

England, to be credited to the Province to which the Letter is addressed.

That no privilege of Franking be allowed.

That Postage Stamps for pre-payment be allowed, and Colonial Stamps be engraved.

That Newspaper, Pamphlet, and Magazine Postage be allowed to remain at present Rates, with power to each Legislature to send them free of charge.

And that the Rate of remuneration, for the transport of British Mails, by Express, through the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, be left for future arrangement.

And whereas the Imperial Government has approved the said propositions; but, nevertheless, Legislative action is necessary to enable Her Majesty's Government to give effect to the proposed arrangements: And whereas it is expedient to enable the Governor-General in Council, to give effect to such arrangements, as he may deem right, for the establishment of a uniform Rate of Postage, so soon as the necessary enactment may have been passed by the Imperial Legislature: Be it therefore enacted, by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council, and of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of, and under the Authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and intituled *An Act to re-unite the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada*, and it is hereby enacted, by the Authority of the same, That it shall be lawful for the Governor in Council to enter into such arrangements with the Imperial Government, and with the Provincial Governments of the other British North American Provinces, as shall, in the opinion of the Governor in Council, be expedient to secure a uniform and cheap Rate of Postage; and that it shall also be lawful for the Governor in Council to make all such regulations, for the management of the Post Office Department and the Officers thereof, and of all matters thereunto belonging, as to him may seem meet, and from time to time to alter the same, which Regulations shall have the same force and effect, as if embodied in this Act, until the expiration of the next Session of the Provincial Parliament.

II. And be it enacted, That such Regulations, as shall be then in force, shall be laid before both Houses

of the Provincial Parliament, within Ten days after the opening of the next Session of the said Parliament, and that the same shall remain permanently in force as law, unless it shall be otherwise provided in some Act to be passed during the said Session.

III. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Governor in Council to pay out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund such sums (if any) as may be required to make up any deficiency in the Funds arising from the Revenue of the Post Office Department, to meet the expenses thereof.

CHARLOTTETOWN,

March 18, 1850.

Sir;

I had the honor to receive your communication of the 16th instant, accompanied by a Despatch from Earl Grey to the Lieutenant Governor, with its Enclosures upon the subject of the change contemplated to be effected in the existing Postal arrangements in the Provinces of British North America, and, at the same time, desiring from me, by command of His Excellency, information, (so far as it is in my power to communicate,) upon certain questions which you have submitted, and which I take the liberty to reply to in the order in which they are given.

FIRST.—“Where will the British Correspondence for this Island be delivered and received, under the contemplated arrangement for the payment of the British Packet Postage?”

Upon this subject, I am unable to give you information. The charge for Postage upon the Correspondence between this Island and Great Britain, is One Shilling, Sterling, per rate for the whole distance, out of that sum Ten-pence is charged for the British, Inland, and Packet Postage to Halifax, Nova Scotia; and Two-pence, Sterling, is allowed for the Internal or Colonial transmission through the respective British Provinces.

Now, as regards this Island, a very material distinction exists, as, in addition to the transmission of the Correspondence through the Island, a very heavy charge is entailed upon the Colony for the conveyance of the Mails between this Island and the neighboring Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.