

POSTAL REGULATIONS.

INLAND.

RATES OF POSTAGE FROM ALL PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE CHANNEL ISLANDS, AND THE ISLE OF MAN.

Letters under ½ oz., prepaid	1d.
" " 1 oz. "	2d.
" " 1½ oz. "	3d.
" " 2 oz. "	4d.
" " 2½ oz. "	5d.

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 paid letters, but no inland letter must exceed 2 ft. in length or 1 ft. in breadth or depth. All inland letters must be prepaid in stamps, except letters posted at St. Martin's-le-Grand before five p.m. daily by one individual or firm collectively, postage of which amounts to £2 or upwards.

Letters by private ship, under ½ oz., 6d., except Belgium and Holland. Newspapers 1d.

UNPAID LETTERS.—Persons sending letters by post unpaid, which from any cause cannot be delivered, are liable to pay the postage so charged, under the 3rd and 4th of Victoria, cap. 96, and the 10th and 11th of Victoria, cap. 85; and, under the 1st of Victoria, cap. 36, 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.

Re-directed letters 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 ½ oz.; by private ship 1d. gratuity in addition must be paid. Letters from abroad sent by or addressed to soldiers or seamen, when unpaid, are charged 2d. If sent to or through a foreign country, they are liable to foreign rates in addition, but to no further charge upon re-direction.

Letters from soldiers or seamen to the United States are subject to the United States rate of 2½d. in addition to the usual reduced rate, the whole to be paid in advance when posted in this country.

By using embossed post-office envelopes all risk of the stamp being detached is avoided; this is an important matter, since letters addressed to many places abroad are altogether stopped if the stamp has fallen off. Every rural messenger is now authorised to sell stamps and embossed envelopes.

REGISTERED LETTERS.—Inland, colonial, and ship letters can be registered upon payment of 4d. for inland, and 6d. colonial and 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 countries through Prussia, must have the foreign registration fee and postage paid in addition to the British. Registered letters for Russia must be prepaid with double the amount of the ordinary postage. Registered letters must be posted half an hour previous to the ordinary letters, but are received at the General Post Office, and at the chief district and branch offices in London, up 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 marks or writing (other than the address) thereon, or anything inclosed, or it subjects them to letter postage. British newspapers, when duly stamped, are forwarded free throughout the United Kingdom (except those delivered within three miles of the place where posted, which are charged 1d.) Unstamped newspapers, if weighing under 4 oz., may be forwarded between places in the United Kingdom by affixing 1d. postage-stamp. For places abroad the impressed stamp is valueless, as the postage must be prepaid by postage labels.

Note.—Newspapers for foreign parts and colonies, if posted later than fifteen days after date of publication, are charged letter postage.

POSTAGE OF THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

CONSISTING OF NUMBER AND HALF-SHEET SUPPLEMENT.

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

Copies bearing the impressed stamp (which must be exposed to view) circulate rare through the Post Office for fifteen days from the date of publication to all parts of the United Kingdom and the Channel Islands; unless addressed to persons living within three miles of the place where they are posted, when they become liable to a postage of one penny each, which must be prepared by affixing a postage-stamp. Unstamped copies should have Two penny postage-stamps affixed to each.

FOR FOREIGN PARTS.

The impressed stamp is of no service for copies which are to be sent abroad; these must have postage-stamps affixed to them according to the following rates:—

Africa, West Coast of—One Stamp (a)	Germany—Two Stamps. Thin paper
Alexandria } via Southampton—1d. Thin paper	Holland } via Belgium—1 Stamp (d) Thin paper
} via Marseilles—2d. paper	India } via France—2 Stamps } paper
Australia } via Southampton—1d. Thin paper	} via Southampton—2 Stamps } Thin paper
} via Marseilles—2d. paper	Italy—Two Stamps. Thin paper
Brazil—One Stamp	Mexico—One Stamp (a)
California—Two Stamps (a)	New Zealand—One Stamp
Canada—One Stamp	Norway } via France—2 Stamps (a) Thin paper
Cape of Good Hope—One Stamp	} via Denmark—0 Stamps } paper
China } via Southampton—Two Stamps	Spain—Two Stamps. Thin paper
} via Marseilles—Three Stamps	Sweden } via France—1 Stamp (a) Thin paper
Constantinople—Two Stamps. Thin paper.	} via Denmark—4 Stamps } paper
Denmark } via France—1 Stamp (a) Thin paper	Switzerland—Two Stamps. Thin paper
} via Belgium—3 Stamps } paper	United States—One Stamp (a)
Egypt—Two Stamps.—Thin paper	West Indies—One Stamp
France—One Stamp. Thin paper	

The letter (a) denotes that an additional charge is made on delivery. An edition is printed on thin paper for foreign postage.

Books, &c.—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 following rates:—

Under 4 oz., prepaid	1d.
" 8 oz. "	2d.
" 12 oz. "	3d.

and 1d. for every additional 4 oz. or any less weight; no parcel to exceed 24 in. 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, or maps, and any quantity of paper, parchment, or vellum, to the exclusion, however, of letters, whether sealed or open). And the books or other publications, prints, maps, &c., may be either printed, written, or plain, or any mixture of the three. Further, all legitimate binding, mounting, or covering of a book, publication, &c., or of a portion thereof, will be allowed, whether such binding, &c., be loose or attached; as also rollers, in the case of prints or maps; markers (whether of paper or otherwise); in the case of books; and, in short, whatever is necessary for the safe transmission of literary or artistic matter, or usually appertains thereto.

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. The postage must be prepaid in stamps, or it will be charged double. If the packet be over 34 oz. in weight it will be charged as a letter. There must not be any writing or printing, except the address, trade mark, number or price of the article, which must not be on loose paper, but firmly attached to the samples or bags containing them. Any loose inclosure will be taken out, and charged as an unpaid letter, with an additional rate of 1d.

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

Scissors, knives, razors, forks, steel pens, nails, keys, watch machinery, metal tubing, pieces of metal or ore, and such like, as samples, may be sent, provided they be packed in so secure a manner as to afford complete protection to the contents of the mail bags and the officers of the Post Office, while at the same time they may be easily examined. Any packet containing such articles as these, which is found not sufficiently guarded, will be stopped, and notice given thereof, but it will be charged with a fine equal to the postage to which it was liable as a packet of patterns.

A packet of samples or patterns may be kept back by any head postmaster for twenty-four hours when requisite, to prevent any delay to the regular transmission of letters.

Except that the rates of postage are higher, books and patterns can be sent to the colonies and many foreign countries. If sent to France or Portugal it must not exceed 18 in. in length. If to Germany or Russia it must not exceed 8 oz. in weight.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.—The charge for newspapers is as follows, which must be prepaid:—For every newspaper duly registered, not exceeding 4 oz. in weight, 2d.; for every additional 4 oz., 2d. On books and packets or samples of merchandise the following rates are charged and paid in advance:—For a packet not exceeding 4 oz. in weight, 3d.; above 4 oz., and not exceeding 8 oz., 6d. Every additional 4 oz., 3d. These rates now comprise the whole charge to the place of destination, unless liable to the customs duty in America.

The postage of letters to America is now reduced to 6d. for each letter under the ½ oz. prepaid.

The following rates of postage (which must be paid in advance) are chargeable upon newspapers, books, and other printed papers to Belgium, France, and Algeria:—

For a packet of registered newspapers—

Under 4 oz. ...	1d.
" 8 " ...	2d.
" 12 " ...	3d.

and so on, 2d. additional for every subsequent 8 oz., or fraction of 8 oz., in the case of France and Algeria; but newspapers for Belgium are charged at the rate of 1d. for each newspaper under 4 oz.

The following rates of postage (which must be paid in advance) are chargeable upon newspapers, books, and other printed papers for the German States, via Belgium, or the French offices in Turkey, Syria, and Egypt:—

On each newspaper, not exceeding 4 oz. ...	2d.
Over 4 oz. and under 8 oz. ...	4d.
" 8 " " 16 " " ...	8d.

and so on, 4d. being charged for each paper for every subsequent 8 oz., or fraction of 8 oz.

MONEY ORDERS are granted and paid at every post town in the United Kingdom, at a charge of 3d. for sums not above £2; 6d. not above £5; 9d. not above £7, and 1s. not above £10, which is the highest sum for which a single order is granted.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN MAILS.

The day mail for France, Belgium, Holland, Germany, and North of Europe, via Ostend, are dispatched at 7 a.m. Letters and newspapers may be posted at the chief-office, St. Martin's-le-Grand, until 7 a.m., and at Lombard-street, in the district offices, and in the pillar-boxes, until 5 a.m. Correspondence for dispatch by these mails must be posted the previous evening at the receiving houses. The mail for India is made up weekly.

FOREIGN MAILS.

Australia.—Mails to these colonies are now dispatched every fourth Friday via Marseilles, and every fourth Saturday via Southampton.

Cape of Good Hope.—Mails are now forwarded to the Cape of Good Hope by direct packet on the 25th of each month, as well as on the 10th.

Ceylon.—Mails to Ceylon are now dispatched every alternate Friday via Marseilles, and every alternate Saturday via Southampton. For alternation in postage, see "India."

China and Japan.—Mails for China and Japan are now dispatched every alternate Friday via Marseilles, and every alternate Saturday via Southampton.

Honduras.—The postage of all letters addressed to Honduras has been reduced to 1s. per half ounce.

India.—Mails to India are now dispatched every Friday via Marseilles, and every Saturday via Southampton. The postage of letters to India and Ceylon has been raised from 6d. per half ounce to 9d. when sent via Southampton, and from 10d. to 1s. 1d. when sent via Marseilles. The scale now advances by half ounces instead of by ounces.

Malta.—The packets between Marseilles and Alexandria have ceased to call at Malta, and mails are consequently no longer sent to Malta via Marseilles; but in lieu thereof a mail is dispatched to Malta every Tuesday via Messina. The mail via Southampton is now dispatched every Saturday.

Mauritius.—The English contract for the conveyance of mails to and from Mauritius via Galle has terminated, and mails to and from Mauritius are sent only by French packet. No correspondence for the Cape of Good Hope is now sent by this route.