt shall be a sufficient voucher for such payment and the same shall be allowed in the account accordingly But nothing herein contained shall entitle the master or person in charge of any vessel under contract for the carriage of mails to receive payment for the same as aforesaid And no payment shall be made to the master or other person  
 20 in charge of any vessel arriving from parts beyond the Colony for the conveyance of any letters packets or newspapers on which payments have already been made at the port of departure.

43. Every master or person in charge of any vessel not carrying Notice of departure of vessels. mails under a contract for the carriage thereof and being about to  
 25 depart from any port in New South Wales to any port or place beyond the limits thereof shall before the clearance outwards of such vessel give to the postmaster or officer in charge of the post office at the port from which such vessel shall be about to depart not less than twenty-four hours' notice in writing of the intended time of departure of such  
 30 vessel And every master or person in charge of any vessel not carrying mails under any contract as aforesaid and being about to depart from any port in New South Wales to any other port or place therein shall before the clearance of such vessel for the voyage give to the postmaster or officer in charge of the post office at the port from which such vessel  
 35 shall be about to depart not less than six hours' notice in writing of the intended time of departure of such vessel And every such notice shall And of postponed departure. expire between the hours of nine o'clock in the forenoon and five o'clock in the afternoon And every such master or person in charge as aforesaid shall also from time to time give notice to such postmaster or officer

as

as aforesaid of any postponement of such time of departure And such postmaster or other officer of the post office shall upon receiving such notice grant a certificate to such master or person and until such certificate shall have been given the vessel shall not be cleared.

Arrangements may be made for money orders.

44. The Governor with the advice aforesaid may from time to 5 time (subject to the provisions of this Act) make arrangements with the Postmaster General in the United Kingdom or with the proper authorities of any British possession or foreign country for the issue and payment by means of the Post Office of money orders between New South Wales and the said kingdom possession or country and for the 10 accounting for and transmission of moneys connected therewith.

Regulations relating to money orders.

45. The Governor with the advice aforesaid may from time to time make and rescind or alter regulations relating to money orders and to the persons by or through whom and the places where and the times when and the manner and form in which money orders shall be issued 15 and to the persons in favor of whom and the places where and the times when and the manner and form in which money orders shall be paid and to the length of time during which they shall be current and after which they shall become void and to the mode of forwarding messages or advices of transmitting moneys and of managing credits 20 accounts and other matters and things necessary to be forwarded transmitted or managed in reference to money orders and relating to every other matter or thing necessary to be regulated or done for perfecting a system whereby the public may be enabled promptly and safely to remit small sums of money through the Post Office. 25

Arrangements and regulations to bind all persons.

46. All such arrangements and regulations shall be binding and conclusive upon the persons in favor of whom such money orders shall be issued and the payees thereof and all persons interested through or claiming under them and upon all other persons whomsoever and shall have the same force and effect in all respects as if contained in this Act. 30

Indemnity for acting under them.

47. No action suit or other proceeding of any sort at law or in equity shall be brought instituted or commenced in any Court or before any Judge or Justice or otherwise howsoever against the Postmaster General or any officer of the Post Office or any other person whomsoever for or by reason or in consequence of any such arrangements or regu- 35 lations or of any compliance therewith or otherwise in relation thereto or for or by reason or in consequence of payment of the amount of any money order being refused or delayed or on account of any accidental neglect

neglect omission or mistake or of any other cause whatsoever without fraud or wilful misbehaviour on the part of any person chargeable therewith any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

48. No money order shall be granted for a larger sum than ten Amount and cost of money orders.  
 5 pounds and after the commencement of this Act the Postmaster General may and shall levy and receive in respect of all money orders issued under the provisions hereinbefore contained a commission at such rate as the Governor with the advice aforesaid may from time to time appoint and fix.
- 10 49. The Postmaster General may at any time repay or refund the When amount of money order may be refunded.  
 amount of any money order heretofore or hereafter to be issued to the person to whom the same shall have been granted his executors or administrators whether such money order shall remain or be in his or their possession or not and immediately after any such repayment or  
 15 refunding as aforesaid all liability by or on the part of the Postmaster General or any postmaster or officer of the Post Office for or in respect of such money order or of the issuing of the same or of the repayment or refunding of the amount thereof shall as against all persons whomsoever cease and determine.
- 20 50. Every master or person in charge of any such vessel as is in Penalty for not giving notice or sailing too soon.  
 this Act referred to who shall omit to give notice as in the said Act is required or who shall depart from the port before the expiration of the time mentioned in such notice shall on conviction thereof forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding *fifty pounds*.
- 25 51. Whenever the master or person in charge of any vessel shall Penalty for detaining mails on vessels not sailing pursuant to notice.  
 have received any mail bag mail box or mail parcel for carriage on board of such vessel and such vessel shall not depart on her voyage according to the time fixed for the departure thereof such master or person as aforesaid shall return to the postmaster port officer or other person duly  
 30 authorized in that behalf by writing under the hand of the Postmaster General or officer in immediate charge of the Post Office such mails and also any gratuity which may have been paid for the carriage of the same and in default of so doing shall on conviction thereof forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding *two hundred pounds*.
- 35 52. The master or person in charge of any vessel proceeding Masters of steamers &c. to give notice of their approach to any place appointed for the receipt and despatch of letters under a penalty.  
 from any port or place within the Colony to some other port or place within the the same and having on board any mail bag mail box or mail parcel for any such port or place shall give timely notice of the near approach thereof to any such port or place situated as aforesaid either  
 by

by the ringing of a bell or by such other concerted signal as may reasonably be expected to be distinctly heard or seen by such postmaster or other person a sufficient time before the actual arrival of such vessel to enable him to be prepared to receive or despatch any mail on board such vessel and if any such master or person as aforesaid shall 5 refuse fail or neglect to give such notice he shall for every such offence forfeit and pay a penalty or sum not exceeding *fifty pounds*.

Penalty for retarding  
delivery of mails.

53. If any postmaster port officer master of a vessel or person duly authorized to receive or despatch any mail or any letter packet or newspaper shall neglect or fail to despatch or shall retard the despatch of 10 any mail bag mail box mail parcel letter packet or newspaper sent by post he shall on conviction thereof forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding *one hundred pounds*.

Penalty for carrying  
letters for hire.

54. No letter shall be carried for hire or reward otherwise than by post And any person who shall send or convey any letter otherwise 15 than by post or who shall for hire take charge of the same for such conveyance shall on conviction thereof forfeit and pay for every such letter any sum not less than *five* nor more than *fifty pounds* And every such letter sent conveyed or taken charge of to be conveyed otherwise than by post shall be deemed to have been so sent conveyed or taken 20 charge of for hire or reward unless the contrary shall be shewn by the defendant But nothing herein contained shall extend to any letter exceeding sixteen ounces in weight nor to any letter concerning goods sent and to be delivered therewith or containing process of or proceedings or pleadings in any Court of Justice briefs cases and instructions 25 for counsel and their opinions thereon respectively deed affidavit or letter of attorney nor to any letter sent by any person concerning his private affairs by any special messenger nor to any letter *bonâ fide* sent or carried to or from the nearest post office.

Exceptions.

Fraudulent forging  
stamps envelopes or  
covers.

55. If any person shall fraudulently forge alter or imitate or 30 assist in forging altering or imitating any stamp envelope or cover used or made under the authority or for the purposes of this Act or shall use offer utter or dispose of any forgery or imitation of any such stamp envelope or cover knowing it to be forged or with a fraudulent intent he shall be guilty of felony and on conviction shall be liable at the discre- 35 tion of the Court to imprisonment with hard labor or to hard labor on the roads or other public works of the said Colony for any term not exceeding *seven years*.



56. If any person shall engrave or in anywise make upon any plate or material whatever any stamp used for the purposes of this Act without the authority of the Governor with the advice aforesaid or of the Postmaster General or of the Commissioner of Stamps or of the  
 5 Inspector of Stamps (the proof of which authority shall lie upon the party accused) he shall be guilty of felony and on conviction thereof shall be liable at the discretion of the Court to be imprisoned for any term not exceeding *three years* or to hard labor on the roads or other public works of the Colony for any term not exceeding *fourteen years*.

Penalty for engraving false plates.

57. If any person shall make or cause to be made or assist in making or knowingly have in his custody or possession without lawful  
 10 excuse (the proof whereof shall lie on the person accused) any mould or frame or other instrument having thereon any words letters figures marks lines or devices peculiar to paper heretofore or hereafter to be  
 15 provided or used for postage stamps or if any person shall make or procure to be made or aid or assist in making or knowingly have in his custody or possession without lawful excuse (the proof whereof shall lie on the party accused) any paper in the substance of which shall appear visible any words letters figures marks lines or devices peculiar  
 20 to paper heretofore or hereafter to be used or provided for postage stamps or any part of such words letters figures marks lines or devices and intended to imitate or pass for the same he shall be guilty of felony and shall be liable at the discretion of the Court to be imprisoned for any term not exceeding *three years* or to hard labor on the roads or  
 20 other public works of the Colony for any term not exceeding *fourteen years*.

Unlawful possession of moulds for making postage stamp paper.

58. If any person without lawful excuse (the proof whereof shall lie on the party accused) shall sell purchase dispose of or receive or take  
 or have in his custody or possession any paper provided by the Postmaster General or other officer duly authorized to issue the same for the  
 25 purpose of being used for postage stamps before the same shall have been issued for public use every such person shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be imprisoned for not more than *two years* nor less than *six months*.

Illegal possession of postage stamp paper.

59. If any person shall with a fraudulent intent remove from any  
 30 letter packet or newspaper respectively sent by post any stamp which shall have been affixed thereon or wilfully remove from any stamp which shall have been previously used any mark which shall have been made thereon at any post office or shall knowingly put off or use any such stamp he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be liable at the  
 35 discretion of the Court to be imprisoned for any term not exceeding *three years*.

Fraudulently removing stamps or obliterating mark.

Penalty for falsely sending letters &c. as exempted.

60. If any person shall knowingly and fraudulently put into any post office anything purporting to be a letter packet or newspaper within any of the exemptions hereinbefore in this Act mentioned or any letter purporting to belong to a class in which a lower rate of postage only is chargeable he shall on conviction thereof forfeit and pay any sum not less than *five* nor more than *fifty pounds*. 5

Penalty for falsely sending packets.

61. If any person shall knowingly and fraudulently put into any post office any packet in or upon which or the cover whereof there shall be any letter communication or intelligence not allowed by law or shall wilfully subscribe on the outside of any packet a false statement of the contents thereof he shall on conviction forfeit and pay any sum not less than *five* nor more than *fifty pounds*. 10

Penalty for falsely sending newspapers.

62. If any person shall knowingly and fraudulently put into any post office any newspaper in or upon which or the cover whereof there shall be any communication character figure letter or number (other than a line drawn through any report article or paragraph therein the printed title of such newspaper the printed names occupations and places of business of the printer publisher and vender thereof the name occupation and address of the person to whom it is sent and the words "newspaper only") or in or with which anything shall be enclosed or which anything shall accompany or if any person shall wilfully place the words aforesaid on any newspaper or thing purporting to be a newspaper or on the cover thereof respectively knowing the same to be untrue he shall on conviction thereof forfeit and pay any sum not less than *five* nor more than *fifty pounds*. 25

Penalty for posting obscene or profane letters &c.

63. Any person who shall knowingly put into any Post Office in New South Wales any letter packet or newspaper bearing an obscene profane or libellous address or signature shall on conviction thereof forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding *fifty pounds*.

Penalty on postmasters and others for breach of duty.

64. Any postmaster or other officer employed in the Post Office or any master of a vessel or other person employed by or under any postmaster or employed or authorized to receive sort carry or deliver mails or letters packets or newspapers sent by post or otherwise employed in the business of the Post Office who shall offend against or wilfully neglect or omit to comply with any of the arrangements or regulations to be made as hereinbefore in this Act mentioned or with any of the provisions of this Act (for breach or neglect of which no other punishment is hereby provided) shall on conviction thereof forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding *one hundred pounds*. 30 35

65. Any postmaster master of a vessel or other person duly authorized to receive sort convey or deliver mails letters packets or newspapers sent by post who shall negligently lose or wilfully omit or delay to deliver any such mail letter packet or newspaper whether the same shall or shall not be afterwards recovered or delivered (as the case may be) shall on conviction thereof forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding *twenty-five pounds*.

Penalty for losing or not delivering letters.

66. If the driver of any vehicle used for the conveyance of the mail or the guard or any person in charge of a mail whether conveyed by such vehicle or on horseback or foot shall loiter on the road or wilfully misspend or lose time so as to retard the arrival of the mail at its proper destination or shall not in all possible cases convey such mail at the speed fixed by the Postmaster General for the conveyance thereof unless the weather or the badness of the roads or any accident shall prevent the same (the proof whereof shall lie on the defendant) he shall on conviction thereof forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding *fifty pounds*.

Penalty on mail-coach drivers or guards loitering.

67. Every person who shall wilfully retain secrete keep or detain any letter packet or newspaper which ought to have been delivered to any other person or any mail bag mail box mail parcel letter packet or newspaper which shall have been found by the person secreting keeping or detaining the same or by any other person shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and being convicted thereof shall be liable to be punished by a fine not exceeding *fifty pounds* or to be imprisoned with or without hard labor for any term not exceeding *one year*.

Penalty for retaining or secreting letters.

68. If any person shall by means of any false pretence or misstatement induce any postmaster or any officer or servant of the Post Office to deliver to such person any letter packet or newspaper sent by post and not addressed to such person he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and he shall be liable upon summary conviction thereof before two Justices to forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding *fifty pounds*.

Penalty for improperly obtaining letters &c.

69. If any person whether employed in the Post Office or otherwise shall fraudulently take from the possession of any postmaster or person employed in the Post Office or from any post office or place appointed for the receipt or delivery of letters or shall steal or for any purpose embezzle take secrete or destroy any mail bag mail box or mail parcel or any letter packet or newspaper sent by post or any part thereof respectively he shall be guilty of felony and on conviction thereof shall be

Stealing letters &c.

be liable at the discretion of the Court to be imprisoned with or without hard labor for any term not exceeding *three years* or if a male to be worked on the roads or other public works of the Colony for any term not exceeding *seven years*.

Penalty for opening or tampering with letters.

70. Any postmaster or other person employed in the sorting 5 delivery or conveyance of mails who shall without the consent of the party to whom it is addressed (the proof of which consent shall rest on such person) open or tamper with any letter which may come into his or her hands power or custody by virtue of his or her employment relating to the Post Office shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall on con- 10 viction thereof be liable to be punished by a fine not exceeding *fifty pounds* or to be imprisoned with or without hard labor for any term not exceeding *one year*.

Exhibiting sign &c. as post office or royal mail.

71. If any person without the authority of the Postmaster General (the proof of which authority shall rest on such person) shall place or 15 permit or cause to be placed or to remain on or near to his house or premises the words "post office" or any other words or mark which may imply or give reasonable cause to believe that such house or premises is or are a post office or a place for the receipt of letters or shall place or permit or cause to be placed or to remain on any vehicle the words 20 "royal mail" or any word or mark which may imply or give reasonable cause to believe that such vehicle is used for the conveyance of mails he shall on conviction thereof forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding *fifty* nor less than *five pounds*.

Prevention of obstructions opposite the General Post Office.

72. No hackney carriage shall stand or ply for hire opposite the 25 General Post Office and every driver or person having the management of any hackney carriage who shall permit the same to stand or ply for hire opposite the said post office shall forfeit for every such offence a sum not exceeding *five pounds* and every hawker newsvender or idle or disorderly person who shall stop or loiter opposite to or on the premises 30 of the General Post Office shall be subject to removal by the police and if convicted of such offence be punished by imprisonment with or without hard labor for a term not exceeding *fourteen days*.

Penalty for obstructing conveyance and delivering of mails.

73. If any person shall wilfully obstruct or retard the conveyance or delivery of any mail he shall for such offence upon conviction thereof 35 before any one or more Justices of the Peace forfeit and pay a penalty not exceeding *twenty pounds*.

Persons unlawfully issuing money orders to be guilty of felony.

74. Any person who shall unlawfully issue any money order with a fraudulent intent shall be guilty of felony and on conviction thereof shall

shall be liable to be imprisoned with or without hard labor for any term not exceeding *three years* or if a male to be worked on the roads or other public works of the Colony for such term not exceeding *fourteen years* as the Court shall award.

5        75. Every money order shall be deemed a "valuable security" Money orders to be deemed valuable securities. within the meaning of any Act now or hereafter in force relative to larceny and the prosecution for and punishment of that offence.

76. Every person who shall with fraudulent intent send any Persons sending fraudulent message guilty of a misdemeanor. message or advice through the Electric Telegraph or otherwise concerning  
10 any money order or any money or poundage due or receivable from or by any person in respect of any money order shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction thereof shall be liable to be punished with fine or imprisonment or both in the discretion of the Judge before whom such person shall be tried.

15        77. If any person shall enclose in or with any letter packet or newspaper or shall put into any post office or into any pillar or box for Penalty for putting explosive or other things into letters &c. or post offices. the receipt of letters packets or newspapers to be sent by post any explosive dangerous or destructive substance or liquid or any matter or thing likely to injure any letter packet or newspaper or the person of any  
20 officer or servant of the Post Office he shall be guilty of felony and shall be liable at the discretion of the Court to be imprisoned for any term not exceeding *three years* or if a male to be worked on the roads or other public works of the Colony for any term not exceeding *fourteen years*.

78. Any person wilfully injuring or destroying or who shall aid or Penalty for wilfully injuring or destroying pillar letter receivers. assist in injuring or destroying any letter or newspaper box or receiver  
25 erected in this Colony for the reception of letters or newspapers obliterating any of the letters or figures thereon shall forfeit and pay for such offence a penalty or sum not exceeding *fifty pounds*.

79. All offences against this Act or against any rule or regulation Proceedings for penalties.  
30 made under this Act as aforesaid in respect of which said offences any pecuniary fine or penalty is by this Act imposed (where no other provision for the recovery thereof is in that behalf made) shall be heard and determined and such fines and penalties be awarded and imposed in a summary way by and before one or more Justices of the Peace upon  
35 complaint in that behalf made and all fines and penalties so awarded and imposed shall go and be distributed and all persons aggrieved by any summary conviction under this Act shall be entitled to appeal there-  
from

from in the manner provided respectively by the Act of the said Governor and Council passed in the fifth year of the reign of His late Majesty King William the Fourth intituled "*An Act to regulate summary proceedings before Justices of the Peace*" Provided however that no formal information shall be necessary but that on due service of 5 a summons all subsequent proceedings shall be and be held to be as valid and effectual as if a formal information were filed Provided further that in every such summons the general nature of the complaint shall be succinctly stated and that all such proceedings shall be taken in the name of Her Majesty's Attorney General or of the Postmaster General 10 or of some other officer employed in the Post Office Department of the said Colony.

Form of proceedings  
and *certiorari*.

80. Every conviction or warrant shall be deemed valid in which the offence is set forth in the words of this Act and no such conviction or any adjudication made upon appeal therefrom shall be quashed for 15 want of form or be removed by writ of *certiorari* or otherwise into the Supreme Court.

Prosecution of  
offences.

81. In any information for any offence committed upon or in respect of any mail bag mail box or mail parcel or any letter packet or newspaper sent by post or any property moneys money order goods 20 chattels or effects under the management or control of the Postmaster General or where any act matter or thing shall have been done or committed with any malicious injurious or fraudulent design intent or purpose in anywise relating to or concerning the Post Office or any such property moneys money order goods chattels or effects as aforesaid it 25 shall be sufficient to state or allege the property to belong to and such act deed matter or thing to have been done or committed with the intent to injure or defraud the Postmaster General without mentioning his name.

Notice and limitation  
of action.

82. If any action or suit shall be commenced against any post-30 master or other officer or servant of the Post Office for anything done or omitted to be done in pursuance of this Act the same shall be commenced within six months after the fact committed or omitted and not afterwards And no such action shall be commenced until one month after notice thereof and of the cause thereof shall have been delivered to the 35 defendant or left for him at his usual place of abode by the party intending to commence such action and upon the back of such notice shall be indorsed the name and place of abode or business of the plaintiff and his attorney or agent if such notice shall have been served by such attorney

or

or agent And the defendant in such action may plead the general issue and give the special matter in evidence and if it shall appear that the action was commenced after the time before limited for bringing the same the jury shall find for the defendant.

5           83. And be it enacted That the moneys to arise by and from the several rates and duties as aforesaid and also all sums of money imposed and levied by way of penalty under the provisions of this Act (except such part thereof as may be payable to the party suing or informing in respect thereof) shall respectively be paid to Her Majesty Her Heirs and  
 10 Successors for the public uses of the said Colony and in support of the Government thereof and shall be applied thereto in such manner as shall be directed by any Act to be passed by the Governor and Legislative Council of the said Colony.

Appropriation of postage duties penalties &c.

15           84. This Act shall commence and take effect from and after the day of which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty- and may be cited in all proceedings as the "Postage Act 186 ."

Commencement of Act.

SCHEDULES.

FIRST SCHEDULE.

20	DATE.	TITLE.	EXTENT OF REPEAL.
	15 Vic., No. 12 ...	An Act to consolidate and amend the Law for the Conveyance and Postage of Letters.	The whole.      Section 1.
	16 Vic., No. 35 ...	An Act to amend in some particulars the Postage Act of the year 1851.	"
25	18 Vic., No. 17 ...	An Act to further amend the Postage Act ...	"
	20 Vic., No. 26 ...	An Act to amend the Postage Acts ...	"
	27 Vic., No. 7 ...	An Act to render Newspapers liable to postage.	"

SECOND

SECOND SCHEDULE.

	Town.	Country.	Foreign.	
<i>Upon Letters.</i>				
<i>Not exceeding half an ounce</i> ... ..	s. d. 0 1	s. d. 0 2	s. d. 0 6	
<i>Exceeding half an ounce and not exceeding one ounce</i> ... ..	0 2	0 4	1 0	5
<i>Every additional ounce or fraction of one ounce</i> ... ..	0 2	0 4	1 0	
<i>Upon Packets.</i>				
<i>Not exceeding four ounces</i> ... ..	0 2	0 2	0 4	
<i>Every additional four ounces or fraction of four ounces</i> ... ..	0 2	0 2	0 4	
<i>Upon Letters and Packets containing Gold.</i>				
<i>Not exceeding half an ounce</i> ... ..	0 2	0 4		10
<i>Exceeding half an ounce and not exceeding one ounce</i> ... ..	0 4	0 8		
<i>Every additional ounce or fraction of one ounce</i> ... ..	0 4	0 8		
<i>Upon Newspapers</i> ... ..	0 1	0 1	0 1	

THIRD SCHEDULE.

15

Section 4.

I [A. B.] do solemnly and sincerely declare that I will not willingly or knowingly open detain return or delay or cause or suffer to be opened detained returned or delayed any letter or packet which shall come into my hands power or custody by reason of my employment relating to the Post Office except by the consent of the person or persons to whom such letter or packet shall be directed or by an express warrant in writing for that purpose under the hand of the Governor or unless otherwise in pursuance and under the authority of any of the provisions in that behalf contained in any Act law or duly authorized regulation of the Colony of New South Wales now or hereafter passed and made or to be passed and made for or in relation to the postage and conveyance of letters.

FOURTH SCHEDULE.

25

Section 29.

I [A. B.] do declare that I will be true and faithful in the execution of the trust committed to my charge and that I will not intentionally read the contents of any letter or packet which I may open under the provisions of any Act now or hereafter to be in force relating to the Post Office except so far as it may be necessary for the purpose of ascertaining the name and address of the writer or sender thereof and that I will not divulge to any person whatever except the Postmaster General or other officer in immediate charge of the Post Office any of the contents of any such letter or packet.

Declared before me one of Her Majesty's  
Justices of the Peace in and for the  
day of

35

FIFTH SCHEDULE.

Section 38.

I [A. B.] do solemnly declare that I have to the best of my knowledge delivered to [C. D.] every mail bag mail box mail parcel letter packet and newspaper that were on board the [name of vessel] at the time of her arrival in the port of except such letters as are exempted by law from such delivery.

Signed in my presence the  
day of

40