

No. IX.

POSTAGE.

An Act further to amend an Act intituled “ *An Act to provide for the Conveyance and Postage of Letters.*” [25th August, 1840.]

Preamble.

5th Will. IV. No. 21.

Mails to be delivered immediately on arrival of a vessel at any port or at any Post Office on the sea coast or bank of a navigable river

And to be kept safe and dry while on board

Under a penalty.

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend an Act of the Governor and Legislative Council of New South Wales passed in the fifth year of the reign of His late Majesty King William the Fourth intituled “ *An Act to provide for the Conveyance and Postage of Letters*” and to make provision for the conveyance of mails letters and newspapers by steam boats and other vessels trading between post towns and other places situated on the sea coast or on the banks of navigable rivers in the said Colony appointed for the receipt and dispatch of mails and whereas masters or commanders or other persons having charge of steam boats or other vessels trading between the ports or harbours of the said Colony and between ports post towns and other places situated as aforesaid appointed for the receipt and dispatch of mails and having Post Office mails on board have in some instances neglected to deliver such mails at the time of the arrival or passing of their vessels at or by such ports post towns or other places situated as aforesaid and it is expedient to provide against a recurrence of the same Be it therefore enacted by His Excellency the Governor of New South Wales with the consent of the Legislative Council thereof That all mails bags boxes or packets of letters or newspapers which are conveyed or required by law to be conveyed by post and which at the time of the arrival of any steam boat or other vessel within the limits of any such port post town or other place situated as aforesaid shall be on board such steam boat or other vessel shall be delivered on demand to any Port Officer or Postmaster of such port post town or other place situated as aforesaid or to any person duly authorized to act for them or either of them and any master commander or other person belonging to any such steam boat or other vessel having charge of such mails who shall refuse or neglect to deliver the same on demand as aforesaid or shall detain or permit the detention of the same on board such steam boat or other vessel or shall not use due diligence in the delivery thereof as well as for the secure and dry custody of the same while they shall be in his charge shall forfeit and pay for every such offence a penalty or sum of not less than ten pounds nor more than fifty pounds.

Postage.

2. And whereas masters or commanders of steam boats or other vessels trading as aforesaid have sometimes prevented Postmasters and others from placing mails on board such steam boats or other vessels for transmission from one port post town or other place situate as aforesaid to any other such port post town or other place Be it enacted That if any master commander or other person having the charge of any steam boat or other vessel shall refuse or neglect to receive any such Post Office mail on board such steam boat or other vessel or to give a receipt for the same being thereto required he shall forfeit and pay a penalty or sum of not less than ten pounds nor more than fifty pounds.

Masters or commanders of steam boats or other vessels to receive mails on board and to give receipts for same

Under a penalty.

3. And whereas in order to ensure the due receipt and dispatch of such mails as well as to guard against unnecessary delay to such steam boats or other vessels it is expedient that Postmasters and others should have notice of the near approach of such steam boats or other vessels to the ports post towns or other places situated as aforesaid at which such Postmasters or other persons may respectively be stationed Be it therefore enacted That the master commander or other person having the charge of any such steam boat or other vessel shall give timely notice of the near approach thereof to any such port post town or other place situated as aforesaid either by the ringing of a bell or by such other concerted signal as may reasonably be expected to be distinctly heard or seen by such Postmaster or other person a sufficient time before the actual arrival of such steam boat or other vessel to enable him to be prepared to receive or dispatch any mail on board such steam boat or other vessel and if any such master commander or other person as aforesaid shall refuse fail or neglect to give such notice he shall for every such offence forfeit and pay a penalty or sum of not less than ten pounds nor more than fifty pounds.

Steam boats and other vessels to give notice of their approach to any Post Office or other place appointed for the receipt and dispatch of letters

Under a penalty.

4. And be it enacted That for the conveyance of any mails from one port post town or other place to any other such port post town or other place the master or commander or any other person having the charge of any such steam boat or other vessel shall be entitled to demand and receive at the rate of one penny for every letter chargeable with postage contained in such mail and such payments shall be made at such place and time and under such regulations as the Postmaster General shall appoint and every such master commander or other person as aforesaid shall give a receipt for the amount so received by him which receipt shall be to the Postmaster General or to any Postmaster or other person as aforesaid making such payment a full and valid discharge for the same and the said Postmaster General and every such Postmaster and other person in passing his accounts shall receive credit for every such sum or sums which shall be therein mentioned accordingly.

Allowance to masters of vessels for conveyance of mails.

5. And be it enacted That if any Port Officer Postmaster or other person duly authorized to receive or dispatch any such mails as aforesaid shall neglect or fail to deliver or shall retard the delivery of any bag box mail letter packet or newspaper at the place or Post Office to which the same may be addressed he shall for every such offence forfeit and pay a penalty or sum of not less than ten pounds nor more than fifty pounds.

Penalty for delaying such mails.

6. And be it enacted That any Postmaster or other person employed by or under a Postmaster in the receiving sorting carrying conveying or delivering of post letters or otherwise in the business of the Post Office who shall offend against or wilfully neglect or fail to comply with any of the provisions of this Act shall for every such offence forfeit and pay a penalty or sum of not less than ten pounds nor more than fifty pounds.

Penalty for offences by persons in the Post Office.

Transportation—Quarter Sessions—and Justices' Jurisdiction.

Recovery and appro-
priation of penalties.

7. And be it enacted That all penalties imposed by or under the provisions of this Act shall be recovered and applied respectively in the manner directed for the recovery and appropriation of penalties by the said recited Act.
