

ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO SECUNDO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

CAP. LXXXVIII.

An Act for granting to His Majesty certain additional Rates of Postage in *Great Britain*.

[9th *July* 1812.]

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Commons of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, in Parliament assembled, being desirous of raising the necessary Supplies to defray Your Majesty's Public Expences, and of making a permanent Addition to the Public Revenue, have freely and voluntarily resolved to give and grant unto Your Majesty, the additional Rates and Duties herein-after mentioned, and do therefore most humbly beseech Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That from and after the passing of this Act it shall and may be lawful to and for His Majesty's Postmaster General, and his Deputy and Deputies by him thereunto authorized, for the Use of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, to demand, have, receive, and take for the Port and Conveyance of all Letters and Packets which he shall carry, convey, or send Post in Manner herein-after mentioned, the additional Rates and Duties herein-after specified, the same being rated by the Letter or by the Ounce; (that is to say),

Additional Rates of Postage granted.

Rates.

For the Port and Conveyance of Letters by the Poſt within *Great Britain*, above the Diſtance of Twenty Miles from the Office where ſuch Letters may be put in, to the Office where the ſame may be directed,

For every Single Letter, One Penny:

For every Double Letter, Two-pence:

For every Treble Letter or other Letter under an Ounce in Weight, Three-pence:

And for every Ounce in Weight, and for every Packet not exceeding an Ounce in Weight, Four-pence, and ſo in Proportion for every other Letter or Packet of greater Weight than an Ounce:

For the Port and Conveyance of Letters by the Poſt to and from *Ireland*,

For every Single Letter One Penny:

For every Double Letter Two-pence:

For every Treble Letter or other Letter under an Ounce in Weight, Three-pence:

And for every Ounce in Weight, and for every Packet not exceeding an Ounce in Weight, Four-pence, and ſo in Proportion for every other Letter or Packet of greater Weight than an Ounce:

For the Port and Conveyance of Letters by the Poſt to and from His Majeſty's Dominions and Plantations in *America*,

For every Single Letter an additional Rate of Two-pence:

For every Double Letter, Four-pence:

For every Treble Letter or other Letter under an Ounce in Weight, Sixpence:

And for every Packet not exceeding an Ounce in Weight, Eight-pence, and ſo in Proportion for every other Letter or Packet of greater Weight than an Ounce:

And for the Port and Conveyance of Letters by the Poſt to and from Parts beyond the Seas, whether within His Majeſty's Dominions or not within His Majeſty's Dominions,

For every Single Letter an additional Rate of Two-pence:

For every Double Letter, Four-pence:

For every Treble Letter or other Letter under an Ounce in Weight Sixpence:

And for every Packet not exceeding an Ounce in Weight, Eight-pence, and ſo in Proportion for every other Letter of greater Weight than an Ounce.

Rates not to extend to Guernſey, &c.

II. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing herein contained ſhall extend or be conſtrued to extend the ſaid additional Rates of Poſtage to Letters to be ſent by the Poſt to and from the Iſlands of *Guernſey*, *Jerſey*, and the Iſle of *Man*, (except the Rates payable for Conveyance within *Great Britain*,) any Thing herein contained to the contrary notwithſtanding: And for the Port and Conveyance by the Poſt of every Letter, Packet, or Cover containing Patterns of Cloth, Silk, Stuff, or Samples of other Goods or other Sort of Thing, not exceeding One Ounce in Weight, if the ſame Letter or Packet or Cover ſhall be cloſed or not open at the Sides, an additional Rate of Two-pence for every ſuch Letter, Packet, or Cover: And for the Port and Conveyance by the Poſt of every Letter or Cover containing One or more Paper or Papers with Patterns, or containing One or more Pattern or Patterns of Cloth, Silk, or Stuff, or One or more Sample or Samples of any other Sort of

Rates for Letters containing Patterns of Goods.

Goods, or One or more Piece or Pieces of any other Sort of Thing inclosed therein or affixed thereto though not on Paper, if the same do not weigh One Ounce, an additional Rate of One Penny for every such Letter, so as every such Letter, Packet, or Cover shall be sent open at the Sides and without any Letter or Writing in, upon, or with such Packet or Cover other than the Name or Names of the Person or Persons sending the same, and the Place or Places of his, her, or their Abode, and the Prices of the Articles contained therein or affixed thereto.

Rates not to extend to Letters sent by or to Seamen and Soldiers under 35 G. 3. c. 53.

III. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing herein contained shall increase or alter, or be construed to increase or alter the Amount or Manner of charging the Rates of Postage upon single Letters to be sent by the Post by or to Seamen or Privates employed in His Majesty's Navy, Army, Militia, Fencible Regiments, Artillery, or Marines upon their own private Concerns only whilst such Seamen and Privates shall be employed in the public Service, made payable by an Act passed in the Thirty-fifth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act for further regulating the sending and receiving Letters free from the Duty of Postage; for allowing Non-commissioned Officers, Seamen, and private Men in the Navy and Army whilst on Service to send and receive Letters at a low Rate of Postage; and for permitting Patterns and Samples of Goods to be transmitted by the Post at an easier Rate than is now allowed by Law*; any Thing herein-before contained to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding.

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

IV. 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 of Parliament in force at the Time of passing this Act, relating to the Post Office, or any Rates or Duties payable on the Port or Conveyance of Letters or Packets (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 granted, 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.

Duties to be paid to the Receiver General.

V. And be it further enacted, That the several Rates and Duties herein-before granted shall be paid from Time to Time into the Hands of the Receiver General for the Time being of the Revenue of the Post Office, who shall pay the same (the necessary Charges for collecting, paying, and accounting for the same being first deducted) into the Receipt of His Majesty's Exchequer, on such Days and Times, and in such Manner as the present Rates and Duties are directed by Law to be paid, and the said Duties so to be paid into the said Receipt as aforesaid shall be carried to and made Part of the Consolidated Fund of *Great Britain*.

Money arising by the Rates to be an Addition to the Revenue.

VI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That all the Monies arising and to arise by the said Rates and Duties, or any of them, shall be deemed an Addition made to the Revenue for the Purpose of defraying the increased Charges occasioned by any Loan made or to be made, or Stock created or to be created by virtue of any Act or Acts passed or to be passed in this Session of Parliament.

VII. Provided

A ſeparate Account of the Rates to be kept for 10 Years.

VII. Provided always, and be it enacted, That the Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Treaſury now or for the Time being, or any Three or more of them, or the Lord High Treaſurer for the Time being, ſhall for the Period of Ten Years from the Commencement of this Act cauſe a ſeparate and diſtinct Account of the additional Duties granted by this Act to be prepared and annually laid before Parliament, purſuant to an Act paſſed in the Forty-ſecond Year of the Reign of His preſent Majeſty, intituled *An Act for directing certain Public Accounts to be laid annually before Parliament, and for diſcontinuing certain other Forms of Account now in uſe*; and the Monies ariſing from the ſaid additional Duties ſhall be deemed a permanent Increaſe to the Public Revenue of *Great Britain*, for the Purpoſe of defraying any increaſed Charge occaſioned by any Loan made or Stock created, by Authority of any Act of Parliament paſſed or to be paſſed in the preſent Seſſion of Parliament.

Perſons ſued may plead the General Iſſue.

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

Act may be altered or repealed this Seſſion.

IX. And be it further enacted, That this Act may be altered, varied, or repealed by any Act or Acts to be made in this preſent Seſſion of Parliament.

LONDON: Printed by GEORGE EYRE and ANDREW STRAHAN, Printers to the King's moſt Excellent Majeſty. 1812.