

to convey or deliver, any Letter within this Colony, or who shall receive or have in his possession any Letter for the purpose of conveying or delivering it, otherwise than in conformity with this Act, shall, for every such Letter so unlawfully conveyed, or undertaken to be conveyed, received, delivered, or found in his possession, incur a penalty not exceeding Five Pounds; but such exclusive privilege, prohibition or penalty, shall not apply to Letters sent by a private friend in his way, journey, or travel, provided such Letters be mailed in the first Way Office or Post Office; Letters sent by a Messenger on purpose, concerning the private affairs of the sender or receiver; Letters addressed to a place out of the Colony, and sent by sea, and by a private vessel, not being a packet-boat; Letters lawfully brought into this Colony, and immediately posted at the nearest Post Office; Letters of merchants, owners of vessels, of merchandize or of the cargo or loading therein, sent by such vessel of merchandize, or by any person employed by such owners for the carriage of such Letters, according to their respective address, and delivered to the Persons to whom they are respectively addressed, without pay, hire, reward, advantage or profit, for so doing; Letters received by private ships from Spain, Portugal, Italy, Brazils, and West Indies, and commonly known as Market Circulars; Letters concerning goods or merchandize, sent by common carriers to be delivered with the goods to which such Letters relate, with no reward, profit, or advantage for receiving or delivering them: *Provided always*, that nothing herein contained shall authorise any Person to collect any such excepted Letters for the purpose of sending or carrying them as aforesaid: *And provided also*, that nothing in this Act shall be construed to oblige any Person to send any Newspaper, Pamphlet, or Printed Book, by Post.

Proviso.

Postmasters not bound to give change.

V.—That, for avoiding doubts and preventing inconvenient delays in the delivery of Letters, the Postmaster General or Postmasters shall not be bound to give Change; but the exact amount of Postage on any Letter or Packet shall be tendered or paid to him or them, in Current Coin, or in Colonial Postage Stamps.

Powers and duties of Postmaster General defined.

VI.—That subject to the provisions of this Act, and to the Regulations to be made under it, the Postmaster General shall have power to open and close Post Offices and Mail Routes; to suspend any Postmaster, or other Officer or Servant of the Department, until the pleasure of the Governor be known, and to appoint a Person to act in the meantime in place and stead of such Officer or Servant; to enter into and enforce all Contracts relating to the conveyance of the Mails, the local accommodation of the Department, and other matters connected with the business thereof; and to make Rules and Orders for the management and conduct of the business and affairs of the Department, and for the guidance and government of the Officers and Servants thereof in the performance of their duties; to sue for and recover all sums of Money due for Postage, and for Penalties under this Act, or by any Postmaster, or Officer or Servant of the Department, or his Sureties; and all Suits, Proceedings, Contracts and Official Acts, to be brought, had, entered into, or done, by the Postmaster General, shall be so in and by his name of office, and may be continued, enforced and completed by his successors, as fully and effectually as by himself; nor shall the appointment of the Postmaster General, or any Postmaster, Officer or Servant of the Colonial Post Office, be liable to be traversed or called in question in any case except by those who act for the Crown: *Provided always*, that all Contracts for the conveyance of the Mails, that shall be hereafter entered into, shall be for the period of Two Years from the making thereof: *Provided always*, the Postmaster General shall empower the Deputy Postmaster at Carbonear to employ, when required, a Mail Carrier to carry and deliver Letters, Papers and Packages, between that place and Bay de Verds: *Provided always*, that the sum to be expended on this service in any One Year shall not exceed the sum of Five Pounds.

Proviso.