

GENERAL POSTAL REGULATIONS.

HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS.

Postmaster General, Earl Lonsdale; Secretary, Lieut.-Col. W. L. Maberly; Assistant Secretary, T. Lawrence, Esq.; Chief Clerk to the Secretary, J. Campbell, Esq.; Solicitor, Mark B. Peacock, Esq.; Surveyor and Superintendent of Mail Conveyance and Guards, G. Stow, Esq.; Accountant General, C. T. Court, Esq.; Receiver General, T. Young, Esq. Inspector of Ship Letters, G. Hindlestone, Esq.; Inspector of the Dead Letter Office, K. Newton, Esq.; President of the Money Order Office, W. Barth, Esq.; Superintending-president of the Inland and Foreign Department, W. Bokenham, Esq.; Inspector of the Carriers (general post), F. Kelly, Esq.; Superintending-president of the London District Post, R. Smith, Esq.

INLAND REGULATIONS.

RATES OF POSTAGE.

All letters from one part of Great Britain to another (including the Local Penny Posts and the London Twopenny Post) are charged by weight as follows, if prepaid:—

Not exceeding half an ounce	.. .. .	1d.
Exceeding half an ounce, and not exceeding 1 ounce	.. .. .	2d.
.. 1 ounce	.. .. .	4d.
.. 2 ounces	.. .. .	6d.

and so on at the rate of 2d. for every additional ounce or fraction of an ounce.

Unpaid and unstamped letters, are charged double postage on delivery; letters insufficiently paid or stamped, are charged double the amount of such insufficiency on delivery.

- Letters or packets exceeding 16 ounces in weight not forwarded—except, Parliamentary petitions and addresses to Her Majesty
- Parliamentary proceedings
- Letters or packets addressed to, or received from, places beyond sea
- Letters or packets to and from public departments and public officers,

PRICES OF STAMPS.

At a Post Office.—Labels, 1d. and 2d. each; Covers, 2s. 3d. per two dozen. At a Stamp Distributor's, as above, or as follows.—Half-ream, or 240 Penny Covers, £1 2s. 4d.—Penny Envelopes, £1 1s. 9d. Quarter-ream, or 120 Twopenny Covers, £1 1s. 4d.—Twopenny Envelopes, £1 1s. 1d.

At the Stamp Offices in London, Dublin, and Edinburgh, as above, or as follows.—2 Reams, or 960 Penny Covers, £4 7s.—Penny Envelopes, £4 5s. 1 Ream, or 480 Twopenny Covers, £4 3s. 6d.—Twopenny Envelopes, £4 2s. 6d. Covers may be had at these prices, either in sheets or cut ready for use. Envelopes in sheets only, and consequently not made up. No one, unless duly licensed, is authorised to sell postage stamps.

The Penny Stamp carries half an ounce (inland), the Twopenny Stamp one ounce. For weights exceeding one ounce, use the proper number of labels, either alone, or in combination with the Stamps of the Covers or Envelopes.

HOURS OF POSTING.

FOR THE EVENING MAILS.

The receiving houses close at 5 30 P.M. Letter carriers ring bells and take letters in the streets to go by the evening mails from 4 30 to 5 30 P.M. (with such letter one penny fee is charged as a perquisite to the postman). Letters are received for the evening's dispatch at the Branch Post-offices at Charing-cross, Old Cavendish-street, and 108. Blackman-street, Southwark, until 6 P.M., and, with a fee of one penny, which must be paid by affixing a stamp to the letter, until 6 45 P.M. At the Branch Post-office in Lombard-street, the box remains open without additional fee until 6 P.M., and until 7 P.M., by affixing a penny stamp. At the General Post-office in St. Martin's-le-grand until 6, free, and 7 by payment of the extra charge as at Lombard-street. From 7 to half-past 7 P.M., letters may be posted there upon payment of a fee of sixpence each, which must, as well as the postage, be prepaid. Letters intended to pass by outward mails to foreign parts must be posted at the above hours. In the case of Colonial and ship letters, however, there is this difference:—The "late" fee of one penny must be paid in money. Foreign letters are taken in at the Branch offices as follows:—Tuesdays and Fridays at Charing-cross, Old Cavendish-street, and 108. Blackman-street, Southwark, until 1 P.M.; at the office in Lombard-street, and the General Post-office in St. Martin's-le-grand, only from 10 15 P.M., on payment of a fee of one penny, and from 10 15 P.M., till 10 30, on payment of a fee of sixpence.

N.B. Newspapers for the evening mails must be put into the receiving houses before 5 P.M., the Branch offices before 5 30, or General Post-office before 6 P.M. They may also be posted by letter carriers ringing bells from 4 30 P.M. to 5 30 P.M. with the penny fee to the postman. From 6 P.M. to 7 30, they may be put into the office on the left hand side of the portico, and at the nearest window to it on the western front on payment of one halfpenny late fee. Subjoined is a list—the latest officially published—of the post towns to which bags are made up per morning mails.

Abingdon	Brighton	Darlington
Ackington	Bristol	Dartford
Alnwick	Brough	Daventry
Andover Road	Buckingham	Derby
Appleby	Burley	Dorking
Ashford	Bury St. Edmund's	Dover
Attleborough	Cambridge	Dunmow
Barnaby	Canterbury	Dursley
Bangor	Carlisle	Durham
Bath	Carnarvon	Ely
Barnsley	Charham	Exeter
Basingstoke	Chelmsford	Fairford
Battle	Cheltenham	Fareham
Beaumaris	Chepstow	Farrington
Belford	Chester	Felton
Belper	Chester-le-Street	Fenny Stratford
Berkhamstead	Chesham	Faversham
Berwick	Chilpenham	Folkstone
Bilston	Chorley	Gateshead
Birmingham	Cirencester	Gloucester
Bishops Stortford	Clitheroe	Godalming
Blackburn	Cockermouth	Gosport
Boston	Colchester	Grantham
Brackley	Conway	Gravesend
Bradford, Yorks	Coventry	Guernsey
Brantford	Cowes	Guildford
Brentwood	Cranbrook	Halifax
Bridgewater	Cuckfield	Hastings

Hemel Hempstead	Nottingham	Swindon
Hertford	Northallerton	Taunton
Highworth	Oxford	Tenterden
Hoddesdon	Penkridge	Tetbury
Holyhead	Penrith	Thetford
Holywell	Portsmouth	Thirsk
Huddersfield	Preston	Towcester
Hurst Green	Preston Brook	Tring
Hythe	Pwllheli	Tunbridge
Ipswich	Ramsgate	Tunbridge Wells
Jersey	Reading	Ulverstone
Kelvedon	Reigate	Uxbridge
Kendal	Rickmansworth	Wakefield
Kenilworth	Ripon	Wallingford
Lancaster	Rochdale	Walsall
Leamington	Rochester	Ware
Lechlade	Rotherham	Warrington
Leeds	Rugby	Warwick
Leicester	Ryde	Watford
Leighton Buzzard	Rye	Wednesbury
Leves	Saffron Walden	Weedon
Liverpool	Seven Oaks	Wellington, Salop
Loughboro'	Sheffield	Wellington, Som.
Maidenhead	Shiffnall	West Bromwich
Maldstone	Sittingbourne	Whitehaven
Manchester	Shoreham	Wigan
Margate	Shrewsbury	Wilton
Maryport	Slough	Winchester
Melton Mowbray	South Shields	Windsor
Milnthorpe	Southampton	Witham
Mold	Staplehurst	Wolverhampton
Monmouth	St. Alban's	Workington
Morpeth	St. Asaph	Worthing
Newcastle, Staff.	St. Leonard's	Wotton-under-Edge
Newcastle-on-Tyne	Stafford	Wymondham
Newmarket	Stockport	Yarmouth
Newport, I. of W.	Stone	York
Newport Pagnel	Stony Stratford	
Northampton	Stratford-on-Avon	
North Shields	Stroud	All Ireland
Norwich	Sunderland	All Scotland

For all the above places, the letter boxes at the Receiving Houses will be open till seven, A.M. for the newspapers, and eight, A.M. for letters; and those at the Branch Offices, Charing-cross, Old Cavendish-street, and the Borough, for newspapers until half-past seven, A.M., and for letters until eight, A.M. At the General Post Office and the Branch Office in Lombard-street, the boxes will close for newspapers at a quarter before eight, A.M., and for letters at half-past eight, A.M.

LETTER-RATES TO PLACES BEYOND THE LIMITS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

WEST INDIA AND AMERICA RATES.

PACKET RATES, paying the Postage optional, excepting those places marked \*, which must be paid with. Under half oz.

North America, viz.:—Quebec, Montreal, and all parts of *Canada; Nova Scotia (Halifax excepted). Prince Edward's Island, and New Brunswick, conveyed direct by the contract packets (being one shilling packet postage, and twopenny uniform internal colonial rate)	.. .. .	1 2
Halifax, Newfoundland, *New York, the Bermudas, and the *United States .. .. .	.. .. .	1 0
British West Indies, &c., including Kingston (Jamaica), Barbadoes, New Providence, Turk's Island, Bahamas, Antigua, Carriacou, Demerara, Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia, Monserrat, Nevis, St. Vincent's, St. Kitt's, Tobago, Tortola, and Trinidad .. .. .	.. .. .	1 0
Foreign West Indies, including *Guadaloupe, *Martinique, *St. Thomas, *Curaçoa, *Surinam, *St. Martin's, *St. Croix, and Porto Rico .. .. .	.. .. .	1 5
Jamaica (all the island, except the packet-port, Kingston) and Barbice .. .. .	.. .. .	1 2

Letters to the West Indies are forwarded at the above uniform rates from all parts of the United Kingdom.

All Letters addressed to North America will be considered as intended to be forwarded by the contract steam packets, and charged accordingly, unless the words, "By Private Ship" be plainly written on them.

SHIP LETTER RATES.

The single uniform rate on letters between the United Kingdom and places beyond sea, when conveyed by private ships, is 8d., in whatever part of the United Kingdom the letters may be posted or delivered. This is the rate now taken on letters between the United Kingdom and the East Indies, &c., &c., when conveyed by private ship, the former distinction between these and other descriptions of ship letters having been abolished.

The rates of postage on "Ship," as on other letters are taken by weight:—

Under half an ounce	.. .. .	Single.
Under an ounce	.. .. .	Double.
Under two ounces	.. .. .	Quadruple.
Under three ounces	.. .. .	Sextuple and so on.

PERSONS EXEMPT FROM SHIP LETTER POSTAGE.

The Owners, Charterers, or Consignees (resident in the United Kingdom), and the Owners, Consignees, and Shippers of Goods on board vessels inward bound, are entitled to receive their letters free from sea postage, to the extent collectively of six ounces in weight, by any one vessel to any one such person. In the case of vessels coming from Ceylon, the Mauritius, the East Indies or the Cape of Good Hope, for an Owner, Charterer, or Consignee of such vessel, the letters may be collectively twenty ounces in weight. The Owner, Charterer, or Consignee, must be described as such on the address and superscription; and in the case of Owners, Shippers, or Consignees of goods, it must also appear by the Ship's Manifest that they have goods on board the vessel. Such persons are entitled to have their letters, which come within the above conditions, before the master of the vessel delivers the other letters in his charge to the post-office.

\*\* Every person who shall, with intent to evade any duty of postage,



THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1846.

falsely superscribe a letter as being the Owner, or the Charterer, or the Consignee of a vessel conveying the same, or as the owner, or the Shipper, or the Consignee of goods shipped in such vessel, shall for every such offence forfeit Ten Pounds.

MONEY.

Coin, if enclosed in letters at all, should be folded in paper, sealed, and then fastened to the inside of the letter; but to avoid risk, a money order should be used whenever practicable. A letter may be registered on the payment of 1s. only.

FOREIGN LETTERS.

The packet rates are too various to be enumerated here. As regards both foreign and colonial letters, there is no limitation as to weight. All sent outwards, with few exceptions, must be prepaid by money or by stamps; and those going by private ship must be marked "ship letter."

It is requested that all letters may be fully and legibly addressed, and posted as early as convenient. Also, that whatever kind of stamp may be used, it may invariably stand above the address, and towards the right hand side of the letter.

There are "made up" in London the following Mails, as specified by the notices to the public, issued by the Post-Master-General:—

France, daily, due daily, under ½ oz., postage 10d.  
Belgium, daily, due daily, under ½ oz., postage 1s.  
Holland, Tuesday and Friday, due Monday and Thursday, under ½ oz., postage 1s.

Hamburg, Sweden, and Norway, Tuesday and Friday, due Tuesday and Saturday, but usually arrive on previous day, under ½ oz., postage 6d., Sweden and Norway, postage 1s. 8d. under ½ oz.

Inland rates:—Dublin, twice a-day, due twice a-day.  
Ditto, Waterford, daily, due daily.  
Ditto, Donaghadee, daily, due daily.  
Ditto, Guernsey and Jersey, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, due Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

Lisbon, Madeira, Vigo, Cadiz, Corunna, Oporto, and Gibraltar, 7th, 17th, and 27th, of every month.

Malta, Greece, and Ionian Islands, *via* Southampton, twice in each month, viz.:—on the 3rd and 20th of every month.

Syria, Egypt, and India, *via* Southampton, 3rd and 20th in each month.  
Brazil, Buenos Ayres, Madeira, and Canary Islands, 1st Tuesday in each month.  
British North America, Bermuda, and United States, 3rd and 18th of every month, except in the winter months, December, January, February, and March, and then on the 3rd only.

Jamaica, Leeward Islands, Hayti, Porto Rico, and Cuba, mornings of the 2nd and 17th of every month.

Mexico, Panama, New Granada, and Venezuela, mornings of the 2nd of every month.

The Mails despatched for Vigo, Oporto, Lisbon, Cadiz and Gibraltar are forwarded by steam vessels from Southampton to Gibraltar.

The Mails of the 3rd and 20th in each month are forwarded by the same packet from Southampton to Alexandria; leaving Mails at Malta.

The Mails for Greece and the Ionian Islands are conveyed from Malta every fortnight, by steam packets, which start after the arrival of the Mails from England.

The Mails for Egypt and India are forwarded direct from Southampton on the 3rd and 20th of each month, by steam packets.

From August to January inclusive, the packet touches at Pernambuco and Bahia, on her outward passage to Rio Janeiro, and the other six months on her homeward.

RATES OF POSTAGE WITHIN BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

Letters forwarded to or from British North America by the Liverpool packets, or by private ships, passing direct between the United Kingdom and British America, are charged with an uniform Colonial rate of twopence the half ounce when posted or delivered at any other towns than the ports of Halifax, Nova Scotia, or St. John's, Newfoundland.

MONEY ORDERS.

Orders for sums not exceeding £2 are charged threepence; not exceeding £5, sixpence; above £5 no money order can be obtained. They are granted and paid between the hours of ten and four daily: they are paid only to the person for whom they were obtained, but he may depute another person to receive the money by signing the order, and giving his deputy the christian and surname, the address, and occupation of the person who originally obtained the order, so that the deputy may be enabled to give those particulars when he presents the order at the office for payment. Persons residing in London should instruct their correspondents who may obtain money orders, to make them payable at the most convenient of the above offices, as money orders granted, bearing London only, can be paid only at the principal office, St. Martin's-le-Grand.

LONDON DISTRICT POST.

The following table shows the times at which letters are despatched from and to London, and to and from places within the limits of the London district post.

Letters must be posted at receiving-houses in London,

Morning, before 8 for the 10 o'clock dispatch

..	10	12	..
..	12	1	..
..	1	2	..
..	2	3	..
..	3	4	..
..	4	5	..
..	5	6	..
..	6	8	..
..	8	8 next morning.	..

At the principal office, St. Martin's-le-Grand, letters must be posted,

Morning, before 9 for the 10 o'clock dispatch,

..	11	12	..
quarter before	1	1	..
..	2	2	..
..	3	3	..
..	4	4	..
..	5	5	..
..	6	6	..
before 7	..	8	..
..	8	8 next morning.	..

The deliveries in the country commence immediately upon the arrival of the dispatch from London, except the 8 o'clock night dispatch, which is not delivered till the next morning. The time of arrival of the day-dispatches may be calculated by the distance from London, allowing the post to travel at about the rate of eight miles an hour. Letters for places on the main roads are delivered generally sooner than those for places a distance from them; the deliveries occupy, according to distance from London, from one hour and a half to three

hours after the time of dispatch from London. Receiving-houses where the mail cart stops are also called sorting-offices: where there are other receiving-houses in the same place or town, letters are generally dispatched from the latter from a quarter to three quarters of an hour earlier than from the sorting-offices. There are no receiving-houses at those places having no time stated for dispatch to London.

By a recent Treasury warrant the following regulations respecting Foreign Postage were promulgated:—

To all the usual trading-ports of the Cape of Good Hope and Eastward of that Cape, including the Red Sea and Persian Gulf, and between any of the ports enumerated, except between Australia and New Zealand, a uniform rate of 1s. will be charged, on letters not exceeding half-an-ounce in weight [the weight allowed in the succeeding paragraphs].

The rate to the Eastern coast of the Isthmus of Panama is to be 1s.; to the Western coast of Panama or the Western coast of America, 2s.

To Heligoland (except on the letters of soldiers and sailors, which are already lower), 6d.

British and Colonial papers between British Colonies, without passing through the United Kingdom to be free; except that 1d. may be allowed as a gratuity to the master of the vessel conveying them.

Newspapers, British, Foreign, or Colonial, passing between British or Colonial and Foreign Ports, and through the British post, to pay 2d.; if not through the British post, 1d.

Such papers passing between places in British North America or British West Indian Colonies, to pay a uniform inland rate of ¾d.

Each supplement to be charged as a separate newspaper, whether inclosed separately or not.

Belgian newspapers may be sent from Belgium through the United Kingdom to any Colonies, at a uniform rate of British postage of 1d. each.

No newspaper, price-current, or commercial list, shall be conveyed by the post under the regulations of this warrant, unless the same shall be sent without a cover, or in a cover open at the sides, and unless there be no writing or mark upon it except the name and address of the person to whom sent.

The Postage rate to Hanover is altered to a uniform British rate of 6d.; prepayment of the whole postage of British and Foreign rates optional. Newspapers, 1d.

NEWSPAPERS.

As complaints are continually made that newspapers sent by post are frequently lost, it may not be amiss to state, that the following order on the subject is periodically issued, by the authorities, as a caution to letter-carriers and others:—"General Post-office.—The complaints on the subject of missing newspapers, stated to have been committed to the post, continue to be so numerous, that, although the Postmaster-General is satisfied that much of the irregularity complained of arises from causes beyond the control of the Post-office, his lordship thinks it expedient that every one engaged in the Post-office service should be made acquainted with the 32nd section of the 1st Vic., cap. 36, by which it is provided, "That every person employed in the Post-office, who shall steal, or shall wilfully detain or delay in course of conveyance or delivery, any printed votes or proceedings in Parliament, or any printed newspaper, or any other printed paper whatever sent by the post, shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, and, being convicted thereof, shall suffer such punishment, by fine or imprisonment, or by both, as to the court shall seem meet." And his lordship further desires it may be distinctly understood, that every individual acting, in any capacity, in the service of the Post-office, who shall be guilty of such an offence, will be prosecuted with the utmost rigour of the law.

NEW LINES OF STEAM VESSELS.

British enterprise has now established steam communication with the following countries:—To Russia, Sweden, and Denmark, by the Hull line; to St. Petersburg; to North Germany, by the Hull and London lines to Hamburg; to Holland, Belgium, and France, by the General Steam Company's vessels; to the north and south of Spain and to Portugal, by the Peninsular Company's vessels; to Italy, by the new line from London to Leghorn; to Malta, the Levant, and Constantinople, by the new line from Liverpool; to Egypt, Arabia, Ceylon, India, Singapore, and China, by the Oriental Steam Company's vessels; to British America and the United States, by the Cunard and Great Western lines from Liverpool; to the West Indies, Mexico, and the north coast of South America, by the West India line; to Peru and Chili by the West Coast line; to Brazil and the River Plate, by the line building in Liverpool. The only British colonies of any importance which have not now the advantage of steam communication with the mother country, are the Cape, the Mauritius, and Australian colonies.

PASSPORT OFFICES.

AMERICA (United States and Central America).—No passport required.  
AUSTRIA.—Embassy, 7, Chandos-street, Cavendish-square, between 12 and 2.  
BAVARIA.—The Minister, 3, Hill-street, Berkeley-square, when personally known to him; or the Consul, 11, Bury-court, St. Mary Axe.  
BELGIUM.—Legation, 9 A, Weymouth-street, Portland-place, between 11 and 3; delivered next day between 11 and 2, gratis; or the Consul's office, 3, Copthall-court, between 10 and 4—fee 5s.  
BRAZIL.—Legation, 10, York-place, Portman-square, between 12 and 2, gratis.  
DENMARK.—Consul's office, 6, Warrinor-court, between 10 and 4—fee 10s 6d.  
FRANCE.—French passport-office, 6, Poland-street, Oxford-street, from 11 to 5; delivered next day between 1 and 3, on personal application, gratis; also at the Consul's office, 3, Copthall buildings, between 12 and 4—fee 10s.  
GREECE.—Consul's office, 25, Finsbury-circus, between 11 and 4—fee 2s. 6d.  
HANOVER.—Secretary to Embassy, 4, Hobart-place, Eaton-square, between 10 and 3; and at the Consul's office, 6, Circus, Minorities, between 10 and 3, gratis.  
MEXICO.—Legation, 7, Sussex-place, Regent's-park, between 12 and 4; delivered following day.  
NAPLES AND SICILY.—Passport-office, 2, Old Cavendish-street, Mondays and Thursdays, between 10 and 12; delivered following day between 2 and 3, gratis; for persons going by sea, Consul's office, 15, Cambridge-street, Hyde Park-square, between 10 and 12—fee 10s.  
PORTUGAL.—Embassy, 57, Upper Seymour-street, Bryanstone-square, between 11 and 4, delivered following day; also at Consul's office, 15, St. Mary Axe.  
PRUSSIA.—Consul's office, 106, Fenchurch-street, between 10 and 6—fee 7s.  
RUSSIA.—Consul's office, 2, Winchester-buildings, between 10 and 4; delivered following day—fee 6s. 4d.  
SPAIN.—Visas to Foreign Office. Passports to British subjects, at the Legation, between 11 and 3 gratis; passports to natives at the same time and place.  
SWEDEN AND NORWAY.—Embassy, 66, Mount-street, Berkeley-square, between 9 and 1; delivered following day—fee 5s.  
TURKEY.—Embassy, 1, Bryanstone-square, between 12 and 3 every day, except Friday and Sunday, gratis.  
TUSCANY.—Consul's Office, 15, Angel-court, Throgmorton-street, between 10 and 4, gratis.