The ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1869.

POSTAL REGULATIONS.

INLAND.

RATES OF POSTAGE FROM ALL PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE BRITISH COLONIES, INDIA, &c., TO THE TWIN OF LIN.

Letters under 1 oz., prepaid...
1... 12cl.
2...
3...
4...
5...
6...
7...
8...
9...
10...
11...
12...
and so on, at the rate of 1d. for every additional half-ounce or fraction of half-an-ounce. No limit exists to the weight of prepaid letters, but no inland letter may be posted at a rate exceeding 1d. for the first ounce or fraction thereof. All inland letters must be prepaid in stamps, except letters posted at St. Martin's-Loft-Grund before five p.m. daily by one individual or firm collectively, postage of which shall be prepaid in cash. Letters by private ship, under ½ oz., 6d., except Belgium and Holland.

POSTAGE OF LETTERS AND PACKAGE POSTS.

France.—Persons sending letters by post paid, which from any cause cannot be delivered, are liable to pay the postage as charged, under the 3rd and 4th of Victoria, cap. 26, and the 14th and 15th of Victoria, cap. 26; and, under the 1st of Victoria, cap. 30, may be recovered, with costs, by a summary process before a magistrate.

A letter when posted is considered the property of the person to whom it is addressed, and receivers may not therefore give back a letter under any circumstances whatever.

Regarding letters to be subject to a second postage at the rate charged for prepaid letters.

Soldiers or seamen’s letters are subject to a postage of 1d. if prepaid and under 3cl.; by private ship ½d. in addition must be paid. Letters from abroad sent by or addressed to soldiers or seamen, when under 3cl., are charged 1d. If sent to or from a foreign country, they are liable to foreign rates in addition, but to no further charge upon removal of letters.

Letters from soldiers or seamen to the United States are subject to the United States rate of 2d. In addition to the usual reduced rate, the whole tax paid in advance is charged at this rate. By using endorsed post-office envelopes all risk of the stamp being detached is avoided. Furthermore, subscribers to the English and American post-office papers and magazines at many places abroad are altogether stopped if the stamp has fallen off. Every rural messenger is now authorized to sell stamps and endorsed envelopes.

A post-office official is authorized to decline any letter from being accepted for postage by 4d. inland, and inland and colonial ship letters, beyond the postage.

Registered letters for France, and countries through France, must be prepaid with double the amount of the ordinary postage; and those for Prussia, and other countries through which the mail passes, must have the amount of postage plus double postage paid in addition to the British. Registered letters for Russia must be prepaid with double the amount of the ordinary postage. Registered letters for the United States are subject to the same rates as for any other mail received at the General Post Office, and at the chief district and branch offices of the United States, to the latest time for posting, on payment of an additional fee of 4d.

Newspapers (stamped) sent by post must be made up in covers open at the sides, have the impressed stamp visible, and no mark of writing other than the address of the person sending, or anything indorsed, or it subjects them to letter postage. British newspapers, when duly stamped, are forwarded free of postage to foreign countries through the British post-office. Newspapers for the United States must be prepaid 2½d. each. The same rates prevail for all letters and newspapers posted at the general post-office in London. The only exception to this is the post-office in the United States, where newspapers are charged 1d. per pound instead of 2½d. The following are the stamps for the various classes of mail:

POSTAGE OF THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

CONSISTING OF NUMERAL AND HALF-SHEET SUPPLEMENT.

(May be taken as a guide for most Newspapers.)

Books—Printed books, pamphlets, magazines, reviews, &c., whether British, foreign, or colonial, may be forwarded by post between places in the United Kingdom (made up in the same manner as newspapers), if prepaid in stamps, at the rate of 1d. for every 3 oz. or less, and 1½d. for every additional 3 oz. or less; not payable to exceed 2½d. in any way, but may contain more than one book, &c.

A Book Packet may contain writing (when not of the nature of a letter), and any number of separate books or other publications, prints, maps, &c., and any quantity of paper, parchment, or vellum, to the exclusion, however, of any foreign book, whether sealed or open. The books, prints, maps, &c., may be either printed, written, or plain, or any mixture of these. Further, all lots of newspapers, magazines, &c., contained in a letter, book, publication, &c., or of a portion thereof, will be allowed, whether bound, folded, or loose, or attached; as also rolls, in the case of prints or similar matters (whether folded or otherwise), and the like. In the case of books or half-sheets of newspapers, if prepaid, the weight under 3½ oz. may be charged as an unpaid letter with an additional rate of 1d.

Inland Pattern and Sample Post.—For a packet of patterns or samples the postage is 2d. for every quarter of a pound or fraction thereof. For a mixed packet of patterns and samples the postage is 2½d. for every quarter of a pound or fraction thereof. Where the weight of a packet of patterns or samples exceeds 3½ oz., the increased weight must be charged at 1½d. per ounce, in weight it will be charged as a letter. There must be no writing or lining, except the address, trade mark, number or initials, or the article, which must not exceed 1½d. per ounce on loose papers, unless stamped to the samples or boxes containing them. Any loose enclosure will be taken as a packet and charged as an unpaid letter with an additional rate of 1d.

The patterns or samples must be made open at the ends, so as to be easy of examination. Samples of seeds, &c., may be inclosed in boxes of cardboard, or boxes of them or material, but so fastened that they may be readily opened, otherwise they will be treated as a letter.

An order for a sample of patterns or samples may be kept back by any head postmaster for twenty-four hours when requested, to prevent any delay to the regular post."