

for conveyance by post any Parcel consisting of or containing any indecent or obscene picture, painting, photograph, lithograph, engraving, print, book or card, or any indecent or obscene article or thing of any other kind or any Parcel having thereon, or on the cover thereof any words, marks, or designs of an indecent, obscene, libellous, or grossly offensive character, and if any Parcel shall be posted or tendered for conveyance by post which *prima facie* appears to be, or which any Officer of the Post Office may have reasonable cause to suspect to be, a Parcel within the description aforesaid, the same shall be detained, opened, and examined, and if on such examination it be found to infringe this or any other of the Regulations contained in this or any other Treasury Warrant relating to the Post Office, it may be dealt with and disposed of in any manner which may be authorized by the Postmaster-General.

19. There shall not be conveyed or tendered for conveyance by post:—

- (1.) Any Parcel containing or bearing any letter or communication in the nature of a letter, or any article or thing not authorized by the Customs or other laws of Germany.
- (2.) Any Parcel containing any substance, material, article, or thing of any kind whatsoever, which might, in the course of transmission through the post, be or become, or be rendered injurious to any officer of the Post Office, or any other person who may deal with such Parcel, or to any bag, basket, box, or other receptacle in or by which such Parcel may be conveyed by post, or to any other Parcel or other contents of any such receptacle.
- (3.) Any Parcel consisting of or enclosing any bladder or other membranous substance containing a liquid of any kind.
- (4.) Any Parcel containing a live animal of any kind whatsoever.
- (5.) Any Parcel which either from the nature of the contents thereof, or from the absence of proper packing or covering, is, in the opinion of the Postmaster-General or his officers, likely to injure any person in the course of the conveyance of the Parcel through the post, or any receptacle in or by which such Parcel may be conveyed by post, or any other Parcel or any other contents of such receptacle.

Any such Parcel, if posted or tendered for conveyance by post, may be detained, and either returned or given up to the sender thereof or dealt with or disposed of in such other manner as may be authorized by the Postmaster-General.

20. There shall not be posted or tendered for conveyance by post any Parcel consisting of or containing more than one Parcel or other Postal Packet, where any one of such Packets is intended for delivery to a person other than the addressee of such Parcel, and any such Parcel if posted or tendered for conveyance by post may be detained and either returned or given up to the sender thereof, or dealt with or disposed of as the Postmaster-General may authorize.

21. There shall not be conveyed or tendered or delivered for conveyance by post in or to any prohibited district in Ireland any Parcel containing arms or ammunition, and any such Parcel, if posted or tendered or delivered for conveyance by post as aforesaid, may be detained and opened and returned to the sender thereof, or otherwise dealt with according to law.

Non-compliance with Regulations.

22. In any case not hereinbefore expressly provided for, where any Parcel shall be posted or tendered for conveyance by post which in any respect infringes or fails to comply with the regulations in this Warrant contained, or any of them, such Parcel may, at the option of the Postmaster-General, either be dealt with as in this Warrant provided, with reference to Parcels which cannot be delivered, or be dealt with or disposed of in such manner as the Postmaster-General may in his discretion direct or authorize.

Provision for safety of Parcels.

23. In any case where any officer of the Post Office may find it necessary or expedient for the safety or protection of Parcels that any Parcel should be forwarded or delivered by some later despatch or delivery than that for which the same was posted or despatched, or intended to be posted or despatched respectively, he may delay the despatch or delivery of such Parcel, or make such other and special arrangements as to the despatch or delivery thereof, not, however, involving a greater delay than 24 hours in the whole, as may be deemed by such officer necessary or expedient in the circumstances of the case.

Parcels not to interfere with Letter Post.

24. Where the despatch or delivery from a Post Office in the United Kingdom of letters would be delayed by the despatch or delivery therefrom at the same time of Parcels, such Parcels, or any of them, may be detained in the Post Office until the despatch or delivery next following that by which they would ordinarily be despatched or delivered.

Postmaster-General not liable for Loss or Damage.

25. Nothing contained in or done under or in pursuance of this Warrant shall render the Postmaster-General liable, either personally or in his official capacity, to any action or other legal proceeding in respect or in consequence of any loss of or damage to any Parcel, whether such loss or damage be occasioned by or arise from any act or neglect of any officer of the Post Office or any other person.

Customs Regulations.

26. Parcels intended to be transmitted by post under the provisions of this Warrant shall not be posted, forwarded, conveyed, or delivered, except subject to such Regulations as are referred to in section 14 of the "Post Office (Parcels) Act, 1882."

Remission of Postage.

27. The Postmaster-General may, in any case in which he may consider it just or reasonable so to do, remit any postage or any sum made payable under this Warrant.

Commencement of Warrant.

28. This Warrant shall come into operation on the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-six.

Dated this 18th day of December, 1885.

Sidney Herbert,

W. H. Walrond,

Two of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

John Manners,

Her Majesty's Postmaster-General.

TREASURY WARRANT.

WHEREAS a Convention has been lately entered into between the Postmaster-General of the United Kingdom and the Administration of the Belgian State Railways, with the approval of their respective Governments, for the establishment of a Parcel Post between those countries, and it is expedient for the due carrying out of

the same, that certain rates of postage to be charged in respect of Parcels should be fixed as hereinafter appears, and that parcels should be posted, forwarded, conveyed, and delivered subject to the regulations, conditions, prohibitions, and restrictions hereinafter appearing.

Now we, the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, in pursuance of the Acts relating to Her Majesty's Post Office, and in exercise of all powers enabling us in this behalf, do, by this Warrant, made on the representation of Her Majesty's Postmaster-General (testified by his signing the same), and under the hands of two of us, the said Commissioners, order, direct, and declare as follows:—

Interpretation Clause.

1.—(1.) The expressions "Parcels" and "Parcel" in this Warrant respectively mean any Postal Packet which is posted as a Parcel, in accordance with the provisions of this Warrant, or any Warrant amending the same.

(2.) The expression "United Kingdom" includes the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

(3.) The expression "Lord Lieutenant" means the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland or other Chief Governor or Governors of Ireland for the time being.

(4.) The expression "arms" includes any cannon, gun, revolver, pistol, and any description of fire-arms, also any sword, cutlass, pike, and bayonet, also any part of any arms as so defined.

(5.) The expression "ammunition" includes bullets, gunpowder, nitro-glycerine, dynamite, gun-cotton, and every other explosive substance, whether fitted for use with any arms, or otherwise.

(6.) The expression "prohibited district in Ireland" means any place in Ireland in respect of which the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, by and with the advice of the Privy Council in Ireland, may have made or may make orders for prohibiting or regulating therein the sale or importation of arms and ammunition.

Places between which Parcels may be Transmitted.

2. From and after the date when this Warrant comes into operation, Parcels may, subject to the provisions of this Warrant, be transmitted by post between the United Kingdom and Belgium.

Maximum Dimensions and Weight.

3. There shall not be conveyed or tendered for conveyance by post under this Warrant from the United Kingdom, any parcel the dimensions of which shall exceed in any direction two feet, or which shall exceed in weight seven pounds.

Rates of Postage.

4. On every parcel not exceeding seven pounds in weight, transmitted by post under this Warrant from the United Kingdom to Belgium, there shall be charged and paid a rate of postage of one shilling and eight pence.

Prepayment.

5. The postage on Parcels posted in the United Kingdom shall in all cases (except as otherwise provided in this Warrant) be prepaid at the time of posting, my means of adhesive postage stamps.

Times of Posting.

6. Parcels intended to be transmitted by post, may, in the United Kingdom, be posted on any day of the week except Sunday, but shall not be posted on Sundays, or in England or Ireland, on Christmas Day or Good Friday, and in Scotland on either of the two Sacramental Fast Days, except in the cases next hereinafter mentioned, that is to say:—

Where the delivery of Parcels on Sundays, or any of the other days aforesaid, at certain Post Offices, to addressees calling for the same, may hereafter be specially authorized by the Postmaster-General, the posting of Parcels on Sundays, or such other days as aforesaid, at such offices respectively, shall also be permitted within such times and in such manner as may be directed by the Postmaster-General.

Mode of Posting.

7. Except as otherwise provided in this Warrant, all Parcels shall in the United Kingdom be posted by being handed in at a Post Office in the manner hereinafter provided, within the hours during which such office shall be open to the public for the posting of Parcels.

Posting at Post Offices.

8. The following provisions shall apply to the posting of Parcels at any Post Office in the United Kingdom, that is to say:—

(1.) It shall be the duty of the person bringing a Parcel to hand it to an officer on duty at the counter in such office.

(2.) Such Parcel must bear the name and address of the sender and the exact direction of the addressee, and must be packed in a manner adequate for the length of the journey and for the protection of the contents. The Parcel must also be so packed as to prevent any tampering with its contents without leaving an obvious trace of its violation, and must be sealed by means of sealing-wax, lead, or otherwise, with some impress or mark of the sender. Such parcel must also be accompanied by or have affixed to it a declaration of such kind, and stating the contents of the Parcel in such manner and form, and with such other particulars, as the Commissioners of Customs and the Postmaster-General may prescribe.

(3.) Such Parcel shall be measured and weighed by such Officer, and (if such Parcel do not exceed the limits of measurement or weight hereinbefore mentioned) the postage thereof, according to the rates hereinbefore mentioned, shall be paid by means of Postage Stamps affixed to such Parcel, and shall be verified by such Officer, and no such Parcel shall be forwarded by the Post without the before-mentioned requirements being complied with, and if any such Parcel shall be left at a Post Office without such requirements being complied with, such Parcel shall, except as hereinafter mentioned, be detained, and may be returned or given up to the sender thereof, or otherwise dealt with or disposed of in any manner authorized by this Warrant.

9. Any Packet transmissible by Parcel Post from the United Kingdom which, from any words or marks thereon, or other external evidence, appears to have been intended for transmission as a Parcel, but which has not been tendered for transmission as a Parcel, but has been posted in a Post Office, Letter Box, or otherwise than according to the manner hereinbefore prescribed for the posting of parcels, may, in the discretion of the Postmaster-General, either be detained and returned or given up to the sender, or if the said packet is fully prepaid with the Letter or Book Packet rate of postage, and otherwise conforms to the Regulations as to the Letter or Book Post may be forwarded as a Letter or Book Packet (as the case may be).

Collection of Parcels.

10. The Postmaster-General may, if he think

fit, from time to time authorize such of his officers as he may direct to receive Parcels for the Post under such regulations and conditions as he may from time to time prescribe.

Retention of Parcels at Postes Restantes.

11. Any Parcel addressed to a Post Office in the United Kingdom "to be called for," shall, if not called for, remain in such office for a period of one week after the date of the arrival of such Parcel thereat, and shall then be dealt with as provided in this Warrant.

Parcels for Places beyond limits of free Delivery.

12. If the place of address in the United Kingdom of any Parcel be beyond the limits of the free postal delivery of any town or district to which the same may be forwarded by post, such parcel shall be detained at the nearest Post Office until an opportunity of delivering the same shall occur, or in default of any such opportunity until a period of one week shall have elapsed from the time of the receipt of the Parcel at such Post Office. Upon the expiration of such period without such Parcel having been called for, such Parcel shall be dealt with as provided in this Warrant.

Parcels addressed to Ships.

13. Any Parcel addressed to a ship at any port in the United Kingdom shall, if from any cause such Parcel cannot be delivered at such ship, be detained at the Post Office at such port for a period of one calendar month, and if not delivered at the expiration of that time such Parcel shall be dealt with as provided in this Warrant.

Return and Disposal of Undelivered Parcels.

14. With regard to—

- (a.) Parcels which are addressed to a Post Office in the United Kingdom to be called for or to a place in the United Kingdom beyond the limits of the free postal delivery of any town or district, or to a ship at any port of the United Kingdom, and which are not called for or delivered within the respective times in this Warrant specified in that behalf; and
- (b.) Parcels which cannot be delivered in the United Kingdom for want of a true direction, or by reason that the addressee is dead, or cannot be found, or has refused the same, or has refused to pay any charges thereon, or for any other sufficient reason;

The following provisions shall apply, that is to say:—

- (1.) The Parcel shall, as the Postmaster-General may from time to time direct, be retained at or forthwith forwarded to such place as the Postmaster-General may from time to time appoint, and may, if necessary, be there opened and examined.
- (2.) Notice shall be given to the sender, through the Administration of State Railways of Belgium, that the Parcel will, in default of any claim on the part of the addressee, be given up to the sender's agent, upon personal application, at such place as aforesaid, or at the request of the sender, will be returned to him, by post, upon payment of such charges as are hereinafter mentioned.
- (3.) The notice shall state that in default of the receipt by the Postmaster-General of an application for the Parcel during a period to be specified in such notice from some person who in the Postmaster-General's judgment is entitled to receive the Parcel, it will be disposed of in such manner as the Postmaster-General may direct.

(4.) The Postmaster-General may, in his discretion, specify in any such notice, or otherwise, the periods during which Parcels may be returned to the senders thereof, and in so doing may have regard to the nature and contents of Parcels.

(5.) A Parcel shall not be given up or returned by post to the sender except upon payment by him of any charge for redirection or other charge to which the Parcel has become liable under the provisions of this Warrant, or of any such Regulations as are referred to in Section 14 of the "Post Office (Parcels) Act, 1882."

(6.) Where the sender requests a parcel to be returned to him by post, such Parcel shall not be returned to the sender except upon payment by him of a new and distinct rate of postage, according to the rates fixed by this Warrant, and all other charges to which the parcel has become liable.

(7.) The Postmaster-General may require proof to his satisfaction that an applicant for a Parcel is entitled to receive the same.

(8.) Where no application is made for a Parcel within the period specified in any such notice as aforesaid, or an applicant fails to prove to the satisfaction of the Postmaster-General that he is entitled to receive the Parcel, or refuses or fails to pay the charges to which the parcel has become liable under this Warrant, the Parcel may be dealt with or disposed of in such manner as the Postmaster-General may direct or authorize.

(9.) If at any time while a Parcel remains in the possession of the Postmaster-General, it becomes offensive or injurious to any Officer of the Post Office or other person, or to other Parcels, it may forthwith be dealt with or disposed of in such manner as the Postmaster-General may in his discretion direct or authorize, notwithstanding that the provisions of this Warrant as to the return of such Parcel have not been or have only partially been complied with.

Redirection of Parcels.

15. Any Parcel may be redirected from its original address or any substituted address within the United Kingdom to any country or place with which a Parcel Post to or from the United Kingdom or Belgium is established, and in every case of such re-direction there shall be charged on such Parcel in respect of such re-direction a new and distinct rate of postage according to the rates for the time being payable in respect of the transmission of a like Parcel from the United Kingdom to the country or place to which it may be re-directed, and such postage, if not paid at the time of such re-direction, shall be collected on the delivery of the Parcel to the addressee.

16. Any Parcel may be re-directed from its original address or any substituted address within the United Kingdom to any other address within the United Kingdom, and in every case of such re-direction there shall be charged on such Parcel in respect of each such re-direction, and paid by the addressee thereof in money upon the delivery of such Parcel a new and distinct rate of postage equal in amount to the rate of postage which would have been originally chargeable on such Parcel as an Inland Parcel.

Remission of Re-direction Rates.

17. The Postmaster-General may wholly remit the rate of postage for re-direction on any Parcel addressed to the United Kingdom which may, on the request of the addressee thereof, be re-directed

by an Officer of the Post Office, and again forwarded by post to the same person at any address within the limits of the same free postal delivery as the address from which such Parcel was so re-directed.

Prohibitions.

18. There shall not be conveyed or tendered for conveyance by post any Parcel consisting of or containing any indecent or obscene picture, painting, photograph, lithograph, engraving, print, book, or card, or any indecent or obscene article or thing of any other kind, or any Parcel having thereon, or on the cover thereof, any words, marks, or designs of an indecent, obscene, libellous, or grossly offensive character, and if any Parcel shall be posted or tendered for conveyance by post which *prima facie* appears to be or which any Officer of the Post Office may have reasonable cause to suspect to be a Parcel within the description aforesaid, the same shall be detained, opened, and examined, and if on such examination it be found to infringe this or any other of the Regulations contained in this or any other Treasury Warrant relating to the Post Office, it may be dealt with and disposed of in any manner which may be authorized by the Postmaster-General.

19. There shall not be conveyed or tendered for conveyance by post—

- (1.) Any Parcel containing or bearing any letter or communication in the nature of a letter, or any article or thing not authorized by the Customs or other laws of Belgium.
- (2.) Any Parcel containing any substance, material, article, or thing of any kind whatsoever which might, in the course of transmission through the Post, be or become or be rendered injurious to any Officer of the Post Office, or any other person who may deal with such Parcel, or to any bag, basket, box, or other receptacle in or by which such Parcel may be conveyed by Post, or to any other Parcel or other contents of any such receptacle.
- (3.) Any Parcel consisting of or enclosing any bladder or other membranous substance containing a liquid of any kind.
- (4.) Any Parcel containing a live animal of any kind whatsoever.
- (5.) Any Parcel which, either from the nature of the contents thereof, or from the absence of proper packing or covering, is, in the opinion of the Postmaster-General or his Officers, like to injure any person in the course of the conveyance of the Parcel through the Post, or any receptacle in or by which such Parcel may be conveyed by post, or any other Parcel or any other contents of such receptacle.

Any such Parcel, if posted or tendered for conveyance by post may be detained, and either returned or given up to the sender thereof or dealt with or disposed of in such other manner as may be authorized by the Postmaster-General.

20. There shall not be posted or tendered for conveyance by post any Parcel consisting of or containing more than one Parcel or other Postal Packet, where any one of such Packets is intended for delivery to a person other than the addressee of such Parcel, and any such Parcel if posted or tendered for conveyance by post may be detained and either returned or given up to the sender thereof, or such Parcel may be otherwise dealt with or disposed of as the Postmaster-General may authorize.

21. There shall not be conveyed or tendered or delivered for conveyance by post in or to any prohibited district in Ireland any Parcel containing

arms or ammunition, and any such Parcel if posted or tendered or delivered for conveyance by post as aforesaid may be detained and opened, and returned to the sender thereof, or otherwise dealt with according to law.

Non-compliance with Regulations.

22. In any case not hereinbefore expressly provided for, where any parcel shall be posted or tendered for conveyance by post which in any respect infringes or fails to comply with the Regulations in this Warrant contained, or any of them, such Parcel may, at the option of the Postmaster-General, either be dealt with as in this Warrant provided with reference to parcels which cannot be delivered, or be dealt with or disposed of in such manner as the Postmaster-General may in his discretion direct or authorize.

Provision for safety of Parcels.

23. In any case where any officer of the Post Office may find it necessary or expedient for the safety or protection of Parcels that any Parcel should be forwarded or delivered by some later despatch or delivery than that for which the same was posted or despatched, or intended to be posted or despatched respectively, he may delay the despatch or delivery of such Parcel, or make such other and special arrangements as to the despatch or delivery thereof, not, however, involving a greater delay than 24 hours in the whole, as may be deemed by such officer necessary or expedient in the circumstances of the case.

Parcels not to interfere with Letter Post.

24. Where the despatch or delivery from a Post Office in the United Kingdom of letters would be delayed by the despatch or delivery therefrom at the same time of Parcels, such Parcels, or any of them, may be detained in the Post Office until the despatch or delivery next following that by which they would ordinarily be despatched or delivered.

Postmaster-General not liable for Loss or Damage.

25. Nothing contained in or done under or in pursuance of this Warrant shall render the Postmaster-General liable, either personally or in his official capacity, to any action or other legal proceeding in respect or in consequence of any loss of or damage to any Parcel, whether such loss or damage be occasioned by or arise from any act or neglect of any officer of the Post Office or any other person.

Customs Regulations.

26. Parcels intended to be transmitted by post under the provisions of this Warrant shall not be posted, forwarded, conveyed, or delivered, except subject to such Regulations as are referred to in section 14 of the Post Office (Parcels) Act, 1882.

Remission of Postage.

27. The Postmaster-General may, in any case in which he may consider it just or reasonable so to do, remit any postage or any sum made payable under this Warrant.

Commencement of Warrant.

28. This Warrant shall come into operation on the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-six.

Dated this 19th day of December, 1885.

*Sidney Herbert,
W. H. Walrond,*

Two of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

*John Manners,
Her Majesty's Postmaster-General.*