

THE PARCEL POST (AUSTRALIAN COLONIES, NEW ZEALAND, FIJI, AND NEW HEBRIDES) WARRANT, 1896, DATED DECEMBER 24, 1896.

1896. No. 1113.

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), order, direct, and declare as follows:—

Short Title.

1. This Warrant may be cited as "The Parcel Post (Australian Colonies, New Zealand, Fiji, and New Hebrides) Warrant, 1896."

Repeals.

2. From and after the date when this Warrant comes into operation the several Warrants of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury specified in the First Schedule hereto shall be repealed, revoked, and annulled.

Definitions.

3. In this Warrant—

- (1.) The expression "parcel" means a postal packet which is posted in the British Islands as a parcel in accordance with the provisions of this Warrant, or any Warrant amending the same, or is received in the British Islands from abroad by Parcel Post.

- (2.) The expression "outgoing" applied to a parcel means posted in the British Islands for transmission to the Australian Colonies, New Zealand, Fiji, or the New Hebrides.
- (3.) The expression "incoming" applied to a parcel means received in the British Islands through the post from the Australian Colonies, New Zealand, Fiji, or the New Hebrides.
- (4.) The expression "British Islands" means the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, and the Isle of Man.
- (5.) The expression "British possession" means any part of Her Majesty's dominions exclusive of the British Islands.
- (6.) The expression "Australian Colonies" includes the colonies of New South Wales, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria, Western Australia, and Queensland.

Places between which Parcels may be transmitted.

4. 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 British Islands and the Australian Colonies, New Zealand, Fiji, and the New Hebrides.

Rates of Postage on Outgoing Parcels.

5. On all outgoing parcels addressed to the several places mentioned in the Second Schedule hereto, there shall be charged and paid the respective rates of postage specified in such schedule.

Maximum Weight and Dimensions.

6. Except by permission of the Postmaster General, no parcel, the weight of which exceeds eleven pounds, or the dimensions of which exceed in length three feet six inches, or in length and girth combined six feet (such girth being measured round the thickest part of such parcel) shall be forwarded or delivered by post.

Mode of Posting.

7. Subject to the provisions of this Warrant the following provisions shall apply to the posting of outgoing parcels, that is to say :—

- (1.) Every parcel shall be posted by being handed to an officer on duty at the counter in a post office.
- (2.) The parcel must bear the name and full address of the addressee, and must be packed in such manner and form and in accordance with such directions as the Postmaster General may from time to time prescribe in that behalf. The parcel must also be accompanied by, or have affixed to it, a declaration of such kind, and stating the nature and value of 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.) The parcel shall be measured and weighed by such officer, and the postage thereof shall be prepaid, and shall be verified by such officer.

Collection of Parcels.

8. The Postmaster General may, if he thinks fit, from time to time authorise such officers as he may direct to receive parcels for the post, otherwise than at a post office, under such regulations and conditions as he may from time to time prescribe.

Irregular Posting of Parcels.

9. Any outgoing packet transmissible by Parcel Post 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 herein-before 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 open packet rate of postage, and otherwise conforms to the regulations as to the letter or open packet post, the same may be forwarded as a letter or open packet (as the case may be).

Return and Disposal of Undelivered Parcels.

10. With regard to—

- (a) incoming parcels which are addressed to a post office to be called for, or to a place beyond the limits of the free postal delivery of any town or district, or to a ship at any port, and which are not called for or delivered within such reasonable times as the Postmaster General may from time to time prescribe; and
- (b) incoming parcels which cannot be delivered 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 or neglected to pay any charges thereon, or for any other sufficient reason;

the following provisions shall (subject to the other provisions of this Warrant) 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 appoint, and may, if necessary, be there opened and examined.
- (2.) Where the name and address of the sender can be ascertained from the parcel or any form accompanying the same, notice shall be given to the sender through the post office

- of the place from which the parcel was transmitted to this country, that the parcel will, at his request, in default of any claim on the part of the addressee, be forwarded to a corrected address, or returned to him by post, in either case upon the conditions herein-after mentioned.
- (3.) Where the name and address of the sender cannot be ascertained as herein-before mentioned, notice of the non-delivery of the parcel shall be given to the post office of the place from which the parcel was transmitted to this country.
 - (4.) In either case the notice shall state that, in default of the receipt by the Postmaster General of instructions as to the disposal of the parcel during a period to be specified in such notice from some person who, in the Postmaster General's judgment, is entitled to give such instructions, the parcel will be returned to the place from which it was transmitted to this country.
 - (5.) The Postmaster General may require proof to his satisfaction that an applicant for a parcel is entitled to receive the same.
 - (6.) 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.
 - (7.) Where, in the case of a parcel which cannot be delivered for want of a true direction, the sender corrects the address of the parcel, the parcel shall be forwarded to the corrected address, subject to the following conditions:—
 - (a.) Where the corrected address of the parcel is served from the same post office as the original address, no new charge shall be made with respect to the delivery of the parcel.
 - (b.) In any other case there shall be paid a new and distinct rate of postage equal in amount to the rate of postage which would have been chargeable on such parcel as an inland parcel.
 - (8.) Where the sender requests a parcel to be returned to him by post, there shall be charged upon such parcel a new and distinct rate of postage, according to the rate fixed by this Warrant.
 - (9.) A parcel shall not be given up or returned by post to the sender except upon payment by him of all charges for re-direction or otherwise to which the parcel has become liable under the provisions of this Warrant, or otherwise by the law of this country, or of any foreign country or British possession.
 - (10.) Where no application is made for a parcel within the period specified in any such notice as aforesaid, or an

Commencement of Warrant.

17. This Warrant shall come into operation on the 1st day of January, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven.

Date.

Dated this 24th day of December, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-six.

Stanley,
W. H. Fisher,

Two of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

Norfolk,

Her Majesty's Postmaster General.

The First Schedule.

Date of Warrant.	Subject.
1888, June 27 -	Parcel Post between the United Kingdom and the colonies of New South Wales, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria, and Western Australia.*
1888, November 6 -	Parcel Post between the United Kingdom and New Zealand.†
1890, May 31 -	Parcel Post between the United Kingdom and Fiji.‡
1891, November 25	Parcel Post between the United Kingdom and the New Hebrides.§
1892, January 4 -	Parcel Post between the United Kingdom and Queensland.

*The Second Schedule.**Rates of Postage on each Parcel.*

Posted in	Addressed to	If not exceeding One Pound in Weight.	If exceeding One Pound, for every Pound or Fractional Part of a Pound.
The British Islands.	The Australian Colonies or New Zealand.	One shilling - -	Sixpence.
	Fiji - - - -	One shilling - -	Eightpence.
	The New Hebrides -	One shilling and one penny.	Sevenpence.

* Published in London Gazette, June 29, 1883, p. 3557.

† Published in London Gazette, November 9, 1888, p. 6076.

‡ Published in London Gazette, June 13, 1890, p. 3300.

§ Published in London Gazette, December 1, 1891, p. 6654.

|| Published in London Gazette, January 15, 1892, p. 259.